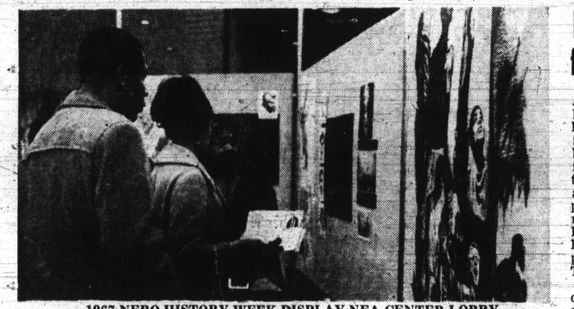
Recognition for Black Americans

Negro History Week, 1968, opened with two Washington performances of "The Believers, the Black Experience in Song." These previews of the off-Broadway production were made possible by the District of Columbia Teachers Association and the PR&R Committee Shown above is a scene from "The Believers."

A filmstrip on Negro history and a paperback bibliography of Black literature and culture were joint projects of NEA's Publications Division and the PR&R Committee. Below, Johnie Scott, a poet from Watts and a student at Stanford University, records one of his poems fo rthe filmstrip.

Since the merger of NEA and the American Teachers Association in 1966, NEA has carried on ATA's tradition of sharing the sponsorship of Negro History Week with the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History.



1967 NERO HISTORY WEEK DISPLAY-NEA CENTER LOBBY

GEORGE W. JONES — Specialist for Urban Education, Division of Field and Urban Services, National Education Association.

DR. REGINA GOFF, is assistant commissioner in the Office of Programs for the Disadvantaged. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Northwestern University and a Ph.D. degree from Columbia University, and was head of the Morgan State College education department before coming to the Office of Education in 1965. Her salary is $28,-009.

DR. WILLA B. PLAYER, 59, is director of the Division of College Support in the Bureau of Higher Education. Dr. Player, former president of Bennett College in Greensboro, N.C., holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Ohio Wesleyan University, a Master of Arts degree from Oberlin College and a Doctor of Education degree from Columbia University. She is paid $26,640.

NEA to aid fired teachers

The National Education Association, through the DuShane Emergency Fund, has petitioned to intervene in a case involving eleven black teachers dismissed from their positions when their local school board adopted a desegregation plan. The teachers are represented by the NAACP Legal Defense Fund in the Harkless vs. Sweeny Independent School District, Texas, case.

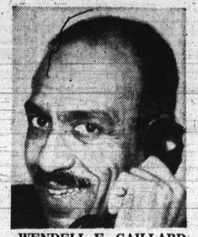
The desegregation plan called for elimination of the only all-black school in the district. The case has been pending in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas since May, 1966. It will be tried before a jury on all the issues, including the right to injunctive relief as well as back pay.

The DuShane Fund Administrative Committee voted unanimously to support the teachers, because the case could be precedential for the teachers of Texas if it can be shown that the Fourteenth Amendment can apply in cases of displacement following consolidation.

U.S. educators

More than 1,000 classroom teachers from throughout the U.S., attended the first national conference on Racism in Education, sponsored by the American Federation of Teachers two years ago in Washington, D.C. Since then, a dozen similar conferences have been held in other cities, each sponsored by an AFT affiliate.

Many Top Executives



WENDELL E. GAILLARD 53, who supervises a staff of 45 employees as director of OE's General Services Division in the Office of Administration, came to the Office of Education from the Peace Corps and had previously worked for 16 years in the Veterans Administration. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Tuskegee Institute and Master of Governmental Administration degree from the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania. His salary is $16,946.

DR. WILLIAM T. CARTER, 59, serves as director of the Division of Program Resources in the Bureau of Educational Personnel Development. Dr. Carter holds the Bachelor of Arts, Master of Arts, and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Michigan. Before his assignment at OE he was deputy assistant director at the United States Information Agency. His salary is $25,000.

MRS. ANITA ALLEN, 43, who is also a member of the District of Columbia Board of Education, is head of the Program Development Branch in the Division of Compensatory Education of the Bureau of Elementary and Secondary Education. Mrs. Allen holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Howard University and a Master of Arts degree from the University of Chicago. Her salary is $19,-780.

DR. PAUL F. LAWRENCE, 54, serves as assistant commissioner in the Office of Education's regional office in San Francisco. This region includes the States of Alaska, Hawaii, California, Oregon, Washington, Nevada, and Arizona, and Guam. Dr. Lawrence holds a Bachelor of Science degree from New Jersey State Teachers Collge and Master of Arts and a Ph.D. degrees from Stanford University. His salary is $25,711.

CHARLES H. SMITH, 37, who has been serving as special assistant to the Commissioner in the field of urban education, at $27,-000 a year, is leaving the Office of Education in January for a position as associate director of humanities and social sciences School, University of Pendation.

DR. PRESTON VALIEN, 54, is acting associate commissioner of the Bureau of Higher Education. Dr. Valien also has served as a deputy associate commissioner, division director, and branch chief. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Prairie View State College in Texas and Master of Arts and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Wisconsin. His alary is $25,118.

Reading given top place in urban education program

KANSAS CITY, Missouri — The Division of Urban Education has decided to give reading top priority in its efforts to improve the literary skills of disadvantaged children.

In assessing the educational needs of underprivileged children, the division realized that demands are becoming so numerous and complex that the school not meet all of them with the limited resources available.

Therefore, in deciding on the most important needs, the division agreed that no single skill was more essential than the ability to read.

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A diligent effort is made in the Division to survey and evaluate new materials and methods in the reading field. Many innovative changes have been incorporated into the program.

This year the Sullivan Programmed Reading Materials have been instituted in kindergarten through grade 4. These materials are designed to permit children to learn at their individual rate.

Reading is strongly emphasized in kindergarten and the pupil progresses through the phonetically-oriented program as he succeeds at each level before moving to a more difficult one.

• • •

A teacher Corps Pro-Kansas City and the Divigram, sponsored by the University of Missouri in Kansas City and the Division of Urban Education, will begin in the fall of 1968.

Five team leaders and 33 interns will work in five of the Division's elementary schools. The purpose of the Teacher Corps Program is to train new teachers to work in disadvantaged schools.

Important to the success of any educational program is the support it receives from the parents and the community. The Parents Council, which was organized last spring, will be continued and expanded this year.

It will provide the parents with an opportunity to participate in their children's educational activities. Frequent meetings will be held at individual schools where the parents can discuss problems specifically related to the progress of their children in reading achievement.

Area meetings will also be held where the parents will discuss more general problems and plan activities or actions to meet these problems.

• • •

One prominent part of the changing educatinal scene is the introduction of additional personnel into the classroom. The teacher aides are particularly noticeable in the Division of Urban Education schools.

One aide is assigned to every kindergarten teacher and one to every two teachers in Grades 1 through 12. They assist the teacher with non-instructional activities.

This provides the teacher with additional time which she can devote to instruction. An attempt is made to employ area residents and to provide them with in-service training so they can be of utmost help to the teacher and the children.

• • •

The program at the Fine Arts Center located in Karnes School is multi-purpose. It provides extensive experiences in the performing arts for approximately 200 students a year.

In addition, the children from all the Division's elementary schools attend two plays each year at the Karnes Theatre.

During September and October, the prime activity of Karnes Theatre involves close collaboration with the atre, Inc., a federation of Community Children's Theatre local women's groups.

Five plays are produced and directed at the Center for Urban Education students before touring other elementary schools in the metropolitan area.

Poll favors strike

According to a recent copyrighted Louis Harris poll, 50 percent of the U.S. public agrees with the statement that "teachers are underpaid and striking is sometimes the only way they can get a raise." A total of 41 percent disagreed and 8 percent had "no opinion," reports the American Federation of Teachers.

AFT wins again

A majority of teachers in Baltimore selected the American Federation of Teachers' affiliate, the Baltimore Teachers Union, as the official bargaining agent for all teachers with the school board in an election held in June, 1967.

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