

Supervisor of Guidance assists counties in developing within their schools sound programs of occupational information and guidance.

During the past two years in order to determine the strengths and weaknesses of the county high schools and to plan a program of improvement, the State Supervisors of High Schools arranged to have studies made of these institutions. The schools surveyed comprised 40 per cent of all the high schools in the counties and *all* the largest high schools. Each school following up the findings of the survey to correct the weaknesses which have appeared. This program of high school evaluation, probably the most comprehensive on a State-wide basis ever undertaken, has had a most stimulating effect on those who have had an opportunity to participate.

TRANSPORTATION OF PUPILS AND SCHOOL CONSOLIDATION

An increase in the number of elementary pupils transported at public expense has accompanied the reduction in the number of one-teacher schools through consolidation with larger schools, in which children may benefit from better instructional opportunities.

Teachers and supervisors of white and colored elementary schools have labored to adjust the schools to needs of individual pupils more closely. Problems of retarded pupils have been analyzed with a view to special remedial follow-up work, with the result that the number and percentage of failing and over-age pupils have shown progressive reduction.

Analysis of the scores made by pupils tested in the fundamental subjects through State-wide tests financed by State funds has shown that standards have been maintained and raised.

Since 1939 the number of children in special classes has been increased from 758 to 1,126. The State Department approves the organization of these classes if a sufficient number of eligible children is found in a school having an enrollment of at least 200 pupils.

AID FOR PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

The State plan for the education of physically handicapped children provides for instruction in hospitals and convalescent homes, visiting teachers for the home-bound, special transportation of children who cannot ride on regular school buses or who cannot walk the distance to school, and special orthopedic or other equipment wherever necessary for proper school adjustment. The course of study provided for these children is the same as the regular school curriculum, and standard tests given to the home-bound children by the Supervisor show that they make normal progress for age and grade. The number of physically handicapped children aided through the State program has been increased from 148 to 316, thanks to an increase in the State appropriation in 1940 from \$15,000 to \$20,000.

The Vocational Rehabilitation Service acts as a clearing house for all the efforts expended in behalf of disabled persons, and works with the various welfare, health, and educational institutions and organizations of the State. To this end cooperative agreements with the State Department of Health, the Industrial Accident Commission, the State Employment Service, and the Baltimore Goodwill Industries, have been strengthened and improved. In general, these agreements provide for an interchange of reports on disabled persons