

# Double Sessions Get Worse As Pupils Get Older

## Sees A-Bomb



Marine Lt. Col. Harry B. Hooper, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry B. Hooper of 106 Cliff avenue, Capitola, and husband of the former Christine Rogers of Garden Grove, is at the atomic energy commission proving grounds at Camp Desert Rock, Nev., for the latest series of atomic tests.

He will participate in an air-ground exercise during which an atomic explosion will be employed against hypothetical enemy forces.

Col. Hooper entered the marines in 1940, and is a member of the third marine corps provisional atomic exercise brigade.

## 11 ZERO INNINGS

Clearwater, Fla. (AP). — The Philadelphia Phillies are keeping a sharp eye on Pitcher Jim Owens. He hasn't allowed a run in 11 innings.

## Santa Cruz Sentinel-News

Published Sunday morning and every afternoon, except Saturday, by the Sentinel Publishing Company at 125 Church Street, Santa Cruz, California.

Fred McPherson, Jr., Publisher. Entered as second class matter at the post office at Santa Cruz, California.

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## Difficult For Early Grades, Nearly Impossible In Higher

(Editor's note—This is the final article in a series by a Sentinel-News reporter on the crowded conditions experienced by pupils at the Gault and Branciforte schools).

By Betty Wixcey

Half days are not as bad, from the standpoint of classroom time and bus schedules, for little children as for their older brothers and sisters.

The loss of 40 minutes a day, however, could be more damaging to the primary children than to the older youngsters, Gault School Principal Edith King suspects, because there is more that the older ones can do on their own to learn.

First and second graders of Branciforte and Gault elementary schools, on double session since the Branciforte elementary school building was closed two years ago, are getting 200 minutes a day in classroom instruction, compared with the 240 minutes for those on regular session.

Admittedly, 8:40 a.m. is a little early for this year's Branciforte morning session youngsters to get to school, particularly any who must come by bus from Glen Canyon. Many parents of Gault afternoon session children would like to see them through school before 4:10 p.m., too.

Double-session teachers of both schools would like enough time in the school day to give children who need special assistance with their lessons the help they need, but for the run-of-the-mill and above-average first and second graders, the lost classroom time does not appear to be irreparable.

Only if double sessions spread over a period of three or four consecutive years for the same children do the Branciforte and Gault elementary school principals fear real damage to their academic progress.

A space problem, as well as a time problem, hampers the primary teachers who want to give individual pupils a little extra attention, in both schools at Gault. There seldom is any part of the building that is not occupied by a class. Teachers' rooms for each school are small, and office space for the principals is not suitable for counselling, either.

Because there is only 10 minutes between the time the children in the morning session leave their classrooms and the same classrooms are taken over by the afternoon session children, a few minutes of extra instruction in between is out.

This year Gault primary classes meet in the afternoon; Branciforte children had the afternoon session last year. Teachers of both schools have noticed a marked difference between the

that the primary children are not forced to give up a well-rounded program, even though it must be a little more compact than that of full-time pupils.

A greater concern to Miss Mattei is keeping her school's identity for another year through the Santa Cruz school building crisis. When all the Branciforte elementary pupils, now scattered in three buildings, can be together again, she reasons, it will be a great deal easier for her and her family to keep their program integrated and to give them the "extras" of school life.

Patient Branciforte parents, like the teachers and children, appear willing to take another double session year, secure in the confidence that there is relief ahead, Miss Mattei reports. She gives special credit to the school P.T.A. for its assistance in carrying the children over a difficult time. Parents are taking some of the load people have come to expect of schools at home, efficiently and without complaint.

Miss Edith King, Gault principal, has praise for her school's P.T.A., as well. "The parents have been wonderful," she remarks, "in taking this in the spirit that their interest is in the welfare of all the children of the East Side; not just their own."

Branciforte elementary school children have been displaced pupils since April, 1953, when their school building was closed, along with the main high school and Trident building, as unsafe by Field act standards.

Last year all of them, except for those in special classes for handicapped children, were housed at Gault, and all the children of both schools were on double session.

This year the Branciforte elementary fifth and sixth graders are back on full time, housed in a wing at Branciforte junior high, but there is every indication that the junior high will need that wing back next year. With an additional fourth grade coming up for the displaced elementary school, as well, it is hard to see how half days for all can be avoided next year, School Superintendent Homer Cornick observes.

The hardy school, which so far has appeared to thrive anywhere under all conditions, is prepared to weather another year away from home, with the determination of its principal, the help of its population and the hospitality of its hosts.

## Pilot's Report May Prevent

## Desks Don't Get Cold In Gault School



Branciforte first graders in the upper picture are nearing the end of their school day.

## Walter Huggins Is Refreshing, Impressive In Piano Recital

By Wilma Laurence

The rather large crowd who came to hear the piano recital of 17-year-old Walter Huggins last night was treated to a program, on the whole, played with fine technique and musicianship that would be refreshing to find in many more experienced and mature performers.

The adagio movement from the Sonata in C Minor Opus 10, No. 1, by Beethoven, was the high point of the first half of the program. The phrasing was well thought out and beautifully done; the intricate rhythms had an astounding casualness that hit every note in the most difficult passages brightly on the beat. The left hand melody was well brought out. The brilliant first and last movements of the sonata were played in good tempo.

The program opened with the

"D Minor Fantasie" by Mozart, and "Prelude and Fugue in D Major" by Bach-Busoni which were negotiated with technical command, but were deficient in style and conviction. Following the intermission came a Chopin group of three preludes: "A Major, op. 28, No. 8"; "A Flat Major, Op. 28, No. 17" and C Minor, Op. 28, No. 20."

These are each essentially in a different mood and the young pianist was able to discern and to express the fine shades and distinctions of mood. Then followed the difficult "Polonaise in C Minor," in which Huggins skillfully brought out the two voice parts.

The modern groups began with two Debussy numbers: "La Cathedrale Engloutie" and the contrasting amusing and rhythmic "Minstrels," both played with a variety of touches and tonal effects all in good impressionist style.

The American composers were represented by Abram Chasins' dreamy and modern "Prelude, E Flat Minor." The printed portion of the program closed with two compositions by Rachmaninoff. The "Moment Musical, No. 5" had an interesting ostinato bass that was done with a steady pulse, while the melody was done in clear sonority. The "Prelude in G Minor" is a fine and difficult virtuoso piece full of rhythmic drive. Encores were "Prelude No. 2" by George Gershwin and "Alt-Wien" by Godowsky.

Following the program, the young artist and his teacher, Carolyn Baldwin, were congratulated by friends and well-wishers who attended. Huggins, a native of Santa Cruz and a senior at the Santa Cruz high school, will appear as a soloist with the high school symphony orchestra at its May concert.

## Santa Cruzans Receive High Masonic Honor

Walter Leek Robinson, 2131 Bay street, and Forrest Lanning Talley Sr., 421 Cleveland avenue have been awarded the designation of Knight of the York Cross of Honor, it was reported today. This honorary degree, highest in the York Rite of Freemasonry, is conferred only on those who have held the highest office in each of the four bodies of the rite.

Robinson becomes the 5410th, Talley the 5413th to have received this award in the last 26 years in North America, although there are nearly 4,000,000 members of the fraternity.

Robinson was Master of Santa Cruz Lodge of Masons in 1955; High Priest of Santa Cruz chapter, Royal Arch Masons, in 1949; Master of Santa Cruz council, Royal and Select Masters, in 1950; Commander of Santa Cruz Commandery, Knights Templar, in 1952.

Talley was Master of Sincerity Lodge of Masons at Greenville in 1926; High Priest of Santa Cruz chapter, Royal Arch Masons, in 1952; Master of Santa Cruz council, Royal and Select Masters, in 1953; Commander of Santa Cruz Commandery, Knights Templar, in 1955.

They were elected to membership in San Francisco priory and their election confirmed by the convent general of the order on March 17th. A certificate of membership has been mailed them.

There are 51 priories of the order in North America with a present membership of 4500.

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in the morning and those who do not get to their lessons until after a full morning of hard play.

There is a jump in school time loss for third graders on double session. Elementary Curriculum Coordinator Vernon Brown observes that makes it tougher. Half-time third graders, like those in the primary grades, get 200 minutes of instruction. On full time they would have 280 minutes in their classrooms.

Fourth, fifth and sixth grade pupils, if Gault and Branciforte elementary schools are forced to go back on double session all the way through next year, will have difficult hours. On half-time they get 40 more minutes in class than the children in the lower grades. They lose a full hour from their regular classtime day. The regular day for the top three elementary grades is 300 class minutes.

The Branciforte and Gault elementary school pupils have done it before, and for another year they can do it again, their principals are convinced.

The tighter schedule cuts short classes in such subjects as music and art for the little children this year, but it does not cut them out. Rita Mattei, Branciforte elementary principal, is relieved

San Diego (AP). — The pilot of a jet plane in a screaming dive to earth made a detailed report by radio. Navy officers said today he may have provided information that will help prevent future crashes.

Lt. (j.g.) Ernest R. Genter, San Diego, rode the Navy F9F6 Panther jet down from 38,000 to 15,000 feet. He made a successful parachute ejection and landed safely half a mile from the burning wreckage yesterday.

Squadron mates heard his description of how automatic mechanism locked in such a way as to turn the plane nose down and of his efforts to regain control.

## At Atomic Test



Cpl. Angelo A. Lonzo, son of Major Albert J. Lonzo of

over in the lower picture for their studies in the afternoon. The Gault first graders had just started their school day when this picture was taken. Teachers of both schools have observed that those in the afternoon session on half-days show the wear of morning-long play when they get to class.

## Blowout Causes Minor Injuries To Motorist

Harold Rowe, 57, of Los Gatos, a powder man for Granite Construction company, suffered minor facial abrasions in a one-car wreck on the Old San Jose road, two miles north of Soquel, at 6:30 a.m. today, highway patrolmen reported.

Rowe, who was southbound when the accident occurred, said he felt his car sway after rounding a slight curve and applied the brakes. At the same time a tire blew out and he lost control of the car, swerving against a bank. The impact of the crash smashed in the right side of the car, patrolmen said.

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