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Modern Education Features Audio-Visual Aids

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Modern Education Features

Audio-Visual Aids

Nancy Baker predicts important use for educational movies in classrooms of the future

THE classroom of the future may be a movie theater. It will be a long time before this becomes an actuality but, due to the success of the use of movies and similar materials to train men in the service, the educators of today are convinced of the importance of the use of movies in education.

To further advance and improve educational methods, Iowa State maintains a Visual Instruction Service, conducted jointly by the Engineering Extension Service and the Agricultural Extension Service. This service, founded in 1918, and directed by Professor H. L. Kooser, is conducted for the purpose of disseminating instruction and information to the people of Iowa, through churches, schools and all non-theatrical institutions, by means of audio-visual aids.

The classroom demand for the audio-visual aids is increasing. Included in the list of materials classified as audio-visual aids are sound motion pictures, silent motion pictures and glass lantern slides.

A catalog is published by the Visual Instruction Service which contains a list of 2700 films and 300 sets of lantern slides available. Not only movies pertaining to school subjects, but practically everything from A-agriculture, to W-war films, is included. The movies on the field of home economics, especially those on food and textiles and clothing, are the most used in classes on campus. Movies on Making A Bed, Bathing A Baby and How To Set A Table are now being produced on the campus.

Agricultural students and Iowa farmers are kept up to date in the agrarian world by such movies as Farmers In A Changing World, Do Unto Animals and New Harvests For Victory. The Department of Psychology uses special movies in teaching people how to read or how to improve their reading. For those interested in travel there are endless films on such subjects as Northeastern United States, Picturesque Peru and Towns In Old Mexico.

Some of the newest additions to the library are films based on the war. Government propaganda and actual front line experiences, D-Day, Japs Bomb Pearl Harbor and Yanks Invade Africa, are included in this category. Life would not be complete without a little comedy now and then, and Foxey Fox, Kiko the Kangaroo, and a streamlined Robinson Crusoe provide humorous entertainment.

Just how are these films presented to the classroom? Motion picture projection centers in the Service Building, but picture projectors and operators are loaned to teachers who request a catalog from the Visual Instruction Service listing the different movie subjects.

The Visual Instruction Service photographs outstanding members of the student body, Veishea and campus scenes. The most profitable movies are those which will remain in circulation for the greatest length of time, such as those on geography, acoustics and cartoons.

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