

Community House Calendar

Thursday, June 27
6:00 p.m. Family Dinner.
8:30 p.m. Pythian Sisters.
8:00 p.m. Y.M.C.A. Camp Trustees Meeting.
8:00 p.m. Co-operative Group.
8:00 p.m. 19-30 Group.
Friday, June 28
8:00 p.m. Ranch Room.
Monday, July 1
12:00 noon Rotary Club Luncheon.
8:00 p.m. V.F.W.
8:00 p.m. F.F.W. Auxiliary.

Tuesday, July 2
12:00 noon Exchange Club Luncheon.
8:00 p.m. 19-30 Group.
Wednesday, July 3
12:00 noon Lions Club Luncheon.
8:00 p.m. Junior Chamber of Commerce.
8:00 p.m. Duplicate Bridge.
8:00 p.m. Ranch Room.
Thursday, July 4
HOUSE CLOSED.

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Two Phases of Birmingham Public Schools Need Be Modernized, Studies Show

Studies of the audio-visual instruction and high school industrial arts shops made of Birmingham public schools have culminated in two reports recommending major improvements in these two fields, the Board of Education reports.

The two groups, each made up of Birmingham administrative and instructional personnel, have submitted their recommendations to the Birmingham Board of Education. The recommendations of each committee, according to Dr. John H. Springman, assistant superintendent of schools, will be followed as closely as next year's school budget will permit.

More Equipment Needed To Push Industrial Arts

Pointing out that the United States is the most highly industrialized nation in the world, and the Detroit area is considered the industrial center of the nation, a four-man Birmingham teachers' committee studying the industrial arts program in Birmingham public schools reported a stepped-up course for local schools.

The committee comprised Hugh W. Loveland, Maynard E. Mott, M. H. Smiley and W. G. Sloan, who supervise the industrial arts courses in Birmingham schools. Finding that Birmingham schools were inadequately supplied with industrial arts facilities, the committee recommended that the high school equipment be brought up to at least maintain the industrial arts interest evidenced by junior high students.

Students Lose Interest
It was felt that students were given a good taste of industrial arts in the eighth and ninth grades

but that senior high facilities fell so sharply that many students lost interest.

Highlights of the committee's report and recommendations to the School Board follow:
"Baldwin High School is at present, to a great extent, a college preparatory school. Academic work stressed and high standards are rightly maintained. However, all students do not go on to college. Our concern is regarding these pupils.

"We are aware of present existing courses given with vocational intent, but it is our contention that they are very inadequate, that they do not meet the needs of these boys who cannot, because of lack of funds or lack of mental capacity, go to college. We feel that we are spending property and money of our time and money helping these less fortunate to meet life at the end of their school experience.

"Our high school students have not come in contact with enough shop experience to enable them to wisely select a general occupational field for which they are best equipped. Whatever the final outcome may be, the time spent has not been lost, but has rendered him a helpful service which would have cost him a great deal of time and money had he waited until after graduation from high school.

"Equipment in the Baldwin High School shop is outmoded and generally unsuitable for interesting and profitable instruction. Practically no additional equipment has been added in 20 years. Boys coming from Barnum usually feel let down when they find facilities not up to the Junior High School standard.

"As a result of this, only the less talented of these enroll in high school shop—we are defining high school shop as any shop other than the print shop, drawing or auto shop. The more talented ones feel that their time can be better spent in other fields.

"Big Gap
This big gap between our junior and senior high schools should be eliminated. There should be a more closely coordinated program. Courses should be offered in the senior high school which will continue the explorative experiences started in the junior high school, but on more specialized basis. Courses should be offered in the junior high school which will offer explorative experiences now started in the senior high school, for example printing and auto-mechanics.

"A suggested industrial education plan would be:
In the seventh and eighth grades an industrial arts survey of metalwork, woodwork, electricity, plastics, printing and drawing.
In the ninth grade courses covering woodworking, mechanics, metalworking, printing and mechanical drawing as the beginning of an industrial education program to be carried on through the high school.

"In the tenth, eleventh and twelfth grades the program started in the ninth grade would be continued but on a more specialized basis. The program would include general shop—wood, metal, some machine work—machine shop, hand metalwork, pattern making, sheet-metal, printing, mechanical drawing, ceramics through the art department, and household mechanics for girls.

Objectives Listed
"Objectives for a course of this type would be:
1. To give an opportunity to work with various materials using both hand tools and power machinery for the purpose of determining the student's aptitude and liking for the phase of Industrial Training.
2. To establish interest and good work habits.
3. To develop a reasonable degree of accuracy depending on the age, grade, and experience of the student.
4. To instill the importance and necessity of observing all the rules of safety essential when working in any shop.
5. To teach cooperation with fellow workers.
6. To offer a basic foundation in practical trade experiences to more capable students.
7. To give students a thorough background in industrial training.
8. To be not possible or practical to buy too much equipment at this time, but enough should be purchased to enable us to start a program as suggested and then to work towards a fuller and broader program in industrial education.
9. Our aim should not be training for equipment's sake, but equipment for training.
10. Starting on a small scale, we can gradually build a more comprehensive program that will give our students a well-rounded program in industrial education."

Committee Issues Report on School Audio-Visual Aids

After investigating the audio-visual aids in the various schools, the committee headed by Gerald White, principal of Pierce School, recommended to the Board that it purchase a new sound projector for use in the system-at-large.

It was discovered that the most urgent need is for facilities with which to darken classrooms in the schools. There was found to be, in the opinion of the committee, a negligible amount of audio-visual material in through the Birmingham system.

In a preface to the report, Dr. Dwight B. Ireland, superintendent, said:
Concentrated Training
"Of the major contributions of World War II to education was the use of visual aids in instruction. Millions of men had to be prepared with a brief course of time to carry on the activities of war and industry. Literally years of schooling were concentrated into a few weeks of intensive training, and the use of visual aids became an indispensable part of that program.

"Since World War II schools all over the country have been inspired to purchase more instructional programs. The Birmingham schools had not been making extensive use of visual aids and lacked the equipment necessary for this type of work. A committee was organized to study the use of visual aids in the Birmingham Public Schools, to set up an inventory of the equipment on hand, and to make up a suggested list of items needed to place Birmingham among the leading schools of the country in the use of visual aids.

"The committee was also requested to outline an in-service training program for teachers for the coming year. The effective use of visual aids requires a knowledge of methods which make the use of such materials effective in the learning process.

Becomes Guide
"This pamphlet outlines the report of this committee and will become the guide for the improvement of the program of instruction in the Birmingham Public Schools through the use of visual aids during subsequent years."

Pertinent portions of the report, together with recommendations, follow:
"The Birmingham schools now possess enough projection equipment to provide an acceptable minimum program for the next school year.
"Some committee members consider it advisable for the Board of Education to purchase one new sound projector for use by the system-at-large. This projector will serve at least three purposes:
(1) It may be loaned to Barnum and to Franklin until such time as those buildings acquire machines of their own.
(2) It may be loaned to other buildings in case of breakdowns in their equipment.
(3) It will be readily available to the Board of Education and to the central office for their use.

Acquire Own Equipment
"The committee recommends, further, that each building assume responsibility for acquiring its own projection equipment to meet future needs.
"We agree that the most urgent need is for facilities for darkening classrooms in each building. Present prices of dark, wood, and fixtures—at least \$70 a room—make it seem reasonable to recommend that two rooms per building (except training) be darkened during the summer in readiness for the opening of school in September.

The survey shows a dearth of audio-visual materials throughout most of the schools. However, it is the feeling of the committee that the classroom teacher should select the materials (slides, recordings, pictures, objects, models, etc.) that are to be used in her classes. We recommend, therefore, that selection and purchase of all materials be postponed until this program starts under way next fall.

Most of the schools have definite plans for improving their equipment so that all types of audio-visual aids will be available and the program will be well-rounded.

Install P-A System
"Barnum Junior High School has plans for installing a building-wide address system. The school picture collection which is located in the library will be completely revised, classified and cataloged so that the maximum use of this tool will be realized.
"Any school now ready to purchase a film strip projector, film strips and slides.
"Teachers who look forward to owning a sound projector and an opaque projector.
"School P. T. A. has ordered radios for each classroom, and the school is awaiting delivery of a new sound projector.
"Full time O.V. material will become part of our curriculum, we trust. If provision is made for adequate teacher preparation for effective use.

Will Be Conservative
"While it would be possible to plan an elaborate in-service training program, the committee feels strongly that teachers will be more friendly to the program if it is conservative in extent and of high quality. Furthermore, there are other phases of our curriculum

which need consideration from time to time making it impractical to plan an elaborate program to the exclusion of everything else."
The committee then outlines a tentative training program for the next school year to familiarize teacher personnel with the methods and aims of the audio-visual program.
"Committee members were: Ralph Battenhouse, science teacher, Barnum School; Paul Carter, principle, Adams School; and Lucile Carson, fourth grade teacher, Quarton School.
Helen Miller, reading supervisor, Elementary Schools; Miles Robinson, principal, Barnum School; H. R. Scrimgeour, science teacher, Baldwin High School; Ross Wagner, principal, Baldwin High School; James Ward, librarian, Barnum School; and Gerald White, principal, Pierce School.

2 Birmingham Boys Wig Places on League All-Star Teams

Selection of the Eastern Michigan League all-star tennis and baseball teams was announced last week by R. R. Frazier of Lincoln High School, Ferndale.
Two Birmingham athletes were chosen for this high honor. Harold Gasser, co-winner of the John

Memorial Award and member of Baldwin's June graduating class, became an outfielder on the all-league baseball team.
Dick Adams was awarded second place on the tennis foursome which was picked from the first singles men of all the League schools.
Ferndale easily outdistanced all other opponents, winning four positions on the baseball nine and placing first and fourth in tennis.

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