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School Health News, Vol. III, No. 1

Mississippi School Health Service of the State Department of Education and Mississippi State Board of Health

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Miss. Schools

School Health News

Official Organ of
Mississippi School Health Service
of the
State Department of Education
and
Mississippi State Board of Health

Vol. VII, No. 1

Fall, 1956

No Names Called

After two years intensive grass-roots visiting throughout the state, Coordinator D. R. Patterson reveals that ... at the elementary level in the majority of the schools a good job is being done in health ... however within any given school great variance exists in interest in and promotion of health by elementary teachers ... in the high schools there should be more emphasis on health and physical education ... in too many high schools the only health instruction or training is by the home economics teachers who, for the most part, are to be commended for the quality of work done ...

"You can't stop people from thinking ... but you can start them." Frank A. Dusch

New Regional Mental Health Center to Open

The state's fourth regional Mental Health Center is scheduled to open October 1 in Tupelo. Housed on the second floor of the Lee County Health Department building, this center will serve counties in north and northeast Mississippi.

Coming to the new center as full-time social worker is Mr. Jack Carroll, for the past two years youth counselor with Harrison County Youth Court. A graduate of Mississippi College, Mr. Carroll holds the master's degree from the School of Social Work, L.S.U., and has had varied experiences as a child welfare worker with the State Welfare Department.

Miss Dorothy Moore, psychologist from the Greenwood Center, will give part-time service to the new center. Consultant services will be furnished by two staff members of the State Board of Health, Dr. Estelle A. Magiera, psychiatrist and director of the Child Guidance Center, and Miss Josie Burns, psychiatric social worker consultant.

Other regional centers are located in Jackson, Hattiesburg, and Greenwood. Brochures outlining the available mental health services - clinical, consultant and educational - may be secured by teachers from the State Board of Health.

PERSONNEL OF THE MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

N. C. Knight, M.D., M.P.H.
Medical Director

D. R. Patterson, M.A.
Coordinator

Russell H. Lyons, M.S.
Physical Education Supervisor

A. D. Owings, M.A., M.S.P.H.
Teacher Training Supervisor

Early Reports on Screen Testing

As the Hearing and Sight Conservation Program gets under way for another school year, Adams County is in the fore, being the first to report plans for a county-wide testing of all children. A special nurse, employed on a half-time basis to conduct the program within two months, will be assisted by parent groups.

Plans have already been made for the yearly county-wide screen testing of Forrest County school children under the direction of the health educator. In progress are programs in Walthall and Alcorn counties.

Health-minded Superintendent Marshall Lauderdale has done it again! For the second consecutive year he screen tested his pupils for hearing and sight defects during the 6-week split summer session of the Rienzi School.

Supervisor Owings suggests to schools needing audiometers for forthcoming programs that the loan requests be made as early as possible to School Health Service or the local county health department.

Telecast of School Health Examination

An approximated audience of 60,000 watched a medical examination of a 6th grader and saw the teacher's role in the school health examination when "A School Health Examination" was televised over Channel 3 on August 4.

The program was under the direction of Dr. N. C. Knight and was emceed by him. Dr. W. C. Winans, Pike County health officer, assisted by public health nurse Ruth Warren, conducted the examination. Mrs. N. C. Knight, former teacher and health educator, played the part of the teacher.

The script is admirably suited for PTA programs. Copies may be secured on request from the Health Education Office, State Board of Health.

Conference With Health Workers

Discussion Conferences on the School Health Program are being scheduled for the fall and winter months with the local health department personnel. Designed to aid in the improvement of the general school health program, these conferences in the past have proved to be beneficial to both local and state health workers. Good reports have come from conferences already held in September.

Speech Services Discontinued

Speech services from the State Board of Health have been discontinued until a speech clinician can be secured to replace Mrs. Ada Weisinger, who resigned to join the staff of the public school system of Pensacola, Florida.

Teachers will find the listings in Sources of Health Education Materials and Health Education Pamphlets invaluable in selecting health teaching aids. These and other health materials are available from the Health Education Office.

New Film Catalog to be Released

A new catalog of health films available from the State Board of Health is expected from the press at an early date. Included in this descriptive listing are 85 new films added to the Film Library in recent months, representing new titles, replacements, and duplicates of much-in-demand films.

According to Supervisor Russell Lyons:

...A tremendous increase in interest in directed summer programs for school children is evidenced by the 380 organized summer recreation programs in the state during the past vacation period. Sponsorship varied - either civic, community, school, or church; but the end result was one and the same - happier, healthier, children.

... Since the new session began, many schools, both white and Negro, have called for consultative services in setting up physical education and safety programs.

... Expected off the press within the next two ^{weeks} ~~years~~ is the New Physical Education Bulletin for Mississippi Elementary Schools. Distribution plans call for a personal visit to the schools for the purpose of an orientation conference in the use of the bulletin.

...The looked-for new bulletin for high schools will not be out until next spring.

...At the 3-day pre-session Teacher's Workshop for Rankin County teachers and administrators, instigated by county elementary supervisor Aline Neal, was a "very responsive group interested in the total school health program. All School Health Service staffers participated in group conferences on both elementary and high school levels.

Mississippi Materials Honored Abroad

Exhibit materials contributed by the Health Education Office, State Board of Health, helped win a silver cup for the special U. S. presentation at the International Technical Exhibition on Health Education at Rome last summer. The Mississippi offerings included publications of the School Health Service and materials developed by Forrest County health educator Velma Lou Lewis.

Turkish Visitor Observes State Program

The first World Health Organization fellowship appointee from Turkey, Omer Gulen, who is a biology teacher in a teacher-training school in his native land, observed school and community health activities in Hinds, Lee, Lowndes and Forrest counties recently, during four weeks of field training in Mississippi.

"Nothing is lost on me," spoken in broken English, was Mr. Gulen's way of saying, on his departure, that materials and ideas gleaned from his stay in this state will be adapted for use in Turkey as he seeks to raise the health level of his countrymen through the classroom.

Let's not stop until every child is protected with 3 shots of Salk polio vaccine.
