

Appalachian College Groups Sharpen Up Reading Skills

By EARLEEN G. FRITCHETT

Three groups of people at Appalachian State Teachers College are learning how to get more enjoyment out of reading, how to increase their reading speeds, and how to improve the effectiveness of their reading comprehension.

These three groups are Appalachian college students, and pupils from the demonstration high school and elementary school on the campus. Their director is Uberto Price, member of the faculty of the department of education at Appalachian, and the work is being done through the reading center which was established at the college during the past year.

For the past several weeks Mr. Price and his assistants have been working with a high school group. In the period of six weeks, the total reading achievement of the group improved five months. The major portion of the work was on mechanics of reading; but the speed in reading, independent of mechanics, was more than doubled in that six weeks period, raising the speed from some 200 words per minute to more than 400 words per minute. In addition, there was a significant gain in reading comprehension.

Mr. Price says that there are several methods which he and his assistants use in the teaching of reading, bearing always in mind the prime objective of increasing reading enjoyment. "For," he says, "the person who enjoys reading reads, and the person who reads widely reads well." First, the reading instructors secure the cooperation of the child by visiting with him, letting him visit the reading center, trying to make him comfortable and welcome. There is, of course, considerable testing of hearing, sight, and many other factors. Most of the work is on an individual basis, though some work is done in

groups. It is Mr. Price's belief that a person improves in reading by reading. The child is led to experience success from the very beginning, so that he is confident in his progress.

Many of the children and young people with whom Mr. Price works are not problem readers at all; they are college students or school children who have a desire to improve their present reading habits; and this is one objective of the center—to make good readers better.

Much of the work of the reading center is possible because of the availability of college students and graduate students to assist with the program. In almost every instance, the only students who work with the smaller children are college seniors and graduate students who have had previous experience in working with children. Mr. Price is the teacher of the reading courses at the college. In these classes there is much theory taught about how to teach reading; and in the reading center these theories are tried out and put into practice. Thus, one of the major purposes for the existence of the reading center is fulfilled—training young people to teach reading more effectively in the public schools.

Mr. Price says that it is a joy to see the attitudes of the children who are using the facilities of the reading center. They look forward to their periods of training, they enjoy it; and if a school program comes along which interferes with their attending the study sessions, Mr. Price says that they are disappointed. They linger on after the study periods are over, and sometimes he says it is hard to "shoo them out" because they would like to stay and continue their work.

Mr. Price, the director of the reading center, is a native of

Kentucky. He holds the B. S. degree from Eastern Kentucky State college, and the M. A. degree from Western Kentucky State College. He has a good amount of study toward the doctoral degree which has been done at the University of Kentucky and at George Peabody College for Teachers. His experience has included seven years in the public schools, and nine years and five summers at other colleges. He came to Appalachian in 1956 from State University of New York in Plattsburgh.

Bill Rhinehart of Charlotte, graduate student at Appalachian, has been Mr. Price's assistant in the reading center this year. He expects to continue study toward the doctoral degree in reading next year. In the meantime, James Sawyer of Asheville, a senior at Appalachian, has been working with Mr. Price and Mr. Rhinehart, hoping to enter graduate school next year and begin work in the reading center as Mr. Price's assistant.

College students, graduate and undergraduate, who have worked in the reading center say that the experiences they have gained will be of inestimable value to them in their public school work following graduation.

The center is open to observers. Mr. Price says that groups of not more than two or three can be accommodated at any time. However, groups of larger numbers should make arrangements in advance so that space limitations of the center could be taken into consideration in the observation and demonstrations.

In a 20-cow milking herd four or five calves should be saved each year. Whether the herd is being increased in size, the amount of culling needed in the herd, and many other factors will affect the number to be saved.

Flank Steak Goes Modern



New meat vogue! Rolled, braised flank steak has its flavor complemented by a savory bread stuffing.

Flank steak is especially favored for its rich beef flavor. Being a boneless, less-tender cut of meat, it is first scored to make it more tender. The meat can be pounded instead of scored. This meat cut is very tender when braised, comments Reba Staggs, well known home economist in the meat industry.

Flank Steak, Creole Style

- 1 large beef flank steak
- 1/2 pound pork sausage
- 1 cup moist bread crumbs
- 2 tablespoons chopped parsley
- 2 tablespoons lard
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 1/2 cup chopped onions
- 2 bay leaves
- 1 can (16 ounces) tomatoes

1/2 cup chopped green pepper, if desired
1 cup water
3 tablespoons flour

Pound or lightly score flank steak on both sides. Combine sausage, bread crumbs and parsley and mix well. Spread sausage mixture on flank steak and roll as a jelly roll. Tie steak with string and brown in lard. Pour off drippings. Add salt, onions, bay leaves, tomatoes and green pepper. Cover and cook slowly 1 1/2 to 2 hours or until tender. Remove steak and bay leaves, pour off excess fat, add water to cooking liquid and thicken for gravy. Yield: 6 servings.

Parkway School News

Parkway will ask for examination by the State Board of Education for the purpose of being placed on the list of accredited schools.

Under advice of Mrs. Dessie Mae Edmisten, county supervisor, material purchases have been made and re-arrangements in the instructional program are being considered in keeping with standardization requirements of the State Board of Education.

Mr. Earl Greene, teacher-librarian, has been instrumental in keeping abreast of library and supplementary readers needs. We are now fully qualified for standardization in this department.

The PTO, under guidance of president Bill Cook and treasurer Archie Carroll, is currently studying ways and means of raising approximately \$300.00 for the purchase of additional bulletin board materials—the greatest remaining obstacle to becoming accredited this school year.

Lunchroom

The lunchroom now provides more than 400 meals daily. Approximately 60 of these meals are free to needy and undernourished children.

The cafeteria has purchased stainless steel dishwashing equipment, a bakers table and pot racks, costing approximately \$2,800.00. These purchases have become necessary in order to maintain sanitation and health standards in keeping with increased student participation in the lunch program and to meet requirements of the health department. The lunchroom program has, as of January 1, a net accumulated balance of \$2,200.00.

Monitor's Club

We were sorry to lose Darlene Phillips who moved to Pennsylvania.

At our meeting last Friday Peggy Hollar and Freida Trivett were invited to join the club. Members are selected for outstanding scholastic achievement and leadership ability and on their assigned duty days, represent the office of the principal in routine school matters.

Monitors are: Carolyn Harmon, chief; Patsy Hodges, Reba Jean Norris, Joyce Graybill, Joyce Idol, Sharon Wheeler, Freida Trivett, and Peggy Hollar.

School Play

The eighth grades will present a play, "The 13th Day," in early April. It is directed by Mrs. Barnett and Mr. Greene.

Proceeds from the play will be used to help in paying expenses of the annual 8th grade trip to Raleigh in May.

The cast will be announced at a future date.

Student Teachers

Mr. Bert Voet and Mr. Howard Leonard are completing their student teaching assignments. They have become a part of our school program and our school scene. We shall miss them.

THE NAUTILUS

The Navy has revealed that the nuclear-powered submarine, Nautilus, logged her 20,000th league on February 4th without refueling. Comdr. Eugene P. Wilkinson, skipper of the Nautilus, said as the submarine fulfilled the 87-year-old prophecy of Jules Verne: "Mark 20,000 leagues. Right full rudder." To that date, the sub had cruised more than 5,400 hours, made 859 dives and covered about 60,120 nautical miles, of which 24,500 miles had been run submerged, on the original nuclear fuel charge.

Twenty-eight Democratic Representatives have proposed a major revision of the immigration and nationality laws.

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Soil Bank Signers To Get Eleven Millions

North Carolina farmers who have signed up to participate in the Soil Bank Reserve Program will qualify for maximum payments in excess of \$11,583,070, Tilman R. Walker, chairman of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation State Committee, announced this week.

Walker made a report covering sign-up under the acreage reserve phase of the Soil Bank program covering from the first through the 15th of February. He stated that a total of 35,703 farmers signed up in the program, thus removing 168,305 acres from the production of alloted crops.

Additional acres will be placed in the reserve and earn maximum compensation of \$2,031,039 if availability of funds will later permit inclusions of requests above the maximum limit of cotton and corn, Walker says.

According to Walker, 33 cotton counties; 29 tobacco counties, and one corn county were out of money last week and therefore were unable to sign firm agreements. With the exception of the one corn county, these counties now have assurances of receiving money from other sources and are now permitted to sign firm agreements.

Sign-up for cotton and tobacco farmers ends March 1 and the sign-up for corn and rice farmers end March 8. Walker urges farmers who have been turned down previously because funds were not available to go by their local ASC office and sign up.

Six months active duty for all new National Guardsmen has been ordered by the War Department. Heretofore, new members of the guard could volunteer for active-duty training. The new order makes such training compulsory.

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