

A Typical Monroe School Room



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Photo by McCulloch

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"MONROE," IDEAL SCHOOL

(Continued From Page One)

The Superior Seating Co. of Muskegon, Mich. This type of seat was chosen after Superintendent Loper had traveled all over the country inspecting seats and desks of all different makes. The steel desk was chosen instead of the old iron desk because it is far more sanitary; there being almost nothing to collect and hold the dust in spite of the vigilance of a good janitor. The chair and desk separate instead of together was chosen so as to avoid the shaking of the desk that comes from the child in front moving around in his seat. Each desk and chair is adjustable as to height so that it is fitted to the individual child thus compelling no one to sit humped over a desk that is too low crowding his lungs into half or less the space intended or to sit at a desk so high that one shoulder is raised inches higher than the other, which is the main cause of so many children developing curvature of the spine. Each seat is also adjusted to individual so that the feet rest squarely on the floor. These superior seats were bought at a saving of several hundred dollars from what the old style could have been bought and by going directly to the factory; the school trustees and Mr. Loper were able to have an extra coat of varnish applied without extra cost because of the large number of seats and desks bought.

LIGHTING

The Monroe school is undoubtedly the only grade school in Arizona old or new that is correctly and scientifically lighted. Every room is unilaterally lighted thus causing all the light to fall on the desk from the left side and doing away with all cross shadows which has been one of the great contributing causes of 50 per cent or better of all pupils in the upper grades having myopia. Neither is the teacher obliged to face all the light from useless windows in the rear of the room. The windows are all set on the Simplex fixtures allowing them to open outward instead of up and down thus giving the whole window space for ventilation when needed. They are also equipped with the Fuson shades that can be lowered from the top as well as rolled on a roller so that only such portions of the window need be shaded as is needed to shut out the direct rays of the sun from the desks and floor.

TOILETS

There are two large toilets on the first floor and two smaller ones on the second. These are by far the best equipped, most artistically arranged, and reach the highest degree of sanitation of any toilet in town. They contain the finest grade of Cataline marble, the walls are plastered with water proof plaster so that steam can be turned in and the whole room thoroughly sterilized. There is also provided a set of wash bowls and rooms with both shower and tub bathing facilities all piped with hot and cold water. These toilets are all several feet above grade so that there can never be any question of a good disposition of the sewerage. The plumbing is also all open so that repair work can be quickly and easily done without crawling under a mess of pipes and trying to work in a space too small for a full sized rat to live.

STAIRWAY AND FIRE ESCAPE

The stairways at either end of the building are solid steel with bituminous treads thus rendering them both fireproof and noiseless and yet of long life. These stairways are wide enough so that four rows of children may descend at one time and by using both, eight rows of children may march from the second floor at the same time so that in case of fire all could easily leave the second story in less than two minutes without the use of the fire escapes. There are also two real fire escapes which pass out over the roof and are not a menace to life, but instead a saver. The doors are also equipped with the very latest device which allows all outside doors to be always locked from the outside but never from within. Every door can be opened at any time from the inside by the smallest child simply leaning against it. It is not necessary to even turn a knob or lift a latch but simply give a gentle push. The true value of this device is not fully realized until one stops to think that nearly all the great fire disasters in school buildings have been caused by doors not opening readily and the children piling up and trampling on another to death. With the latch used on the Monroe school the more the children crowd and push the more quickly the doors fly open.

MANUAL TRAINING

A whole wing of the building is devoted to a manual training shop composed of several rooms. The main room has benches of the very latest design for woodwork and sufficient to accommodate twenty-four boys at one time. This room also has three of the latest Oliver machines, which are generally conceded to be the best for manual training and trade schools. There is a planer and jointer thoroughly protected by guards; a band saw, so covered with wire mesh doors, that it is practically impossible for any one to be hurt. The third machine is a saw bench protected in much the same manner. There is a separate motor for each machine directly connected so that there are no dangerous belts. Besides these precautions no boy will be allowed to use one of the machines unless the instructor is standing by his side to see that he does none of the fool things that usually result so disastrously. In this same apartment is a kiln, supplied with heat for the drying of lumber to be used in cabinet work. There is also a fire proof paint and

varnish room so that in case of spontaneous combustion no great damage could be done. The shaving and waste are each evening swept into a fireproof vault. This apartment is pronounced by those who have seen many such schools to be very complete.

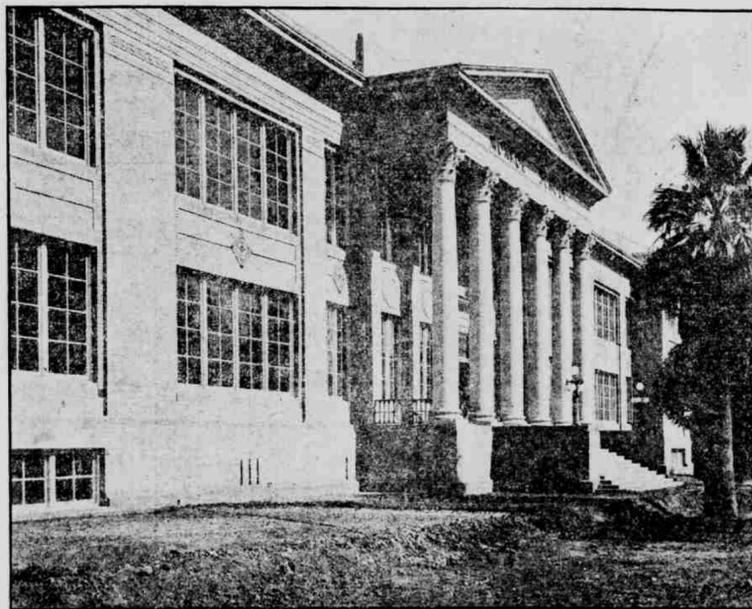
HOUSEHOLD SCIENCE

The part of the building that brings forth the most elaborate comments of praise from people passing through the building is the wing devoted to household art. The kitchen is equipped so as to teach a girl anything she will have to do in the home. The cooking stand with its acid and fire proof composition top is supplied with separate gas plates for each child and all the utensils that are needed in a cooking lesson. In one end of the room are stationary wash tubs and a dryer so that laundry work may be taught as well as any thing else concerning the home. Adjacent to the kitchen is a dining room where the girls are taught how to serve meals and when necessary they can serve one hundred and fifty guests without borrowing a piece of silverware, a dish or any table linen. Another large room is equipped for sewing, with large tables, the latest White rotary sewing machines, fitting rooms, stock-rooms, etc.

HEATING AND VENTILATING

Three large hot air furnaces supply the heat for the entire building. The air is brought in directly from out of doors, passed through a washer filled with coke and running water where all the dust and impurities are removed and the correct amount of moisture supplied. It then passes over the furnaces and is heated and forced into a huge plenum chamber extending the full length of the building and from where it is distributed to the various buildings. The temperature of the rooms is controlled automatically by thermostats. If a

Handsome Approach And Main Entrance



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room rises above sixty-eight degrees the amount of heat is instantly lessened and the amount of cold air factored. If the temperature drops below sixty-six degrees the amount of heat is instantly increased and the amount of cold air lessened. Every room in the building is connected with a large vacuum cleaner so that they can be thoroughly and scientifically cleaned whenever the occasion demands.

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