

The Open School Door

A Series of Articles on Clinton County
Schools and Their Problems

By JAMES EGAN, Principal

DeWitt High School

Perhaps some people wonder what school folks do over the summer? It's true that many do work and a very few just vacation but, it might be a surprise to know that there are many educators that spend their summers improving themselves by attending school.

Educators who are willing to spend time looking at their schools and themselves in relation to others, are forward-thinking as they realize that they are more likely to keep improving their schools with newer and better ideas. It's such a fast changing world that it takes about every opportunity possible to keep up with most of the changes.

TO GIVE a small idea of the large number of teachers attending school in this area, we shall list only those that happen to be in my classes attending MSU. In our field we are more than likely to run into mostly the administrators. There are many others we didn't come in contact with.

Well, here is the list: Earl R. Lancaster, superintendent of schools, St. Johns; Hugel A. Leonard, elementary principal, Ovid; David F. Hanson, high school teacher, Pewamo; Walter Nickel, junior high and elementary principal, St. Johns; Van D. Mueller, superintendent of schools, Ashley;

and Leo G. Fitzgerald, high school principal, Fulton.

We happened to run into a few others and they were: Ken Click, high school coach, Pewamo, and William Husk, high school principal, Ashley.

* * *

AN IMPORTANT problem that superintendents seem to have is adequate housing for fellow staff members. It seems that there are not enough rental houses to go around. Most teachers want nice private places to live in and do generally a very good job of keeping the facilities up.

It is usually out of financial reach to expect a new teacher coming into a community to buy or build a house right away. Another factor entering into the picture also, is the two-way problem of — will the community be satisfied with retaining the teacher for future years? and, will the teacher be happy remaining in the community?

Until these problems are resolved and the teacher's position is put on a more permanent basis, the housing problem remains. Most superintendents would greatly appreciate local citizens contacting them about housing facilities for staff members because this problem is very much with us as positions are filled this summer.

If the P.T.A. or any other school connected organization wishes to have printed the information about any project or time of their meeting, please feel free to contact this newspaper or myself by just dropping a card into the mail.