

THE ROLE OF CAFETERIAS IN THE SCHOOL PROGRAM

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This article attempts definitely to present the vital need for cafeterias in schools, colleges, and universities. It is a sincere appraisal of the values and role which cafeterias have in implementing the teaching of health as well as the principles of democratic living.

In my study of special education in the states of New York, Illinois, Maryland, Michigan, Wisconsin, Colorado and California, I had the opportunity to visit and observe schools for both the handicapped and the normal children. In this connection, I had the chance to visit also the universities of Yale, Columbia, New York, Howard, Wisconsin, Illinois, Chicago, Michigan, Berkely, Stanford, Los Angeles and Southern California. During these visits, my attention was called by one outstanding and practical activity in the school program: the school cafeteria or lunchroom.

The Minneapolis secondary schools give a satisfactory and detailed philosophy of school lunchrooms.

1. To make available to all students lunches which have a nutritive value prepared under sanitary conditions and offered to the students at a low price as possible.

2. To develop better health habits on the part of the students by teaching intelligent discrimination in food selection.

3. To teach etiquette, courtesy, and respect for others as a means

of social living.

4. To provide adequate, clean, pleasant and attractive surroundings in lunchrooms.

5. The lunchroom is an integral part of the total education program for which the physical school is responsible, in cooperation of the entire school personnel, especially the home economics department, the building health committee, physical education department, science department, janitorial force, student council, Homeroom organization with the lunchroom staff.

Such activities as waiting for one's turn at the lunchcounter or lunchtables; training in serving others at the table; and observing the correct manners while eating at tables are means of teaching etiquette, courtesy, and respect for others.

Whenever children learn new food habits by having the opportunity to practice them with satisfaction, they are learning to do by doing. The cafeteria serves in giving pupils and students experiences in democratic living for it is the best factor in bringing together administrators, pupils, parents and community leaders.

For health reasons, the food sold in a cafeteria is of nutritive value and is prepared under hygienic conditions. The food is nutritive because it is presumed that the menus are prepared under the direction of nutritionists or home economics teachers.

Having thus presented the philosophy and educational values of cafeterias, the next step is to present a bit of history. The first cafeteria service in the secondary schools in the Philippines is supposed to have originated in a make-shift kitchen of the Arellano High School. A brief survey made of cafeterias in the city reveals that very few if not only two colleges have started running cafeterias. The PWU is one of them. It maintains a cafeteria for the elementary school and a canteen for the college students.

Actually, the Philippine Normal College has the distinction of maintaining a cafeteria on a ten and five cents philosophy. *A lunch is as low as fifty centavos of high prices.*

A lunch order of fifty centavos offers the customers two courses, a cup of steaming soup good for a hungry stomach, vegetables, a substantial ration of rice and a dessert of fruit or sweets. Lunches can be ordered also a la carte. The menus are genuinely Filipino.

"Are you able to make any profit with the price, the lowest I know of is seventy centavos?" I asked Mrs. Negado who is in charge of the PNC Cafeteria.

"Yes, we do make. We do not run for much profit, but for the convenience and advantage of the students, the members of the faculty and their guests," she answered smilingly.

This cafeteria is gaining atten-

tion and recognition. Students and teachers from the neighborhood come now and then to eat. With more expansion, equipment facilities and school support, the PNC cafeteria is bound to hold her own among the cafeterias I visited in the United States. Dr. Willis Porter, a Fulbright Professor and formerly connected with the New York State College will bear me out in the foregoing statement when he said, "This cafeteria is very good. It only needs screens for its windows."

For informational purposes, some of the activities in which students in the PNC take part will follow shortly. One group takes care of marketing and counter. Another is in charge of kitchen supervision, accounting, and the cashier's job. Still another looks after the vegetables, dishes, salads and miscellaneous. The last group takes care of the preparation of rice, desserts, and soup. One socializing activity undertaken is the serving at a guest table where students and a guest, who usually is a member of the faculty, dine together. This is actual life within the four walls of a school.

In conclusion, this article therefore, wishes to sound a call for the organization and maintenance of cafeterias in schools under the management of the Home Economics Department and run by the pupils or students. According to modern trends in the teaching of health and social living, they are in order.

FLASH!

Construction of the PPSTA
Building will soon be started!

Correspondences Re: Payment of Teachers' Salaries

PHILIPPINE PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
1137-A Pi y Margall, Sampaloc
Manila

September 9, 1950

Dear Superintendent

You will find a copy of a Memorandum Circular of the Secretary of Finance, the Honorable Pio Pedrosa. The circular is an order to Provincial Treasurers to exhaust all means to pay the salaries of teachers as they fall due.

We are inviting your attention to this strong action of the Secretary of Finance, which is the result of repeated representations to his department. Of course, we are grateful for this commendable stand of Secretary Pedrosa.

We shall highly appreciate being favored by you and by your teachers and employees with information as to whether there is improvement or not on the prompt payment of salaries as a result of Secretary Pedrosa's vigorous order. We shall continue to relay any information, favorable or unfavorable, on the matter until prompt salary payments have become "a matter of course."

Assuring you always of our service to help promote the welfare of educational workers, we are,

Very sincerely,
(Sgd.) GERARDO FLORES
Acting Executive Secretary-Treasurer

—oO—

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
Manila

September 6, 1950

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR

TO: All Provincial Treasurers

SUBJECT: *Payment of national obligations, particularly of teachers' salaries, Delay in —*

Numerous and frequent complaints are being received in this Department over the delay in the payment of national obligations, especially teachers' salaries. While the main cause is generally insufficiency of national funds, there are cases where such delays are merely due to unwillingness of provincial treasurers to effect payment until after Bank credit advices that national fund allotments are already placed to their credit and received even if the corresponding provinces have adequate cash collections or bank balances that can be used for said obligations and teachers' salaries without hampering the ordinary disbursements for provincial or city expenditures. Treasurers also fail at times to anticipate probable needs for funds so that they may be obtained beforehand either from Manila or some

municipalities in their province where cash in excess of immediate disbursements may exist.

It need not be said here, for it is already known to all, that the nonpayment of teachers' salaries on time has often placed the Government in difficult and embarrassing situations. It certainly has not helped increase the faith and reliance of our people and even of public servants in their own government. On the part of small salaried employees of the National Government in the provinces, particularly the teachers, these delays naturally bring untold annoyance, embarrassments, and suffering.

It is therefore, hereby requested that every effort be exerted hereafter to pay teachers' salaries and other salary obligations of the National Government as they fall due. If after exhausting all means locally available there yet be need of action on the part of national offices, provincial treasurers are hereby given blanket permission to come to Manila, by the fastest means of transportation available, once a month and sufficiently in anticipation of the due date of these salary obligations accruing under their jurisdiction bringing with them their accounts for liquidation. Ways and means locally available, should, however, be first explored and exhaustily utilized before proceeding to Manila for the purpose of obtaining funds or cash. This Department will be very grateful for every little added solicitude that Treasurer can show to other officials and employees of the National Government stationed within their jurisdiction by exhausting all means at their disposal to have their pay given as it falls due.

(Sgd.) PIO PEDROSA
Secretary

—oOo—

TEACHERS' PAY GIVEN PRIORITY

Digest of an article in the Sept. 2, 1950, morning edition of the Philippines Herald.

"In three separate acts Secretary Pio Pedrosa yesterday emphasized the government solicitude for the public school teachers and underscored the fact that this department took the view that the payment of teachers' salaries was a preferred priority over all other expenses of the department of education."

—oOo—

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
Bureau of Public Schools
DIVISION OF CITY SCHOOLS
Manila

August 23, 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR:
Secretary Pio Pedrosa

Will appreciate anything you can do for the plight of the teachers in Tangub,

Occidental Misamis.

(Sgd.) ANTONIO A. MACEDA
President
Philippine Public School Teachers Association

Hon. Pio Pedrosa
Secretary of Finance
M a n i l a

Encl.: A copy of the telegram of Tangub Local Chapter

TRUE COPY/mff

TELEGRAM RECEIVED
BUREAU OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

204DVK33MBS 310PM 20 PAID
TANGUB MISSOCC AUG 22 50
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TREASURER
PPSTA
MANILA

TANGUB DISTRICT TEACHERS NOT PAID APRIL MAY JUNE JULY
STARVING PLEASE HELP.

TANGUB LOCAL CHAPTER

434PM
CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

(SGD) ANTONIO A. MACEDA

—oOo—

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
Manila

August 23, 1950

Mr. Antonio A. Maceda, President
Philippine Public School Teachers Association
Division of City Schools
City Hall, Manila

S i r ;

With reference to your Memorandum of even date for Secretary Pedrosa, regarding the payment of salaries of public school teachers in Tangub, Misamis Occidental, I wish to inform you that the Provincial Treasurer of Misamis Occidental is at present in Manila to get funds for payment of teachers' salaries in his province. He is returning to his station promptly after he will have obtained the needed funds.

Respectfully,

(Sgd.) SIXTO B. ORTIZ
Acting Undersecretary of Finance

TRUE COPY/mff