

## "Correct 'em Early" Slogan at Madison

FIRST GRADE TEACHERS at Madison School, recognizing that large classes in remedial reading and spelling are often necessary in upper elementary and junior high school grades, are trying to see that their pupils will not require such special instruction later on.

A special program based on the theme, "Mastery of Words," is being conducted by these teachers to introduce the first graders to all phases of word analysis.

Specific objectives of the program are to instill in each child a desire to read with interest and understanding, to see that each child acquires a basic sight vocabulary of useful words with meaning, to differentiate between consonant and vowel sounds, to learn key words leading to a larger vocabulary, and to develop proper use of words in context.

A "ladder" type format of instruction and learning is being utilized to attain these objectives. Various steps in this process include stirring a child's interest in the sound of a new word, getting him to recognize it, pronounce it, spell it, use it in a sentence, write it, and "discover" it in a story.

Phonics is employed, but every effort is made to prevent its use as a crutch. Creativity plays a major role. Meaningful experiences are used to make the program more interesting, such as the "Happy Ways to Health Train," with coaches carrying foods that serve basic health needs. The children are taught to recognize the names of the fruits and vegetables and thereby associate them with beginning consonant sounds, etc.

Results to date are gratifying. The "learn by doing" process turns work into play for the children as they strive to reach the top of the ladder of word mastery.

## (EXCHANGE, from page 12)

in Elmhurst, Queens, heeded his alarm clock this morning. After breakfast he bid good-by to his wife, Jean, his 12-year-old twin sons, Thomas Jr. and Carlyle, and his 10-year-old daughter, Robin, and started the drive to Darien.

By 7:30 A.M., nearly a half hour before classes were to begin, he was parking in one of the five lots at the almost new, campus-styled Darien High School. The school has 1,100 students, 300 of whom drive to classes in everything from motor bikes and sport cars to new Cadillacs.

Darien, despite its reputation for affluence, which is based largely on advertising executives, has its older sections, some slums and a nondescript business section.

Mr. Leach, who is light skinned and has a mustache and an unhurried manner, waited calmly in his classroom in the one-story modernistic building for the 7:55 A.M. bell to start classes.

TWENTY STUDENTS ARRIVED with the ringing of the bell. They had seen Mr. Leach in a day-long orientation session, the previous week, so today they went to their desks and books, and showed no curiosity except for two reporters in the back of the room.

Mr. Leach wrote his name on the blackboard, "I am the person who was here last Tuesday." He then got on with the social studies assignment concerning "problems of the farmers and how to solve them." The resulting discussion was lively with the students eager to participate, both with information or questions.

The other three Negro teachers, who are in three other local schools, found equally quick rapport and enthusiasm, with one group groaning only at the report that the regular teacher would be back after the Easter vacations.

## (AFRICA, from page 2)

Mozambique officials claim that Communist China, Russia, Algeria and the United Arab Republic are helping the Organization of African Unity stockpile weapons and ammunition in Tanzania to the north for a big drive on the Portuguese province. Rebel troops are being trained in Tanzania they say.

But through it all, the Portuguese, with an estimated 50,000 troops ready to "repel visitors," are outwardly calm and confident. "We don't think they ever will be able to launch an effective attack," one high Portuguese official said recently. "If they do, we are ready for them."

Most of the recent skirmishes along the Tanzania border have been between black Portuguese troops and Makonde tribesmen native to the region. Joao Granjo Pires, governor of the Mozambique district largely populated by the Makonde, says the communist radio in Dar es Salaam, the Tanzanian capital, tells the Makonde that everyone in northern Tanzania owns an automobile or an airplane and that no one has to work. "But our people regard it as an inter-tribal war," he said.

Officials in Lisbon and Lourenco Marques, the Mozambique capital, do not regard it as a tribal war, however. They apparently feel they are defending Portuguese soil and the richest, most-highly developed part of Africa from being taken over by communist-inspired opportunists.

If and when the big push against Mozambique materializes, it will be interesting to note the reactions of Rhodesia and South Africa, the two large white-ruled countries just south of the Portuguese colony. They must realize that once the Portuguese are pushed off the African continent, it will be only a question of time before they, too, are swept up in the inexorable tide of black nationalism.

## They're Joe and Casey

PUZZLE PICTURE ANSWERS -- Player shown in "puzzle picture" on page 10 is Joe Christopher; manager is Casey Stengel, both of New York Mets of National League.

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