

UN Teachers College Is Unique

"To furnish pupils a high school education built upon unusual opportunity, excellent teaching and a large degree of attention to individual differences; to train university seniors and graduate students for public school service by offering the opportunity for student teaching, experimentation, and research in the field of education"—that is the purpose of Teachers College High School, located on the university campus.

A regular four-year high school on the approved list of the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools and fully accredited to the university itself, the high school's students are selected from every economic level, admitted by application, and taught by university students majoring in teaching.

Morton Heads Program

"Our attempt in selecting students is to have what might be called a cross-section of American society," stated Prof. W. H. Morton, the man who has served as principal, director of teacher training, and the departmental chairman of secondary education in the high school for the past 15 years.

Dean of the teachers college, which has graduated approximately 2,200 men and women in the past 15 years, is Dr. F. E. Henzlik, while Profs. R. D. Moritz and E. W. Lantz serve as heads of the departments of educational service and secondary education respectively. Dr. Clara O. Wilson

heads the primary education department.

In selecting the 200 students who are to receive their four years of training in the high school, re-



Courtesy Lincoln Journal. W. H. Morton.

records of scholastic attainment, citizenship, character and the economic level from which the applicant comes are considered.

Of the total number of students, who are divided equally among the four classes, approximately 70 live in rural districts, with the ma-

majority coming from Lancaster county and greater Lincoln.

Some of the students come from such distant points as Kimball and St. Paul, while one student each from Montana and Oklahoma is enrolled at present.

Offers Three Courses

The high school's curriculum is set up in such a way that entering students may select one of three courses: strictly college preparatory course, a course in commercial arts, or a general course including majors and minors which would allow the graduating student to enter college if he so desired.

Courses of instruction offered include commercial art, English, home economics, mathematics, classics and romantic languages, natural sciences, with university seniors majoring in teaching taking charge of one class for an entire semester.

At present there are 114 taking part in the practice teaching, of which 89 practice in the high school and 25 practice either in the Lincoln schools or parochial schools within the city.

The practice teaching, a requisite for graduation from the college, with a maximum load of 4 hours per semester allowed and a total of seven hours in practice teaching required for a degree.

Staff of Supervisors

Professor Morton, director of assignments for the various practice teachers, has working under

him a staff of 21 supervisors, all of whom have ratings of instructors or assistant professors.

Each supervisor is assigned several practice teachers for the



Dr. F. E. Henzlik.

specific purpose of aiding in the planning of lessons, the handling of special problems which arise in the daily teaching routine, and general supervision of the practice teachers' work. All practice under careful guidance, assuming full responsibility of laying out daily assignments schedules, conducting class work, the giving of tests, and final grading of their pupils.

In addition to conferences between practice teachers and their

supervisors following each day's classwork, a weekly seminar is held in which problems of common interest, discipline, teaching in the community, and related problems are discussed informally.

Majors Must 'Cadet'

Seniors doing the practice teaching must have previously taken courses in which general methods, special methods, and specific methods in teaching of given subjects, respectively are stressed.

Before actually taking charge of classes, the teaching majors must have carried on "cadet" work. In this "cadet" work, the students carry on observations of classroom conduct, general presentation methods, examinations, lectures and correlated work in the various classrooms. During this period, the cadets assist the regular teachers in their work.

When seniors have completed their requisite number of hours, they are given ratings by Superintendent Morton and their supervisors and the ratings are then made available to prospective employes.

That the work carried on in the high school is of interest to outsiders can be seen in the fact that in the 1940-41 school year 1956 observations, either by students or the public, of classroom work were carried on.

Much of the instruction is carried on by means of visual education aids such as charts, reflectoscopes, microprojectors and standard movie projectors.

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