

WALDORF CLEARING HOUSE NEWSLETTER

Winter 1968

We thank the many contributors to this issue! We feel that at last we now have an issue that is worthy of support and interest. This year we have heard from all but two of the American Waldorf schools and we hope that both High Mowing and Mohala Pua will be represented in the spring issue.

May we request that the corresponding secretaries of the schools edit their material for our bulletin. (Many of you did edit and we thank you for your good work.) For example if a certain teacher has written many poems or plays, please mention the nature of this material and ask interested persons to turn to that teacher directly for further information. In this issue we have included a few of the shorter offerings by teachers but we cannot possibly print quantities of poems and plays. Also for the sake of your secretaries, please try to be specific when suggesting books - for what grades are they recommended; include author and publisher if at all possible. Also, please do not edit away names of contributors. It is nice to know who makes the suggestion. We shall get to know each other better that way.

With the exception of the contribution of the Toronto Waldorf School, we have received no notes about assemblies, faculty meetings, or contact with parents. May we ask you all to keep these possibilities in mind for the next issue.

Please don't forget the spring deadline----APRIL 1st!!

May we wish you A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Gerhard Bedding

Janice Kreitner

THE RUDOLF STEINER SCHOOL - Ruth Pusch, Secretary

a. Translations and Printing Plans

Underway - a translation by M. Froehlich of Hildegard Gerbert's Mensch-
bildung aus Kunstverstandnis (How Understanding of Art Can Educate.)
This book will be especially helpful to teachers of art history, but it
surely will be of general interest to all other Waldorf teachers.

Ready by January - A book of stories and poems for elementary school
teachers by D. J. Harrer.

b. Available Teaching Materials

"Form Designing in the Waldorf Schools," Margaret Froehlich (cost \$1.25)
"Form Designing," Hans Niederhauser (cost \$1.50)

A third grade play about David and Goliath adapted from the German by
Miriam Spiegel.

An article by Henry Barnes requesting that children in grades one through
eight see no TV during the school week.

Special news item - Our Leroy Parkins, director of the instrumental ensemble
for several years, has directed the making of two fascinating record-book
combinations, available to us all at half price:

"Generations of Israel," 2 records and book (list price: \$15.)
"The Russian Revolution," 1 record and book, (includes a voice
that many of you will recognize) (list price: \$12.50)

c. Teaching Materials Needed

Materials and suggestions for 7th grade science teaching.

- Translations of
1. Tittman's book on the teaching of grammar
 2. Uehli's Nordisch-Germanische Mythologie
 3. Baravalle's Geometrie als Sprache der Formen
 4. Bort, Holtzapfel, etc. Heilende Erziehung
 5. von Balz's Musik

d. Titles of Books and Articles Helpful in Teaching

For the Nursery:

The Three Sparrows and Other Poems, Christian Morgenstern.
Translated by Max Knight. Illustrations by Nonny Hogrogian,
(Scribners, \$3.50)

The Great Lalula, Christian Morgenstern. Translated by Max Knight.
Illustrated by Ladislav Savatoš (Putnam, about \$3)

For the Third Grade

The Creation of the Sun and the Moon, B. Traven (Hill and Wang,
cost: \$3.95.) A Mexican Indian legend, illustrated by the noted
Mexican artist, Alberto Beltran. Many third grade teachers have
used Mrs. Froehlich's translation, made many years ago, and
have found it a wonderfully imaginative story for the study of
Indian life.

Stories from the Bible, Walter de la Mare (suggested by Barbara
Francis, class teacher)

The Book of Indian Crafts and Indian Lore, Julian Harris Solomon
(suggested by Barbara Francis)

American Indian Tales and Legends, Vladimir Hulpach (suggested by
Barbara Francis)

The Creation of the World (Eine Kleine Schöpfungsgeschichte),
J. Streit. (Originally translated and made available by the Sacra-
mento School.)

Die Söhne Kains, J. Streit (This work should be translated, for it too
is excellent for third grade. It gives an imaginative picture of
house-building, care of animals, iron work, making of musical
instruments, and other professions.)

For the Fifth Grade

Bible of the World, Ballou, editor (suggested by Barbara Francis)

For the Elementary Grades in General

Our Wonderful World, (Grolier, N.Y.) 18 volumes

The arrangement is an encyclopedic anthology which is very helpful
in preparing lessons in geography, history, and science in the upper
elementary grades.

Zeichnen-Sehen Lernen!, Anke-Usche Clausen, Martin Riedel
(Mellinger Verlag, Stuttgart, 250 pages, paper, cost: \$6.60 approx.)
This brings a wealth of stimulation for all teachers, but especially
for class and art teachers. It begins with Dr. Steiner's suggestions
for form drawing, leading into writing. It deals with the metamor-
phosis and development of form in growing plants, moving animals,

flowing water, movement of starts, gestures of man, forms of architecture, rock formations, etc. It has much good advice on how to sketch and draw, design book-covers, posters, etc., make nature studies. There are many examples of student work in black and white technique, wood block printing, and etching. There are so many vivid examples that not knowing German is almost no handicap!

Reading for the High School

Christy Barnes suggests the following books:

The Story of an African Farm, Olive Schreiner (Fawcett Books, paper)

This book is good for both ninth & tenth grade. Story of inner struggle of childhood and adolescence from religious experience through atheism to knowledge of the order in seeming chaos. Contains an extraordinary fable.

The Seed and the Sower, L. van der Post. For twelfth grade: Modern Western Christianity; confrontation of East and West, can be compared with The Idiot by Dostoevsky which illustrates a more Eastern and less ego-directed aspect of Christianity.

"Spring", a chapter from Thoreau's Walden: a link with Goetheanistic thought and a living imaginative approach to science. A paperback of this work by Thoreau, edited by Sherman Paul, has an excellent introduction by him to this effect.

The Eighth Day, Thornton Wilder. An approach to both a Christian way of life and the suggestion of the idea of life-patterns such as reincarnation and karma.

A Death in the Family, James Agee. Has beauty and charm of style. Uses the butterfly as a symbol of immortality with concrete un-sentimental artistry.

e. Ideas, News, Topics, Experiments, Class Projects, etc.

Barbara Francis suggests the following class project: Make Halloween into a "history festival" where children create their own costumes out of the current historical theme and make up games and perform spontaneous dramas out of the history.

TORONTO WALDORF SCHOOL - Alan Howard, Secretary

c. Publications and Articles Needed

We should like to see samples of the kinds of workbooks schools use for Grades 1 through 4. (Note: Apart from Arithmetic and poems, one of our teachers makes his own workbooks, by doing work on separate sheets - uniform size of course - then letting children tie them together through a three hole perforation with a simple bookbinding stitch.

In this way they can make their own cover - on colored and stiffer paper if desired - and simple end papers. It also enables them to repeat a bad sheet before the final tie up, without this spoiling an otherwise good book.)

e. Ideas, News, Topics, Experiments, Class Projects to Share with Other Waldorf Schools

Assemblies The school has had three assemblies so far this term. The first on September 3 was the actual opening of the school. All 14 (!) children (Grades 1 and 2 only) were there with their teachers. The Chairman spoke to them of the importance of the 'first' - first school (in Canada), first day, first assembly, and they -the first children. Followed by music for flute and harpsichord, and an appropriate story.* Then the children were shown round the school, and work began.

The second was at Michaelmas - 17 children then! - with piano music, story* and a Michaelmas song from the children.

The other was September 17 when German Consul-General visited school with a television team, newspaper reporters, and others to present a collection of Orf musical instruments to the school, together with some fifty books of German literature which will form a fine foundation for a German library. He spoke very appreciatively of the work of Rudolf Steiner on behalf of culture in general and education in particular.

*Copies of these two stories could be sent if likely to be useful. It mightn't be a bad idea to make a collection of teacher's own stories - and illustrations to same if possible - with a view one day if the opportunity - and money - arises, of making our own first readers.

Faculty Meetings Every Friday afternoon. Chiefly occupied studying "Education of the Child in the Light of Anthroposophy." Rest of meeting devoted to the many points which come up in the course of establishing a new school. Sorry, therefore, that we haven't had time yet to discuss subject of machine

teaching. (We hope our exceptional circumstances touching this matter will excuse us.)

Parents Meetings One so far; on October 3 at 8 p.m.; open to all parents and their friends. Chairman spoke on "Curriculum of the First Three Grades"; then meeting broke up for coffee and conversation, and a look at the classrooms. About 45 people were present.

THE DETROIT WALDORF SCHOOL - Bette Ann Sayers, Secretary

The Detroit Waldorf School is still a fledgling, this year having three classes (including a combined third and fourth grade) plus two Kindergartens and a Nursery at the pre-school level. Four years ago the school began as a Day Care Center with 24 children; at the beginning of the 1968 school year total enrollment was 124. It should be mentioned that the school has become more than simply another private school in the metropolitan Detroit area; it has become a point of interest to many professional educators and a practical manifestation of what can be possible in education by means of a creative and imaginative approach. The continuing visits from Michigan State, Wayne State, and Eastern Michigan Universities and the University of Detroit make it increasingly evident that this interest is more than initial curiosity.

b. Available Teaching Materials

The following are two from a group of verses which have been most successfully used by the elementary grades in the morning Circle. (If you would like to borrow a copy of these verses, please contact the Detroit Waldorf School directly.)

ANTS

Tiny little insects
Dart about in haste,
Take a lot of trouble,
Have no time to waste.
To and fro they travel,
Never taking rest,
Till at night they settle.
Tired, in their nest.

THE DWARFS

Little Dwarfs so short and strong
Heavy-footed march along;
Every head is straight and proud,
Every step is firm and loud.

Pick and hammer each must hold,
Deep in earth to mine the gold;
Ready over each one's back
Hangs a little empty sack.

When their hard day's work is done
Home again they march as one.
Full sacks make a heavy load
As they tramp along the road.

c. Publications and Articles Needed

1. It is not easy to find songs in print using the pentatonic scale. While it is the ideal to compose one's own songs, it is still necessary for most of us to look to other sources. Below are a few pentatonic songs which the second grade has found appealing. Additional lists of pentatonic songs (with their sources) would be greatly appreciated.

These are all from the new Making Music Your Own series by the Silver Burdett Co., Morristown, N.J., 07960.

- "Over the Sea to Skye", Robert Louis Stevenson and Anne MacLeod (Book 4)
- "Now Let Me Fly", spiritual (Book 2)
- "The Rattlin' Bog", Irish Folk Song - cumulative (Book 2)
- "Peter Go Ring the Bells", spiritual (Book 2)
- "Little Boy of the Sheep", folk song from Hebrides (Book 2)
- "Sheep Are Grazing", folk song from Peru (Book 2)

From the Oxford Nursery Song Book

"London's Burning", round

2. Materials for Eurythmy teachers, such as (for the lower grades) pentatonic music with ample expression of the fifth interval, fairy tales in rhymed verse, fables in good rhymed verse; also music suitable for the variety of geometric forms practised in the lower grades.

3. Are there any "Singspiele" available in English for the Kindergarten and elementary grades; or have any been translated from the German?

4. Are there any Christmas plays for Nursery and Kindergarten with songs in English?

5. Any information or source of information on dyslexia (mirror-image writing). Also on left-handedness.

KIMBERTON FARMS SCHOOL - Charles De Mont, Secretary

a. Translations and Printing Plans

- 1. Schiller's letter to Goethe (Mr. Schmidt)
- 2. Der Gral und Seine Hüter, by Rudolf Meyer (Mr. and Mrs. Stone)

b. Available Teaching Materials

- 1. A play for the seventh grade entitled "Don Quixote" (Mr. Haller)

2. An adaptation of Shakespeare's "Julius Caesar" for the sixth grade (Mr. Haller)

3. Latin and Greek plays - for example: "Little Red Riding Hood", "Persephone", "Winnie the Pooh". Seven are available, for elementary school classes studying those languages. (Mrs. Harvey)

c. Publications and Articles Needed

1. Mrs. Lord would be interested in a listing of suitable material for the high school chorus in which the tenor part does not exceed the moderate range of the young singer.

2. Listings of Christmas plays and Christmas music

3. Listings of madrigals

4. Saint Michael legends and stories (Highland Hall has a nice collection of such legends about S t. Michael)

5. Fifth grade math activities, especially for fractions and decimals

6. Persian legends and myths

7. A good book on Medieval history for the high school

8. Sources on the Romanian and Portuguese languages for a study to be made on the five Romance languages

9. Suggestions and sources for the teaching of sixth grade Medieval history

10. Rudolf Steiner's remarks on the teaching of grammar

11. Suggestions and sources for the teaching of South American and African cultural geography

12. Biographies of mathematicians and scientists that include interesting moments of discovery, for the teaching of high school math

13. Recordings of poetry, Chaucer, and Shakespeare's plays for the high school, to be exchanged on a lending library basis

14. Stories dealing with explorations made in the Amazon Basin

15. An English translation of Wachmuth's Evolution of the Earth

d. Titles of Books and Articles Helpful in Teaching

1. Orpheus, Padraic Colum - for fifth grade ancient history
2. Tales of Rome, F. Guerber - for sixth grade
3. Ancient History, Dorothy Mills - for sixth grade
4. Senior English Review Exercises, put out by Manter Hall - for high school English preparation for College Boards and entrance exams
5. Mapping, Greenwood - for eleventh grade cartography
6. Cartography; The Art that Became a Science, Lloyd Brown - also for eleventh grade
7. The Western Fathers, Sulpicius Severus - for high school Medieval history
8. Great Issues in Western Civilization, Donald Kagan et al. - for high school Medieval history
9. The Golden Books are useful for elementary school study of electricity, mechanics and chemistry
10. The Lore and Language of School Children, Iona and Peter Opie, Oxford - Clarendon Press - for riddles
11. Tongue Tanglers, Charles Francis Potter, World - for tongue twisters as speech exercises

High school and seventh and eighth grade reading:

1. Screwtape Letters and the planetary novels by C.S. Lewis; also, The Great Divorce and The Four Loves
2. History in English Words and Unancestral Voice, Owen Barfield
3. Too Strong for Fantasy, Marcia Davenport - for music and history
4. Geography, H. Van Loon
5. Vicar of Wakefield, Oliver Goldsmith
6. Boyhood and Youth, John Muir
7. The Jungle, Upton Sinclair

8. Conquering Horse, Frederick Manfred
9. The Virginian, Owen Wister
10. Endurance - Shackleton's Incredible Journey, Alfred Lansing
11. Greyfriars Bobby, Eleanor Atkinson
12. The Razor's Edge, W. Somerset Maugham
13. One Day at Teton Marsh, Sally Carrighar
14. The Song of Bernadette, Franz Werfel
15. Out of Africa and Shadows on the Grass, Isak Dinesen
16. Idylls of the King, Alfred Lord Tennyson
17. Charlemagne, Harold Lamb

GREEN MEADOW SCHOOL - Ruth Eastman, Secretary

e. Ideas, News, Topics, Experiments, Class Projects, etc.

Dedication at Green Meadow

The dedication of Green Meadow School's new building took place September 29th. The dedication marked the completion of the third phase of its building program. The more than two hundred children now are working together in buildings especially built for them. The two nursery classes and the kindergarten are housed in the Redwood building, which was built in 1956. Classes one through eight are in the new structure, which was started and one wing of which was opened in 1965. With the new wing now open the building has eight classrooms, library, teacher's lounge, administration offices, first aid room, and space for a shop, handwork room, science room, lunch-assembly room and kitchen.

The dedication took place in two parts. In the morning the community and close friends of the school came together. The ceremonies were opened with a group of Michaelmas songs sung by the Michael Youth Group. The singing was followed by eurythmy performed by Nancy Root, Johanna Van Vleet, Danilla Rettig, Betty Van Vleet, and Marianne Schneider. The speakers included George O'Neil, Alan Howard, Walter Leicht, William Lindeman, and Arnold Logan.