

LANGUAGE ARTS PROGRAM

The E. S. E. A. Language Arts Program was developed to effect an improvement in the oral and written language skills of children. Each language arts classroom was converted into a virtual laboratory for the teaching of writing. An improved teacher-pupil ratio in language arts classes was accomplished through the addition of teachers to each school faculty. Close supervision of the program was provided.

A supply of modern audio-visual equipment went with the staff of additional teachers. Each of these teachers was provided with a tape recorder, a record player, and an overhead projector. Each was given a projection screen, a portable equipment table and a listening unit complete with eight headsets.

In addition, classroom teachers in the six participating schools were supplied with these same mechanical aids for effective

teaching, not only in language arts, but in other related areas such as foreign languages and social studies. Additionally, both sound film and filmstrip projectors were installed in each of the six participating schools, plus a complete audio-visual library as well as a professional library unit intended for the use of the entire faculty. New dictionaries and reference books, including the *Thesaurus*, *Familiar Quotations*, and a composition handbook were made available to students.

The program was initiated by three day-long, orientation meetings for the newly employed teaching force. The primary purpose was a general description of the project, delineation of its aims, and outlining of specific guidelines for subject matter content. The new staff members then moved directly into their assigned schools to take over their newly formed classes. Pupils