

**PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF
TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA**

**DIGEST OF THE SURVEY REPORT
DIVISION OF SURVEYS AND FIELD SERVICES**

George Peabody College for Teachers, Nashville, Tennessee

(Continued From Last Week)

EDUCATION OF CHILDREN

Eleven schools, varying in size from one to thirty-two classrooms, provide instruction for children in grades one through eight in Transylvania county. In some instances, children share in planning what they shall learn, they bring needed materials to school, and they work effectively with a minimum of adult control because they are interested in classroom activities. In these classrooms bulletin boards are attractively arranged. Interest centers are planned to stimulate children to read good books, to work with numbers, to learn about the natural environment, to develop interest in current events, and to be creative. The children and teachers obviously respect each other.

In many classrooms, however, children have almost no share in planning what they shall learn or how they shall learn it. The school day for the child consists primarily of carrying out the specific directions of the teacher. Most of what is taught is determined by the content of the books which are available. Teachers assign work, call on pupils to recite, test to determine mastery, and repeat the cycle again, often with little enthusiasm or attempt to interest the children in the process.

Generally, the program of instruction in elementary schools is superior in two areas: science and music. Although the small schools have less adequate programs, most children in the county are learning a great deal about the natural environment surrounding the school and they are learning to enjoy and participate in writing and performing good music. Both of these programs are usually based on pupil participation and on real experiences. A start has been made in two centers on providing a differentiated program in the lower grades for immature and slow-learning children, and progress is being made in two schools toward a sound program of physical education rather than turning children loose at recess times.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. As quickly as possible the small schools should be closed and all children should be transported to larger school units where desirable educational opportunities can be provided. Until such time as the one-room schools are abandoned, the administration should attempt to improve the level of instruction in such schools by: hiring qualified teachers—even paying them a salary differential if necessary, repainting and refurbishing the interiors of the classrooms, providing extra learning materials for the small schools, and extending the supervisory and consultant services available. Children in all sections of the county are entitled to equal educational opportunity.

2. The administrative and supervisory staffs and the classroom teachers' organization should encourage and support every effort by teachers to incorporate ongoing units of work, cooperatively planned by teacher and pupils, into the daily program.

3. Teachers should be encouraged to provide as many direct and firsthand learning experiences as possible during the school day, and to tie in-school activities to out-of-school living through sharing and discussion periods.

4. The attempt to provide a differentiated program of instruction for the immature children at the first grade level is desirable provided that the pupils who need longer periods of readiness are not, therefore, identified as slow learners. Whenever a child seems ready for experiences provided in regular classrooms, he should be reclassified. By the end of the third grade most children will be able to carry on adequately in the regular program.

5. The differentiated program at the fourth and fifth grade levels should probably be maintained on a half-day basis. The program with the special teacher should provide more manual activities and firsthand or direct learning experiences and less drill or review of academic content which was previously covered by the regular teacher. The program should be extended at least through the eighth grade.

6. In the teaching of the language arts, more use should be made of experience charts in primary grades, and of classroom or school newspapers in the upper grades.

7. More attention should be given to vocabulary development and to comprehension in the reading program. Too many children seem to be simply "calling" words rather than getting meaning from the printed page.

8. Word study should precede study assignments in science, arithmetic, and the social studies. Teachers should identify words which may provide trouble for many children and make sure that everyone understands the meanings prior to the initial reading.

9. Much more effective planning needs to be done for reading groups which are not working with the teacher. If seat-work is provided, it should be something more than copy or color-type material.

10. More attention should be directed to teaching skills of effective listening.

11. Many more opportunities should be provided which encourage boys and girls to express their ideas effectively, both orally and in writing.

12. Handwriting practice and spelling lists need to be individualized.

13. Instruction in the language arts should be much more closely related to the lives of children both in and out of school.

14. Much more teacher-pupil planning, committee work, research and study with opportunity to report findings to the class, and concern for current happenings should pervade the time allotted to social studies instruction.

15. More use of concrete materials should be made, especially in primary grades, as number concepts are developed. Grouping for instruction is needed in upper grades.

16. Although the science program is, in most classrooms, effectively handled, opportunities for upper-grade children to conduct simple experiments should be extended so that pupils may learn basic principles of general science.

17. Children should have a period of rest or quiet immediately after lunch.

18. Lunchroom facilities in the Brevard center should be decentralized so that time pressures on groups will be relieved. Unless a decentralized procedure is adopted, covered walks should be constructed between the three buildings.

19. The practice of total or partial school recesses should be replaced by a program of physical education under the direction of the classroom teacher which will provide for each child some directed activity and some free play each day at school.

20. Fire drills in the central building at Brevard should include practice with blocked exits so that children will know what to do if their normal escape route is on fire.

21. Until such time as transportation routes are improved, many children should have a considerable rest period in the middle of the day, and an extra snack should be furnished in the afternoon.

22. Increased attention needs to be placed upon health instruction in elementary schools.

23. Children who are retarded more than two years should be placed in special groups and given a differentiated program, or double-promoted so that they will be with others of approximately their same age.

24. More teachers should be giving children opportunities to share classroom responsibilities and to learn how to work together cooperatively.

25. Allotments of art supplies and equipment should be increased,

and emphasis should be placed upon creativity rather than upon patterns.

26. Concern should be directed to providing an artistically pleasing environment in the total school, including halls, classrooms, and office.

27. Music teachers should gradually become music consultants as classroom teachers develop needed skills, and their services should be extended to the small schools.

28. Storage space for instructional materials and supplies within the classroom should be improved in almost all schools immediately.

29. Badly scarred furniture and that stained dark brown should be sanded and refinished. Except for a few of the desks which are badly mutilated, children can do all the needed work under the direction of the teacher.

30. A central materials bureau should be established for the county, with delivery of requisitioned materials provided to each school at least once a week.

31. Materials fees should be discontinued and money needed for instructional materials should be added to the annual budget of the county.

32. Schools with eight or more classrooms should have a full-time elementary school principal. At least one day of secretarial help per week should be provided each principal.

33. A qualified social worker should be hired to serve as the attendance worker.

34. The in-service education program of the county and the professional program of the classroom teachers' association should focus attention upon developing in the entire staff increased understanding of children and youth.

35. The eighth grade at Rosman should have at least half of the school day under the guidance of one teacher.

(To Be Continued Next Week)

NOTICE

In The Superior Court
State of North Carolina
Transylvania County
Foy Sitton, Petitioner vs. Joe Sitton et al, Defendant.

Under and by virtue of an order of the Superior Court of Transylvania County, made in the special proceedings entitled FOY SITTON vs. JOE SITTON, et al, the undersigned commissioner will on the 5th day of July, 1954, at twelve o'clock, noon, at the courthouse door in Brevard, North Carolina, offer for sale to the highest bidder for cash

that certain tract of land lying and being in Pisgah Forest Township, Transylvania County, North Carolina, and more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at a stake in the S. E. margin of State Highway No. 28 near Pisgah Forest, corner of the lands of Yancey McCrary (formerly the office of Brevard Tanning Co.) and runs with the margin of said highway South 49 West 250 feet to a stake, Myrtle Lee Barnett's corner; thence with her line South 33 East 1100 feet to a stake in the middle of the French Broad

**Winners In Music
Awards Announced
By Club Chairman**

Martha Kay Smith and Tina Sellers were awarded season tickets to the Brevard Music Festival for winning the annual Mathatasian club music contest conducted last Saturday afternoon at the college. Miss Smith won the junior division and Miss Sellers the senior group. There were a total of 12 entrants, and according to club officials, all displayed keen interest in the competition.

"It was highly successful and children expressed a desire to have the club continue this worthwhile project in the future," Mrs. Walter Hart, chairman, stated. She also thanked all participants and persons who aided in making the contest a success.

River; thence down said river North 16 East 175 feet to a stake in the middle of the bridge known as Brevard Tanning Co. Bridge; thence with the public road North 46 West 31 feet to a stake; thence still with said road North 16 West 140 feet to a stake; then still with said road North 25 West 328 feet to a stake; then still with said road North 15 West 235 feet to the BEGINNING. Containing 3 1/2 acres, more or less.

BEING the same land described in a deed from T. A. Barnett and wife, Myrtle Lee Barnett to Lula M. Sitton by deed dated November 10, 1934, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for Transylvania County, North Carolina, in Deed Book 70 at page No. 245.

This 25th day of May, 1954.
JACK H. POTTS,
Commissioner

**LET THESE AMAZING
Business Tools
SAVE YOU MONEY!**



**FAST, INEXPENSIVE, CONVENIENT
MOORE** REGISTERS AND STOCK FORMS FOR REGISTERS.

An easy system for the use and control of multiple-part vocational records and other business forms.

"THE RIGHT BUSINESS FORM FOR EVERY FORM OF BUSINESS"

FOR SALE BY
Transylvania Times

Times Arcade Dial 2-4111

LET US DO YOUR JOB PRINTING
Dial 2-4111 The Transylvania Times

**CARNIVAL
OF DEALS**



Brand-New Chevrolet Full-sized 6-Passenger Sedan



\$565.00
Delivered—
Plus State Sales
Tax & License

the smallest down payment in our history!

A TRIPLE CHALLENGE

You can't beat our—
**1. HIGH TRADE-IN!
2. LOW PRICES!
3. CAR VALUE!**



McCrary Auto Service, Inc.

Dial Turner 2-2311

BREVARD, N. C.