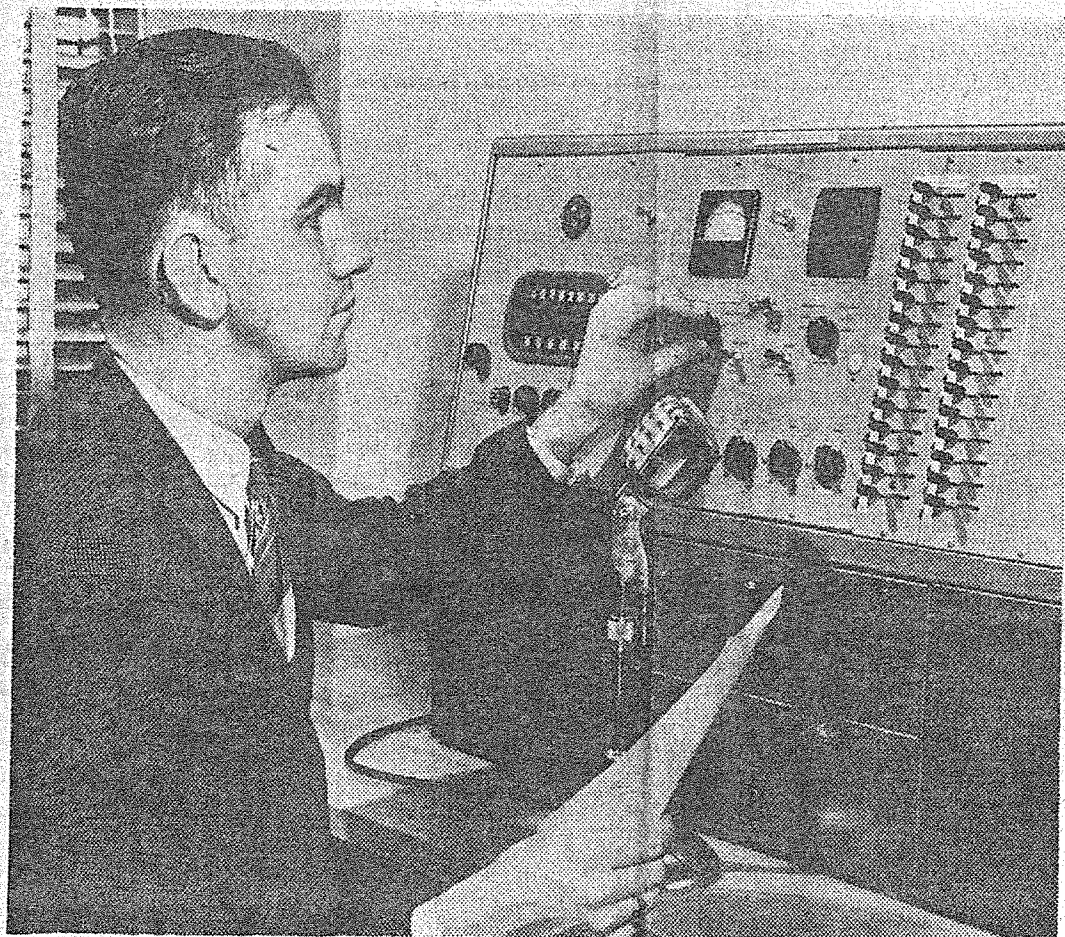


Kindness Is Always an Evidence of Greatness. Malice Is the Property of a Small Soul—George F. Hoffman.

Adams School Presents Typical Evidence of Civic Foresight



A "FIRST" AT ADAMS — Donald J. Diehn, principal of Adams school, is shown at the control board of the school's intercommunications and public address system. The "intercom" is the first of its type to be installed at any Davenport school. It provides contact with each room in the building.

Plan 'Open House' In New Building Thursday Evening

BY PETE SEOLOVICH
Times Staff Writer

The new, \$650,000 Adams elementary school, at 3029 North Division street — which will be exhibited to the public during an "open house" program Thursday evening — is irrefutable evidence of the growth of Davenport and a solid example of administrative foresight.

Back in the 1930s, the 17-acre tract upon which the schoolhouse now is located was a peaceful wooded knoll where cattle and horses were grazed.

The factor which prompted the selection of the property for educational uses materialized in the '30s with the beginning of residential construction in the Sunnymeade addition.

As the houses became more plentiful, the problem increased. The youngsters of the families in the area provided larger and larger busloads of pupils for other schools in north Davenport.

At the outset, all the youngsters were taken care of at Johnson school, but, with each year, pupils were going to Garfield, Grant and Washington schools from the area.

By 1943, the board of education had become convinced that the latter half of an old school administration adage was rapidly materializing — "first, you take the



children to the schools; then, you have to take the schools to the children."

On June 14, 1943, the Davenport board purchased six acres of the present site, but, in short order, realized — with the start of the Bruns addition on Kimberly road — that the area someday would require a junior high school as well as an elementary building.

With this in mind, an additional nine acres was bought April 12, 1948. Certain that the fast-growing city would move toward Kimberly road, where the terrain provides excellent ground for residential construction, the school board activated its building program for the Cram field area.

The board's action was hastened when it became apparent that Johnson, Garfield, Grant and Washing-

ton schools could no longer bear overwhelming pupil loads, while even greater rolls were foreseen in predicted house-building on the Cram field site, a large apartment project south of the airfield and growing families at Palmerton — temporary housing area for Palmer School of Chiropractic students.

In August of 1948, Kruse & Parrish, Davenport, architects, were engaged to begin designing the new Adams school. By May 15, 1950, the building contracts had been let and, last September, 270 youngsters began studies in a modern up-to-the-minute schoolhouse.

School officials estimate that 450-pupil capacity of the Adams school will be utilized to the full within the next three to four years. At that time the elementary school rolls increase will be transferred to

the junior highs and consideration of the advanced structure at the Adams site then will come to the fore.

The recent announcement that a 230-home residential subdivision is being planned for an area northwest of the fairgrounds points up the wisdom of the board's intent to purchase another 17-acre tract at Clark and West Locust streets for school purposes.

At present, the Johnson school at Locust and Wilkes avenue, is serving the entire West Locust street area. However, with the report that nearly 300 more homes may be raised in the area in the next year or two, it becomes apparent the Johnson building will be woefully inadequate for the large pupil-body from the additional families.

By the time, the load becomes too

A PRIMARY CLASS — Enjoying some of the most modern architecture and equipment in use in Davenport schools are members of the first grade at the new Adams building. Working with several pupils in the private art department is Miss Irma Lou Hamilton, instructor. The room also has its own library. (Times Photos.)

heavy, however, the foresight of the Davenport school officials will have reached fruition in another new school building — just in time to receive the children of a large new neighborhood.

Thus, the growth of Davenport steadily is matched by an expansion of educational facilities.