

1972

## 2nd Annual Workshop on Inland Waters Spawns Project on Little Sioux

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### Recommended Citation

Krohn, Milbert (1972) "2nd Annual Workshop on Inland Waters Spawns Project on Little Sioux," *Iowa Science Teachers Journal*: Vol. 10: No. 1, Article 4.

Available at: <https://scholarworks.uni.edu/istj/vol10/iss1/4>

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measuring several chemical and physical parameters along the Little Sioux River. The project, sponsored by the Iowa Science Teachers and the Iowa Conservation Education Council, brought 18 high school teachers together to learn about procedures for measuring the character of a moving body of water. The teachers are now training teams of students to assist them in their projects. The information is going to be channeled to a central collecting depot. From here it will be sent back to the participating schools. Students and teachers alike will (hopefully) produce papers for presentation at the Iowa Academy of Science - Science Teaching section in the near future. Materials will be made available to other governmental agencies if they desire. It is hoped that the program, if successful, will become a template for research teaching throughout the midwest and perhaps the entire country. Co-directors of the project are: Milbert Krohn, Spirit Lake Community School District, and Paul Joslin, Science Education, Drake University. Should any teachers be interested in setting up similar groups in other parts of the state they are invited to inquire about procedures from either of the directors.

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#### WHAT DID YOU TEACH TODAY?

Parents on the Run  
Marguerite and Willard Beecher  
Grosset and Dunlap, New York, 1967

"I have taught in high school for ten years. During that time I have given assignments, among others, to a murderer, a pugilist, a thief and an imbecile. The murderer was a quiet little boy who sat on the front seat and regarded me with pale blue eyes; the pugilist lounged by the window and let loose at intervals in a raucous laughter that startled even the geraniums; the thief was a gay-hearted Lothario with a song on his lips, and the imbecile, a soft-eyed little animal seeking the shadows.

The murderer awaits death in the state penitentiary; the pugilist lost an eye in a brawl in Hong Kong; the thief by standing on tip-toe can see the window of my room from the county-jail; and the once gentle-eyed little moron beats his head against a padded wall in the state asylum.

All these pupils once sat in my room, sat and looked at me gravely across worn brown desks. I must have been a great help to those pupils - I taught them the rhyming scheme of the Elizabethan sonnet and how to diagram a complex sentence . . ."

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#### SO YOU WANT TO BE AN OUTSTANDING TEACHER!

Barton Philipps  
Science Education Center  
The University of Iowa  
Iowa City, Iowa 52240

Great teachers are great because of the long vacations, short working day, easy work (if you call it work), and good pay. WHAT? Who said that? Truly GREAT teachers rarely take a vacation and work overtime without pay, to guide the students in learning situations. And as for the pay, the garbage collectors in many areas make more than the teachers.

You can tell if a teacher is interested in teaching as soon as you walk into the classroom. If they let you in the door, just ask yourself a few questions as you look around. What is the philosophy of the school? Are they dedicated to pushing every child into college so the school looks good, or are they interested in the child's self image? Is it a bare, drab room or are the walls filled with things the children have done and items of interest to the child? Are the children going through the motions of work or are they smiling and busily engaged in classroom activities? Do the children do the same thing every day, or is there variety in the daily schedule? Does the child have time to think out an answer and then venture a guess, or is he or she afraid of being wrong? Which is better - the right answer or the processes of thinking that were involved? Does the child receive individual help or is everything done in groups? Must lessons be done in silence, or is communication permitted on a non-disturbing level? What chance does the child have to pursue an area of his own interest? Does the teacher make too many negative remarks about the children's work? What do the children say about school, or don't they say anything?

When is the last time you visited your child's classroom? We need interested people whether they are parents or not. YOU need to get involved with your schools. If you are