OVERCROWDED SCHOOLS AND THE PLATOON PLAN

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9781760577476

Overcrowded schools and the platoon plan by Shattuck O. Hartwell

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SHATTUCK O. HARTWELL

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BY

SHATTUCK O. HARTWELL

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS MUSEEGON, MICHIGAN



THE SURVEY COMMITTEE OF THE CLEVELAND FOUNDATION CLEVELAND · OHIO COPTRIGHT, 1916, BY
THE SURVEY COMMITTEE OF THE
CLEVELAND FOUNDATION

WM·F. FELL CO: PRINTERS
PHILADELPHIA

FOREWORD

This report on "Overcrowded Schools and the Platoon Plan" is one of the 25 sections of the report of the Education Survey of Cleveland conducted by the Survey Committee of the Cleveland Foundation in 1915. Twenty-three of these sections will be published as separate monographs. In addition there will be a larger volume giving a summary of the findings and recommendations relating to the regular work of the public schools, and a second similar volume giving the summary of those sections relating to industrial education. Copies of all these publications may be obtained from the Cleveland Foundation. They may also be obtained from the Division of Education of the Russell Sage Foundation, New York City. A complete list will be found in the back of this volume, together with prices.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE			
Foreword	5			
CHAPTER				
I. ECONOMICAL USE OF BUILDING SPACE				
Part-Time Plans	12			
The Gary Plan for Using School Facili-				
ties	14			
II. THE PLATOON PLAN	19			
A Typical School Before Reorganization	23			
The Reorganized School	26			
III. PROBLEMS OF ORGANIZATION	33			
Length and Arrangement of Day	35			
Daily Time-Schedule for Grades Five and Six	36			
Weekly Time-Schedule for Grades Three and Four in Kalamazoo	37			
Weekly Time-Schedule for Grades Five and Six in Kalamazoo	37			
Weekly Time-Schedule According to Present Course	39			
Weekly Time-Schedule According to Platoon Plan	40			
Supervision	41			
IV. PROBLEMS OF ADMINISTRATION	43			
Equipment of Special Rooms	44			
Storage of Pupils' Books	45			
	5.5			

CHAPTER	PAGE
Wardrobes	46
Furniture	46
Signal System	47
Cost of Special Equipmen	t 47
Recording Attendance	48
Size of Classes	48
Playground Work and Eq	uipment 49
Not a Departmental Plan	51
V. Costs	
Equipment and Supplies	53
Teaching Costs	54
Supervision	58
Building Space	59
VI. BUILDING PROBLEMS OF CLI	EVELAND 61
Building Situation Growin	ng Acute 63
Special Teachers for the I	latoon Plan 65
Preliminary Experimentat	ion Essential 66
VII. SUMMARY	69

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CHAPTER I

ECONOMICAL USE OF BUILDING SPACE

Next to better teaching, the most important demand of schools is better housing. Relatively it falls as heavily upon the small community as upon larger towns and cities. The erection in rural districts of a two or three room schoolhouse, where only a one room structure stood before, is often as real a civic problem as the building of a half-million dollar high school in a city of the size of Cleveland. But in small places the problem is occasional; in growing cities it is constant and insistent. It arises alike from the rapid increase of population, which taxes all school facilities, and from the shifting of residential centers within the growing city. Both of these conditions are familiar ones in the school history and present school situation of Cleveland.

Every year several new buildings are opened,