

Fine Basketry Added To Museum Collection

Two ornate Yakutat baskets and three pieces of rare Attu basketry recently presented to the Kodiak Historical Society are now on display at the museum. The baskets were donated by Dorothy K. Haberman of Ross, California, whose family lived at Wrangel 50 years ago. She heard of the Ko-

diak Museum through Mrs. Schapnikoff whom she met at the Oakland Public Museum last fall.

The baskets are nearly 60 years old according to information accompanying them.

Also new at the museum is an album of old pictures of Kodiak. KAIHS president Donald Clark told the MIRROR that the Society is interested in increasing its collection of historical pictures of this area. People interested in donating photographs and drawings, or loaning good negatives

should contact the new curator, Eunice Neseth.

The museum is open Sundays from two to four pm., and at other hours upon request.

Kodiak Principal On Able Students

(Ed. note: Below is an article which appeared in the ALASKA TEACHER, by Betty Springhill, which we print here, as it gives some approaches to the problem of curriculum provisions for more able students in the Kodiak Elementary School.)

By Betty Springhill

There is no best method for organizing for instruction in the elementary school. The objective sought is to attempt to place each child in the school setting that gives him a chance for optimum learning.

Recognizing that one of the most serious shortcomings of our schools has been the failure to provide for the individual differences among school children, many schools have attempted to provide special opportunities for the intellectually gifted child. The Kodiak Elementary school, under the leadership of Ivor A. Schott, superintendent has attempted for several years to provide special opportunities and stimulating experiences for those more able students.

The curriculum provisions and adjustments in a small school are necessarily limited, but wherever it has been possible and financially feasible these adjustments have been made.

In 1955 the elementary French program was introduced into the Kodiak School curriculum. This was done to provide increased language opportunities for the more able children in grades four through eight. This partial grouping of the more capable children into these special classes has been of considerable value. During the first semester the elementary French classes were instructed by Mrs. Lucette Little, and the second semester by Mrs. Simone Talbot, a native of France, educated in French Morocco.

Mrs. Talbot is teaching conversational French to all the fourth graders, and from grades five through eight she is conducting classes selected according to previous experience and ability of the students. These classes are offered to the children who maintain a "B" average or better in all of their academic subjects. In addition to the advanced classes, she is teaching a class in beginning French to all of the new students who qualify.

Another curriculum adjustment which is being continued because of its success, was to select the more able eighth grade mathematics students and permit them to take first year algebra with the high school class for high school credit, and then permit them to take geometry the first year of high school. These algebra classes were to be in addition to their regular classes. This adjustment is possible because of the fact that the grade school building and the high school building join and are located in separate wings in the same building. The results were so successful, with all the students selected maintaining high averages in both classes, that the practice is being continued this year. The latest report from the high school instructor is that the freshman geometry students are maintaining the highest scores and the 8th grade algebra students are doing good work as the best freshman students.

In addition to the special classes in foreign language and mathematics other administrative practices which are being used are to

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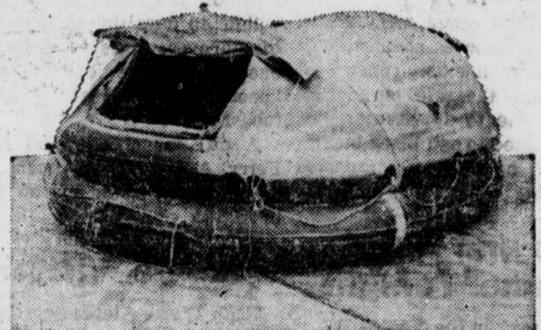
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