STUDIES IN EDUCATION NUMBER

(Eleventh of the Series)

A SELF-RATING SCALE FOR HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

By EARL E. PHARES, M. S.,
and
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FOREWORD

Believing that a thorough summary of the duties and responsibilities of the secondary school principal as expressed by the writers in the field of secondary education might be of value to the busy principal, STUDIES IN EDUCATION takes pleasure in offering this monograph to this official in particular.

While very much has been written on the topic of administration in general, and the improvement of the teacher in service in particular, comparatively little has been offered for the improvement of the administrator in service. And when everything is summed up we are forced to the conclusion that, administration courses to the contrary, principals get little really usable training other than on the job. When consideration is given to the fact that college courses in administration of the secondary school are likely to be very superficial, and at best theoretical; that training under actual school conditions is carried on in very few places in the country; that the principal is forced to learn his fine art while on the job, the need for a self-rating, self-teaching device is evident.

The placing of the work of the principal under the microscope, as it were, as the authors have tried to do in working out the scale offered, and there giving it a rather close scrutiny, is likely to be of help to anyone in school work whether in a teaching, supervisory, or administrative capacity. The emphasis that is being placed upon the more or less inconsequential details is given the same close inspection that is allotted to emphasis upon the more important principles. An analysis of the work of the principal tends to make apparent the fact that the real problems are usually clouded by a fog of details.

A survey of the textbooks in the field of administration at the present time, and the offering is steadily increasing in excellence, shows considerable agreement in stating the aims, objectives, principles, and methods governing administrative technic. To this extent, at least, administration takes on the form of a science. The authors have sought to justify the inclusion of the main items in the scale by listing only those on which there is practically unanimous agreement on the part of the writers in the field. This is emphasized in Part III of the monograph. While this method of determining the validity of the items in the scale is open to criticism, yet at the present time there are no more satisfactory criteria by which administration may be judged than that of taking the opinions of the writers in the field. That textbook and other writers in the field of secondary education may not be the most competent judges is noted also, but is not conceded.
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PART I

INTRODUCTION

THE NATURE OF THE STUDY

The theme of this investigation has these two coterminous objectives: First, to analyze the personal and professional qualifications essential to the office of the administrator of the ordinary high school; second, to classify these items of qualification into related groups upon the basis of their related conjunction with the position. The next step will be the resolution of these items into a unified and coherently organized scale of measurement against which the principal may place himself for determinant comparison. The very nature of this analytical process will be a complete evaluation of the administrator's position and of the essential characteristics desirable in the person who would hold the position.

In short, it is to be a self-rating scale to which, it is hoped, the administrator may frequently repair for an illuminating, truth-telling confessional, and be able to come therefrom inspired, reassured, and invigorated. The motives of one's ambitions, interests, or desires may be revived, or even liberated by the trigger of inspiration which may come from such a self-analysis or comparison. Too often the principal has had the thought that he is capable of doing far more, that he is in a position for exerting great beneficial influences—and here this casual thought ends. It has not been merged with action.

Actually the most sincere meaning of success may be that beneficial consequence of struggle, movement, change, and the subjective exhilaration that accompanies such when it is in the way of directed effort. Such expending of energy implies the improvement which can come only through one's own efforts.

In the principalship of the ordinary high school this energy can be directed for improvement along dual lines, such lines being so closely integrated with each other, however, as to be inseparable. One consists of the personality traits of both the individual and social type; the other enfolds the professional phases of the situation. Relative to the first be it said that a principal (or any other person) may develop attractive individual and social traits—if he will; with regard to the second, let it be emphasized that the position itself has two nondivergent fields of responsibility, the supervisory and the administrative. Possibly the various phases of the principal's traits and functions are in frequent juxtaposition. If so, such practice is far more commendable than the common attitude of principals in emphasizing the administrative duties at the expense of the more educative aims of the job, the supervisory.

PREVIOUS STUDIES

Harold O. Rugg\(^1\) has made one of the most widely accepted of rating scales in the struggle to measure and compare teachers. This study emphasized the fact that there are two separate and distinct features of the ordinary rating form, and that the first function of his study was self-improvement through

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self-rating. The secondary use to be made of the scale was that of rating persons in numerical order, comparing them, in the process, with five other groups of individuals. Each of the latter groups are of different qualities: (1) the best that the rater has ever known, (2) the poorest he has ever seen or known, (3) a representative of the average, (4) a person midway between the best and the average, and (5) the person midway between the poorest and the average. Rugg's scale was first presented to the public in 1918.

Worth McClure made a study in 1925 of the rating of principals and found that in analyzing the various rating scales of principals the score cards fell into three groups and that rating scales were improving in (1) organization, (2) reliability, and (3) weighting of standards.

Bertha Y. Hebb, in 1925, published a very comprehensive work consisting, illustratively, of self-rating cards in which long lists of qualifications were itemized. The organization was not good, but the lists were quite complete in making contact with the field.

Ellsworth Lowry produced a novel card in 1923 in the form of giving it both weight and prepared answer arrangement. Although weighting a card apparently gives it an impression of more efficiency, such weighted scales have not proven to be of more value.

T. H. Schutte, also in 1925, produced a card containing the weighting device in the form of a percentage scale. The percentage idea added to a scale adds the connotation of relating efficiency to the scale, but supervisors and administrators in general have not favored weighting with the percentage scale in mind because of the tendency to press the field within the scope of the small numerical range.

Scott and Clothier, in 1923, published a very complete work, *Personnel Management*, giving refutation to the idea commonly accepted that professional men are not rated. Members of professions are rated very strictly. Many corporations employing technically trained men use rating scales very similar to those used in educational systems.

The Duluth rating system for teachers was made during the school year of 1921-22. The system has a twofold purpose. It is organized to recognize and reward teacher merit, and it also pertains to the improvement of the work which the teacher is doing. It seeks to set up situations in which a frank, open appraisal of the situation's work may lead to its appreciative consideration, and thence from this premise to a discussion of methods by which it may be improved.

Scale for High School Principals

William L. Connor, writing in the Journal of Educational Research, gives a scale study in which the gist of the whole list of interrogations is reduced to terms of pupil activity. The study gives a unique slant in thus using the work activity of the pupils themselves to measure the teacher.

H. T. Johnston, writing in School and Society in 1917, illustrates a brief scale rating card in which the points are organized with a view of getting at the important features of the worker's efficiency as quickly as possible.

Arthur C. Boyce, in 1915, contrived a rating scale which received wide publicity upon its publication. This piece of work was done as a bit of experimental pioneering, but it was immediately accepted and used. The scale was organized to measure or rate the teacher, and as such an instrument its organization is pertinent.

A more recent rating scheme to come to the field is one developed by Edwin J. Brown of the Kansas State Teachers' College. While this particular device is primarily intended for a supervisor's self-rating scale, its versatility in construction permits its use by a supervising principal or other official who is responsible for the organization and improvement of socialized procedures. The scheme lends itself to convenient use and ready diagnosis due to depicting, graphically, the status of the qualifications.

Almack and Bursch made a very comprehensive survey of the administration of consolidated and village schools, in which their analyses were based upon the laws of the state and the regulations of school boards. Such a study would tend to clarify and emphasize the duties and qualifications of the position, but it would make inadequate provision for the vital element of personality.

H. A. Bone formulated a scale for aiding the teacher to evaluate her own work. The scale is divided into main headings as follows: (1) relation of the classroom teacher to the pupils as judged by results, (2) relation as a member of the school faculty, (3) relation as a member of the community.

W. P. Burris, in 1923, offered a rating scale for the high-school principal which was constructed upon these bases: (1) personal, (2) social, (3) educational, and (4) professional qualifications. Each of these main items has a number of subtopics, and the scale itself was devised to be scored by means of plus and minus signs.

Rose A. Carrigan has given to the profession a score card in which the following are the main headings: (1) evidence of adequate teacher-preparation, 140 points; (2) the atmosphere of the background or workshop, 250 points; (3) the work accomplished, 375 points; (4) the child, 375 points.

In a type of scale presented in 1924, E. W. Cober divided the duties of the head official into (1) those purely administrative (annual and semiannual), (2) daily, (3) routine, and (4) miscellaneous. The basis of the grouping is somewhat vague, and the lack of the personal element is distinct.

W. A. Cook stated, in a history of the development of rating scales, that the first schemes were those originated by Boyce and Elliot. Cook's criticism of the rating process, even at the present, is that there is uncertainty as to what should be included in a rating scheme, and further, there is little agreement as to the number of points to be used in the scale.

J. W. Crabtree wrote a very good article in which he discussed the rating of teachers. He presented a rating-card to be utilized by both the supervisor and the teacher; his object, apparently, was to have the pertinent and common elements be the points of contact between the two individuals.

A scale in which the educational and social qualities are emphasized was placed in the field by Katherine Cranor as a device primarily to aid the supervisor. The main items proposed are: (1) educational preparation, (2) tact, (3) tolerance, (4) poise, (5) appearance, and (6) relationship with the teachers. This contribution is an important one in that the stress is laid upon the vital human element.

In his well-known works concerning public-school administration, Cubberley analyzes the field of the executive as follows: (1) the principal as an organizer, (2) as an administrator, (3) as a supervisor, and (4) as a community leader. The authority of this educator is so widely recognized that many rating scheme contrivers would readily accept his judgment.

A very good self-rating scale for the teacher was devised by Franklin B. Dyer. The scale primarily deals with the phases of personality and ability.

R. W. Fairchild made a score card for the measurement of administration. His work analyzed the fundamental requirements of a successful school administrator. The rating card is divided into the following headings: (1) tem-

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perament and tact, (2) appearance and professional preparation, (3) organization of the school, and (4) teacher problems.23

Arthur S. Gist, in a detailed work, analyzed the qualifications and duties of the principal as (1) an administrator, (2) a community leader, (3) publicity man, and (4) his personal relation in the school and community.24

W. S. Gray25 pointed out the potentialities of the self-rating device in an article published in the School Review in 1921. His discussion pointed to the fact that self rating directs the teachers' attention to the significant problems of teaching, that the use of the scale aided the principal in securing an important background concerning the requirements of teachers.

In a rating card developed for the field of home economics, Adah H. Hess contrived a clever scale, and its versatility is such that it need not be restricted to this specific area. The card was made with three main divisions: (1) technique and results of instruction, (2) classroom management, and (3) educational, personal, and social qualifications.26

Relative to rating scales in general R. E. Kent says "That all the teacher's work, including every major factor in it, should be considered in making a self-rating scale, but these factors should be considered only with respect to what they contribute toward educational results in the children under her care." The scale which Kent presented was based upon these groupings: (1) pupil achievement, (2) merit in mechanics, (3) merit as a social worker, and (4) personality. In this device the emphasis is placed upon pupil activity and achievement.27

S. G. Rich,28 in his self-rating device, grouped his items upon effective methods of supplying physical needs, power of cooperation with the staff, and maintaining the prestige of the school and the profession. In discussing rating devices, Rich advocated that principals be rated by the teachers.

In the business world E. H. Schell published a book which is actually a very personal and pertinent group of items for self-analysis. The book is a forcefully written one in which the personal points which are vital are the only ones presented.29

P. R. Spencer30 developed a self-rating scale for principals in which he included these standards: (1) relationship with pupils, (2) vocational guidance, and (3) use of standardized tests for measuring classroom instruction.

In an analysis of traits that he thought desirable in a supervisor, Joseph S. Taylor evolved a self-rating scheme for teachers. The main divisions of his rating are: (1) scholarship, (2) preparation for work, (3) knowledge of fundamentals of drill, (4) execution of work, and (5) pupil interest.31

THE SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The range and area of the investigation includes the search for and the discovery of those qualifications essential to the job and the person of the principalship of the ordinary high school. The traits resolved in this refining process include all the characteristics pertinent to the position or necessary to the person who fills the position; the two factors are supplementary. The composition of these inter-related groups of pertinences into a complete and concise unity, forms the rating scale itself.

The traits or characteristics listed consist of those mentioned as essentially desirable by authorities who have published works in the field of educational administration, as evidenced by publications in the field of business, and lastly, by officials heading school boards.

METHODS OF PROCEDURE

In general the lines of interrogation pursued in this analysis consist of the following:

1. What are the duties of an administering principal?
2. What professional qualifications should this official possess?
3. How able should the principal be as an organizer?
4. What qualifying traits are essential to an efficient executive?
5. What should be the supervisory qualifications of a principal of a high school?
6. To what extent should this officer be integrated into the activities of the community?
7. What personal traits and habits may be expected—even demanded—of the person filling this office?
8. What should be the attitude of this principal to his job and his profession?

SOURCES OF DATA

A great deal of the information presented herein comes from two general types of materials. The first type comes from the pen of authorities who have published accepted books in the field of administration, the other type of material comes from a similar class of experts (in some instances the same individuals) who have had their manuscripts accepted and published by professional periodical magazines.

The analyses of previously submitted rating scales of various kinds have been found to be sources of many items of determination especially those related to personal and executive characteristics.

A third source of selection has been discovered in the personnel publications of the allied field of business, wherein much study of an analytical nature relating to the rating of individuals for specific jobs has been carried on.

Scale for High School Principals

A further fund of applicable information has been found in the professional investigations carried through at various educational institutions by research workers. Many of these have been published by the institutions, or in part by the publishing companies.

THE TYPES OF DATA COLLECTED

The analysis of these various sources of informational material has brought to light the following types of data:

1. The amount of training desirable in the profession.
2. Personal characteristics of force and initiative desirable in such leadership.
3. The attitude of mind assumed by leaders toward their professions.
4. Tendencies of responsible persons to extend their professional training in service.
5. The expression of willingness to coöperate with fellow workers in a congenial manner.
6. Initiative in assuming responsibility for actions in service.
7. Evidences of professional skill in executing the mechanics of organization.
8. Skill and tact exercised in the handling of supervisory techniques and problems.
9. Inspirational encouragement furnished by professional leaders to the faculty and the community.
10. The habits and practices of leaders of various professions in regard to personal cleanliness and appearance.
11. The social customs and manners of the individuals accepted as prominent in the professions.
12. Traits and qualities which communities desire that their school officials possess.

THE PROBLEM

The objective of the molding of this scale for self-analysis is to aid the principal to take inventory of his activity and personality in the position itself. The construction of the scale itself is based upon the vital groups of the desirable qualifications of the office and its occupant. Each of these divisions is in turn composed of the subordinate points which are related to that heading and at the same time the divisions tend to retain coherence among themselves.

The compilation of the items which form the materials for the scale construction has been attempted (1) by scanning the works of various authors in the field of administration, both educational and commercial, and (2) by analyzing the various rating scales. Authors of administrative books and articles have set themselves up as being more or less expert in the field; furthermore, as their works are accepted by workers in the field and by people in general, there is thus still greater regard of them as having an expert's knowledge.

Reference to these authorities and comparison with other rating scales tends toward the establishment of validity and reliability for the scale to the extent that the items mentioned are coincidental with various sources.

There has been an attempt to strengthen still further the validity and reliability by comparison of the established qualifications with those desired by school boards.
DEFINITION OF TERMS

The term principal as used applies to any official who is the authorized head of a secondary school. Under present conditions many such persons devote a part of their time to the teaching process, and it has been invariably true even in the past that little has been actually accomplished in the way of active supervision in the ordinary high school.

Secondary school is a term which commonly is, and shall here be, taken to include all public high schools or private academies wherein the institution's chief function shall be the education of pupils of grades seven to twelve, inclusive. This will naturally include both the junior and senior high schools of any type of secondary organization. It will also include smaller high schools of the two-year or three-year organization.

PRESENTATION OF MATERIAL

The general plan of this study has been to give to the principal a definite and stimulating picture of (1) what the position really is, and (2) to give this official, also, a convenient device for checking upon his fulfillment of that position.

Part II, which is the rating scale itself, consists of the personal and professional items from the above-mentioned materials. Synonyms and other terms with shades of the same allusion are condensed as much as possible.

To obtain validity and reliability in a study of this type is a very difficult problem, but the writers believe that a measure of success has been reached in this attempt as presented in Part III.

The concluding section of this work presents a summary, and some conclusions which have emphasized themselves in the making of this analysis.
PART II

THE SELF-RATING SCALE

It is again desirable to mention that the big aim of a self-rating scale is its capacity to cause the subject to be analytical of his own professional or personal traits and procedures. Mention should also be made of the fact that the efficiency of a self-rating device depends to a great extent upon the frequency and thoroughness of its application as a measuring stick.

The use of a self-rating scale implies an urge to improve, a prod that not only drives one to do as well, but to attempt to do better. If one possesses no such traits there will be neither desire to nor reason for using any device which has for its main purpose the improvement of the worker in service.

Self-criticism is rarely stimulated by the personal exhortations of another person—a second party. An urge from within can do a great deal more to stimulate an individual. At this point a scheme or device by which the person may be made critically conscious not only of his weaknesses but also of his strengths, finds its most important function. A self-rating device probably satisfies this requirement more than any other scheme. It possesses the least amount of undesirable subjectivity, approaches the impersonal, and most important of all, is used for the very purpose for which it was intended, that of seeking improvement.

The self-rating scale presented herewith is an earnest and sincere attempt to provide such means of comparison and measurement for the principalship of the ordinary high school as the office is defined by the outstanding educational administrative authorities.

MAKING USE OF THE SCALE

This self-rating scheme, when used, will consist actually of a series of graphs in that a particular portion of the parallel lines is to be checked for that section of the scale opposite it. Thus one gives consideration to each of the alphabetized sections as a unit. Users are urged to give attention to each question in its relation to the general head; to check upon each issue by placing a small cross mark or a large dot between the desired lines at the right of the page. One can then easily connect these marks which will result in a vertical graph for the analysis of each section. If the graph line swings away from the central space “A” the rater should scrutinize the corresponding questions carefully, giving special heed when the tendency is toward the left.

One must use extreme caution in exercising judgment; he must be honest with himself. Perfect frankness is the key as the main aim is not a high first score, but a higher score upon each subsequent rating. It is desirable to remember that improvement is the object.

The column symbols of the graph are significant in this way: P indicates an inferior grading; F, fair; A, average; G, very good; and S, superior.
THE SCALE

I. PERSONAL AND SOCIAL

To what extent:

A. **Do I possess habits of personal cleanliness?**
   1. Do I possess personal cleansing habits?
   2. Do I daily make certain that my person is free from all body, oral, or tobacco odors?

B. **Am I neatly groomed?**
   1. Is my person clothed with clean apparel of at least fair quality?
   2. Do I exercise a reasonable variation in the choice of clothing?
   3. Are my sartorial habits such as will cast no reflection upon my appearance?

C. **Am I friendly and sociable?**
   1. Am I interested in what is happening around me?
   2. Am I pleasant and cheerful?
   3. Do I possess, without exception, pleasant mannerisms?
   4. Am I sensitive to the social proprieties?
   5. Do I aid in planning recreation?
   6. Do my teachers and associates grow more friendly with the passage of time?

D. **Do I exercise tact in my social relations?**
   1. Are my suggestions readily taken?
   2. Am I asked by teachers to suggest criticism of their work?
   3. Am I readily invited to give judgment on problems or new work which is being tried?
   4. Do I encourage initiative in both teachers and pupils?
   5. Do I refuse credit not due me?
   6. Am I sensitive to ethical procedure?

E. **Do I persevere with planned work?**
   1. Am I working as hard as any of my teachers?
   2. Do I retain my enthusiasm even after a week of heavy work?
   3. Do I have pronounced force in either work or play?
   4. Do I conserve the time and energy of my teachers?
   5. Do I summarize projects and make them professionally available?
Scale for High School Principals

THE SCALE—Continued

II. PROFESSIONAL GROWTH AND ATTITUDES

To what extent:

A. Am I keeping abreast of the times in my reading of professional literature?

1. Do I add several good books to my professional library each year?

2. Am I a subscriber to at least four professional magazines?

3. Am I purposefully suggesting these professional aids to my teachers?

B. Am I participating in community and state educational activity?

1. Do I get interested participation in the meetings of my own faculty?

2. Do I participate to my utmost in state and national educational meetings?

C. Do I strive to make contribution to professional literature?

1. Do I experiment, analyze, and report my observations?

2. Am I a contributor to the professional literature of my locality, county or state?

3. Do I encourage my instructors to carry on experimental work during the school year?

D. Am I interested in the work of professional inquiry into the fields of teaching or supervision?

1. Do I attempt to adjust the recommendations of educational associations to fit local conditions?

2. Do I aid such organizations by reporting the results of my experience with their suggestions?

3. Do I encourage my teachers to be active members of professional organizations?

4. Do I lend interested cooperation to interschool investigations?

5. Do I continuously extend my training by summer school or extension work?

E. Have I devised any new administrative schemes and checked their professional utility?

1. Do I experiment with new methods?

2. Have I satisfactorily integrated student organizations?

3. Am I continually analyzing my community to find additional curricular materials?

4. Do I readily try noteworthy aids of others?
5. Does the student organizations' finance scheme function efficiently? ........................................
6. Are the student organizations sponsored effectively? .........................................................
7. Is there definite attempt to give personal and social pupil guidance? ...............................

III. Cooperativeness and Teamwork

To what extent:

A. Have I obtained reciprocal cooperation with my teachers in school activities? ..............
   1. Are my teachers willingly interested in serving on committees? ...............................
   2. Do I ask for teachers' suggestions upon a projected plan? .....................................
   3. Do faculty members work pleasantly and cooperatively in community matters? ...........

B. Have I ability to get willing contributions from the faculty meetings? ..........................
   1. Do I inspire my teachers to voluntary activity in faculty meetings? ..........................
   2. Do the teachers promote group plans for improvements? ...........................................
   3. Am I careful to make commendation where due?

C. Am I loyal to my superiors and to my teachers? .......
   1. Do I seek opportunity to commend the school and its workers? ..............................
   2. Do I give hearty cooperation in executing the educational policies of my superiors? ........
   3. Am I prompt in completing my records to their final form? ..................................
   4. Do I refrain from speaking of a fellow worker if I cannot commend? ...........................

D. Do I assume responsibility for my own actions? .......
   1. Do I try to escape censure relative to criticized plans in which I have participated? .....
   2. Do I unhesitatingly pass credit along to other persons who participated? ..................
   3. Am I alert to "do a good turn" that will benefit instruction? ....................................

E. Do I possess a definite educational philosophy of my own? .......................................
   1. Do I know intimately the general needs of my community? ......................................
   2. Am I able always to enlist the active aid of my teachers in adjusting the curriculum to the community? .................................................................
Scale for High School Principals

The Scale—Continued

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<td>3. Do I personally visit the general social and home environment of the pupils?</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>G</td>
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<td>4. Do I invariably extend myself to benefit pupil conditions?</td>
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<td>5. Do I form the center around which the school revolves as an integral part of the community?</td>
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F. Do I actually participate in desirable community activities?

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<td>1. Do I meet people on a level of friendliness?</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>G</td>
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<td>2. Do I avoid taking part in local political squabbles?</td>
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<td>3. Do I keep the school board and the community informed regarding school affairs?</td>
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<td>4. Do I give public approval of the better phases of the school system?</td>
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IV. Skill in Administrative Mechanics of the High School

To what extent:

A. Does the school unit function smoothly and vigorously?

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<tr>
<td>1. Have the students been inspired to cooperate in running their school?</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Do I delegate responsibility to instructors and sponsors?</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Does such delegation reflect sound judgment on my part by its results?</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Are intraschool regulations kept to the very minimum that is conducive to efficiency?</td>
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</table>

B. Do I facilitate classwork and aid teachers to proceed naturally and spontaneously?

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<tr>
<td>1. Is each course of study in line with the general policy of the school system?</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Do the class organizations easily tend to cohere with the general school organization?</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Does a spirit of friendliness permeate the intraschool competitions?</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Does each of the intramural contests have a beneficial aim?</td>
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</table>

C. Is there developed and maintained a broad extracurricular program?

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Do I attempt to enfold every pupil into an extracurricular activity?</td>
<td>P</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Do I give proper emphasis to “activities” and to the regular subjects?</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Is there sufficient stress concerning an avocation for each student?</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
THE SCALE—Continued

D. Have I formulated a general organization which is conducive to order and discipline?

1. Do the teachers attempt to get pupils to govern themselves within the group?
2. Are the students permitted to participate to some extent in governing their school organizations?
3. In case of breach of discipline do I try to get the matter settled by bringing student influence and action upon it?

E. Are all routine matters efficiently organized?

1. Is the method of checking supplies and properties conservative of time and energy?
2. Is the hallway and interclass traffic rapid but orderly?
3. Does the fire-drill system work efficiently?
4. Are the attendance records kept in a readily cumulative form?
5. Is the library adjusted for easy utility by pupils in study rooms?
6. Is there positive development in each of the home rooms?

V. SUPERVISORY ABILITY AND SKILL

To what extent:

A. Do I utilize the principles of supervision and teaching?

1. Is the supervisory program adjusted so that the teachers are striving for pupil benefit?
2. Do I consistently report to the superintendent concerning phases of supervisory objective?

B. Do I have a program of visitation integrated into my general schedule?

1. Does the program call for frequent contact with the teacher at work?
2. Do I give most of my supervisory time and attention to those teachers having teaching difficulties?
3. Do I make memoranda in duplicate so that the instructor may thus possess a copy?
4. Am I definitely attempting to be democratically helpful and coöperative?

C. Do I make the aims of supervision apparent to my teachers?

1. Are the teachers conscious of the child as the unit of education?
2. Have I made it apparent that supervision is for the benefit of the pupil?
3. Have I inspired my teachers with a belief in supervision? ............................................
4. Do my teachers and I continually keep in mind the goal for the year?............................
5. Does my supervision formulate an educational philosophy for my teachers?....................
6. Are my procedures such that a teacher may emulate them with benefit?..........................

D. Do I assist teachers to utilize recognized class procedures?
1. Am I helpful to the teacher in analyzing the aims of instruction? ............................... 
2. Do I encourage socialized classroom participation?
3. Do I aid the teacher in making lesson assignments?
4. Am I helpful to the teacher in making lesson outlines? .............................................
5. Have I inspired the teacher to utilize every device which will improve the teaching act?........
6. Do I arrange that demonstration lessons of various types be taught and witnessed by the teachers?....

E. Do I search for and make recognition to better teaching?
1. Do I give recognition to the teacher who has the scientific attitude? ............................
2. Do I encourage and aid the teachers in securing publication of their work? .....................
3. Do I use every opportunity to report to the community the good work of my teachers?........
4. Do I encourage and facilitate teacher membership in local, state, or other educational committees?
5. Have I developed an efficient record device for the recommending of teachers? ..................

F. Do I distinctly feel that my teaching staff is united in purpose?
1. Have I been able to inculcate a wholesome democracy in supervision? ..........................
2. Have I inspired my teachers toward a solidarity of purpose? ........................................
3. Has my staff been led to develop a social life which is selective yet does not exclude the community?
4. Have I encouraged my teachers to play as hard as they work? ............................... 
5. Do I encourage interchange of ideas between both individuals and groups of teachers?...........
G. *Am I able to instill a feeling of personal professionalism in teacher conferences?*

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</table>

1. Do I definitely keep engagements with pupils, teachers, or other persons?

2. Do teachers and pupils welcome me as an ally in their work?

3. Am I able to keep conference discussion away from the personal and centered upon pupil benefit?

4. Do I stress values found in professional literature and professional organizations?

5. Do I emphatically encourage improved training in service?
PART III
ESTABLISHING THE SCALE

Analysis of the general supervisory and administrative fields on the secondary level brings one at once into abrupt contact with questions of objectives, aims, personality, methods, social traits, principles of administration, classroom procedures, principles or supervision, faculty meetings, community relations, and many other essential phases of the work of the principal.

In the general construction of the scale the arrangement is such that it predicates an affirmative answer as the optimum response. The restriction to a definite “no” or “yes” in answering mentally each of the main headings points specifically toward greater objectivity. Following up such a definite response one can the more easily isolate and criticize the strengths and weaknesses by means of the subordinate queries under that respective heading. Undoubtedly many desirable traits are not included, and it is unquestionably true that each of the mentioned qualities is not thoroughly and completely analyzed. The only valid excuse for this seeming inadequacy is from the viewpoint of utility. Fundamental principles with as much brevity as is consistent with careful work, has been the thought kept constantly in mind by the authors.

VALIDITY

A survey of the literature of the administrative and supervisory fields demonstrates a very emphatic trend toward unanimity of opinion in regard to objectives, aims, methods, principles and procedures as they relate to the secondary school principalship. In this scale the main qualities are entirely a part of the structure by reason of being possessed of the weight of frequency of occurrence on the part of authorities in each of the two fields of education. In addition, a survey of personnel investigations in the area of business practice lends, from another angle, weight to the claim of validity to these traits. Furthermore, in pursuing a worthy work of inquiry, one comes in contact with the compiled opinions of a large number of school-board presidents. The opinions of these officials were not solicited with any such suggestive device as a questionnaire; they were merely asked to list qualifications which they desired and looked for in an administrative officer. Such procedure would, it is believed, make their combined opinion fairly reliable. In comparing the more heavily weighted opinions obtained with the two groups of authorities mentioned above, it is found that while the ranking according to weight of frequency differed in some respects, there was impressive unanimity regarding the character of these major traits. Especially was this true with respect to the field of administration.

The attempt to establish this scale as a valid one is based upon one premise—that of frequency of mention in published materials. Each author, upon publishing a work, automatically establishes himself as an authority in the field in which he has written, therefore his opinion is equal to that of any other author. This being so, then the greater the agreement found among such writers the greater the tendency toward validity. Thus, in Table I, the writers attempt to show in tabulated form the unanimity of opinion regarding the various items of qualifications.
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### Scale for High School Principals

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## Scale for High School Principals

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PART IV
SUMMARY
CONCLUSIONS

While rating cards have long been used by administrators and supervisors, subjectively, for the purposes of determining merit with relation to promotion, or demotion, salary increase or decrease, tenure of office, etc., for persons other than the rater, analysis of the educational field discloses that there is distinct increase in the formulation and use of the self-rating scheme. The purposes just mentioned are valid, but the self-rating device tends to make them even more subservient (and justly so) to that greater object of instruction—the improvement in training of the educator, for the benefit of the child.

The principal purpose of a scale should be to stimulate the rater to meaningful self-criticism of his own work. A self-rating scheme cannot be abused, a criticism which is made of the subjective scales. Lack of improvement of motivation by any one person using such a self-rating scale cannot justifiably bring censure of the scale. It is rather a greater reflection upon the person using the device.

As previously stated, the scale should be used frequently and should be justly analytical and critical upon each occasion. Furthermore, cursory examination of the last-used scale is urged and recommended at frequent periods in the interval before again filling out the scale.

Knowledge gained from analysis of previous rating schemes, works of educational authorities, both administrative and supervisory, opinions of business experts as expressed in various personnel studies, and the expression of the lay officials who are directly responsible for educating the youth, makes it apparent that the following features are worthy of stress:

Teachers and educational officials of the better type recognize the value and purpose of the self-rating scale.

The capacity for self-evaluation is a phase of judging skill, and being such, it grows and refines itself with practice.

Any rating scale, not merely a self-rating one, must be checked with an extremely objective attitude of mind.

There is a decided trend toward an increased interest in and the use of self-rating devices.

At present, at least, a self-rating device must employ subjective procedure in a large part.

That supervision improves teaching is a generally accepted fact, but that self-judgment is much more effective has not been so clearly perceived.

The most essential purposes to which a principal's self-rating scale can be applied are supervision, administrative functions, and development of personality.

A self-rating scale undoubtedly possesses vast capacity for stimulation toward professional growth.

(26)
RECOMMENDATIONS

The three phases thus mentioned should be actively aimed at the educational betterment of the pupil as the unit.

The use of a self-rating scale for the purpose of stimulation by comparison is probably the most effective means of improving the principal and his functions of office.

Consecutive uses of the self-rating procedure by the principal should show similar (although it is hoped, improved) results.

The scale should contain a compact but comprehensive group of items.

The scale is primarily for use as a device for increasing the efficiency of the official, for the benefit of the child.

One should use the scheme to measure himself as he is, then strive earnestly to improve in the weakness or weaknesses noted before repeating the measurement.

A statement from H. O. Rugg1 may be used to summarize aptly the whole situation relative to the use of rating scales in that—

"If a rating scale is to be truly helpful, its chief element must be self-improvement through self-rating. Improvement of teachers in service rests directly upon the initial step of self-criticism. . . . It can be stimulated from within . . . provided objective impersonal schemes can be developed by which teachers can be made critically conscious of their strengths and weaknesses."

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF SELECTED AND ANNOTATED REFERENCES

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