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UMBRIA - MARCH
MAR., APR. 1945

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UMBRIA - MARCHE, MONTHLY REPORTS, GENERAL
MAR., APR. 1945

HEADQUARTERS
A.M.G.
UMBRIA-MARCHE REGION
CMF
Education Division

30 Apr 1945

R5/ED/1.12

SUBJECT: EDUCATION SUMMARY REPORT FOR APRIL 1945.
Umbria-Marche Region A.M.G.

TO : CARLETON W. WASHBURN, Lt.Col. AUS, Director of
Education, Education Subcommittee, A.C., APO 394.

1. The Education Monthly Report for March 1945 was all inclusive, and will give up to date statistical information about the total school situation in Region V.
2. In Abruzzi-Marche and Umbria-Marche all Provveditorati agli Studi and all schools are now functioning in either their own buildings or in temporary premises.
3. Initial epuration proceedings have been completed for all provinces. There is great need for the establishment of the Provincial School Epuration Commissions, provided by DLL 159, for the provinces of Perugia and Terni.
4. In Macerata and Ascoli Piceno all school buildings have been derequisitioned.
5. The enclosed chart, prepared through the cooperation of all Provveditori agli Studi in Marche Region, presents a statistical report for each Province on the construction materials needed for the repair of school buildings.
6. The Regional Education Officer left Region V for Liguria Region on May 1, 1945. Dr. Pietro Mezzetti, Regional Education Specialist will remain to close unfinished work.

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7. The excellent cooperation given by all Headquarters and Provincial AMG personnel and by civilian school personnel to the R.E.O., has been the most important factor in the successful reopening, on a non-Fascist basis, of all schools in the Region.

John P. Simoni
JOHN P. SIMONI

1st LT. C.E.P.

Regional Education Officer

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HEADQUARTERS
A.M.G.
UMBRIA-MARCHE REGION
CMF
Education Division

31 March 45

R5/ED/1.12

SUBJECT: EDUCATION MONTHLY REPORT FOR MARCH, Abruzzi-Marche Region, AMG/AC.

TO : CARLETON W. WASHBURN, Lt. Col. AUS, Director of Education, Education Subcommittee, A.C., APO 394.

INTRODUCTION

On March 16 Region V acquired Military Government jurisdiction over Umbria Region. On April 1 A.C. will return complete jurisdiction of Abruzzi Region to the Italian government. Region V is now called UMBRIA-MARCHE REGION.

Regional Headquarters moved from l'Aquila to Perugia city. The Regional Education Office is located in the Provveditorato agli Studi of Perugia. Telephone: 2129.

Lt.Col. CARLETON W. WASHBURN, Director of Education, Major FRANCIS F. GREGORY, ex-Regional Education Officer for Umbria, Dott. Pietro MEZZETTI, Civilian Specialist, and 1st Lt. JOHN P. SIMONI, Regional Education Officer for Umbria-Marche made a brief tour of Umbria in order to introduce Lt. Simoni to the Provveditori agli Studi of Perugia and Terni and to other school officials.

During the last week of March the R.E.O. made a complete tour of Abruzzi-Marche Region including Campobasso Province. A farewell greeting was given to the Provveditori agli Studi of Abruzzi and of Campobasso.

Captain STANLEY OPENSHAW has been attached to this Region as Education Officer and will work with the R.E.O.

ABRUZZI REGION

On April 1, 1945 Abruzzi Region: Aquila, Chieti, Pescara, and Teramo provinces will pass to the complete jurisdiction of the Italian government.

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The Provveditori agli Studi submitted their final report to the Regional Education Officer. In general the schools are functioning on an almost normal basis in all communes of the Abruzzi.

The Provincial School Epuration Committees (DLL 159) not yet have been named, although, the names of possible members have been sent to the proper authorities by both the Provveditori and the R.E.O.

The new elementary school text books are available in all provinces, but the amount is not sufficient to take care of the demand.

Aquila Province: Provveditore agli Studi prof. Cleto CROSTA has been transferred (by decision of Ministry of Public Instruction Epuration Branch) to Rome, and has been temporarily attached to that Provveditorato. His successor, prof. Gaetano BAGLIO, will arrive soon at l'Aquila.

The "Istituto Magistrale (già parificato)" of Sulmona will soon reopen. By order of the R.E.O. this institution had been temporarily closed in order to investigate the giving of false credentials to unqualified students during the school years 1942-43 and 1943-44. All final examinations of those years were annuled - new ones were recently given through the Provveditore agli Studi.

Repairs of school buildings damaged by the war are again under way after several months of inactivity because of the cold weather.

Chieti Province: At Ortona Mare where war damage has been extensive the Provveditore agli Studi has found premises for the reopening of schools. The "Istituto Tecnico Industriale" of Ortona will soon reopen - its mechanical equipment is gradually being uncovered after having been buried under the debris for many months.

The Ministry of Public Instruction has given £ 50,000 for improvements of Asili Infantili; and the same amount to purchase desks etc. for rural schools. The "Istituto Tecnico Industriale" of Chieti has started the construction of needed equipment which will be distributed to all schools of the Province where the need is real and immediate.

Pescara Province: The secondary schools of Pescara city were opened on March 1. All secondary and elementary

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schools are now functioning. School repairs have started in many communes in this Province.

Teramo Province: Teramo city has recently been freed of all troops - school buildings have been derequisitioned; however, they were left in very bad condition and a considerable amount of work will be required to put them in operation again.

The elementary schools in the following communes have reopened during the month of March: Atri, Bellante, S. Omero, Colonnella, Silvi Paese, Silvi Spiaggia, Garrufo di S. Omero, S. Egidio, and Paolantonio.

CAMPOBASSO

The Regional Education Officer paid a visit to the Provveditorato of Campobasso Province before it would pass completely to Italian government jurisdiction.

The school situation is the following:

Functioning of schools: all schools are open. At Termoli some school buildings are still occupied by Allied troops, but classes are located in temporary quarters. At San Pietro Avellano, where destruction has been great, temporary premises have been found. The Ministry of Public Instruction approved the closing of schools from 20 Dec. 44 until 20 Feb. 45, because of the cold weather.

Epuration: The Epuration Committee for school personnel provided by DIL 159 is in the process of organization.

Text books: Sufficient elementary texts were brought into the Province for all children. "Quaderni" are available at very high prices. Fascist literature has been confiscated and purged, but where the confiscated books have landed is not known!

Equipment: The schools are in real need of equipment. A limited amount of it is being built. There is a great need for glass.

The R.E.O. arrived at Campobasso during Easter vacation, therefore, was not able to visit a school at work. The Provveditore agli Studi had received a five day leave to spend Easter with his family at Naples.

MARCHE REGION

Marche Region is under Military Government control.

Ancona Province: Only the secondary schools of Jesi and the "Liceo Classico", "Istituto Magistrale", and "Istituto Nautico" of Ancona continue to function at reduced schedule; all other schools are functioning normally.

The Provveditore agli Studi lately has visited schools in the suburbs of Ancona, at Osimo, Filottrano, and Senigallia.

The Hearing Committee of Ancona during March has interrogated 40 suspended teachers. It has passed opinion on 45 cases.

Ascoli Province: A new schedule of classes has been adopted for the elementary schools with three hours of instruction in the morning and two in the afternoon. The weekly day of rest comes on Thursday.

The Hearing Committee has heard the cases of 17 suspended teachers. It has suggested the reinstatement of 15 - 2 suspended.

The Provveditore agli Studi of Ascoli has been able to visit many schools throughout the Province. The cooperation given to him by the Provincial Commissioner in keeping the necessary transportation on the road has helped enormously the re-establishment of normal school functioning. The P.A.S. has visited schools at Acquasanta, Amendola, Sevigliano, S.Vittoria in Matenano, Maltignano, and Marino del Tronto.

Macerata Province: The Hearing Committee has been dissolved as of March 31 - its assignment completed. Of 161 cases of suspended teachers it has suggested the dismissal of 11, minor punishments for 70, and reinstatement of 80.

The Boy Scout organizations of Macerata are asking for uniforms!

The University of Macerata building will be derequisitioned in the first week of April.

The "Casa dello Studente" (Student Union Building) of Camerino University has been requisitioned by New Zealand troops.

Pesaro Province: At Fano where all schools are in use by Allied troops the elementary schools opened in premises

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located in such places as the local bank, the Citizens Club, Palace Bossi, and the Port. There are 40 classes functioning and housing the entire school population of Fano - 2400 children.

The Secondary Schools of Fano have also opened with a total enrollment of 812 students. The schools that opened are the "Ginnasio Liceo", "Istituto Tecnico", "Istituto Magistrale", "Scuola Media", and the "Scuola d'Arte".

In Pesaro Province the Provveditore agli Studi has placed both the elementary and secondary schools in functioning order. All schools are now open in Pesaro city and Province.

"Patronato Scolastico": In Ancona, Macerata, and Ascoli Piceno provinces the "Patronato Scolastico" is coming back to life. Some units are functioning in each of these provinces.

TEXT BOOKS

The A.M.G. Truck Pool, through a request from the Regional Transportation Office, made available trucks to bring elementary school text books from Rome to all provinces of Abruzzi-Marche Region. The provinces of Ancona, Ascoli, Chieti, Macerata, Pesaro, and Pescara have taken advantage of this opportunity. Since at Teramo Province the Provveditore agli Studi was absent for over a month, and his substitute was not informed on the text book needs of the Province, the Regional Education Officer was unable to receive an estimate of requirements for Teramo. L'Aquila will call for the books as soon as transportation is ready. Pesaro and Ancona have sent for their quota of books during the last week of March; therefore, data is not available at this time.

The tariff charged by the A.M.G. Truck Pool, however, has been so high to ruin all possibilities on the part of most Provveditori to earn a small profit to help the "Patronati Scolastici" as planned. The most exorbitant price was charged by the A.M.G. Truck Pool of Macerata - £ 23,000 for the transportation of a truck-load of text books from Rome!!

The following figures are available on the number of elementary school text books delivered to Abruzzi-Marche Region.

TEXT BOOKS PURCHASED BY BOOK STORES DIRECT FROM PUBLISHERS

<u>Province</u>	<u>No. of Volumes</u>
ANCONA	660
AQUILA	4689
ASCOLI	6866
CHIETI	None
MACERATA	22850
PESARO	2570
PESCARA	3180
TERAMO	18650
Total...	59465 Volumes

TEXT BOOKS PURCHASED BY PROVVEDITORATI AGLI STUDI

<u>Province</u>	<u>No. of Volumes</u>
ASCOLI	8441
CHIETI	4060
MACERATA	4300
PESCARA	4700
Total...	21501 Volumes

A total of 80966 elementary school text books have be brought into Abruzzi-Marche Region. (Figures for Ancona and Pesaro are not yet available. See Statistical Reports for specific information as to number of each type of book delivered).

ITEMS OF INTEREST

The Annual Commemoration of the birth of RAFFAELLO SANZIO was held on March 28 at Urbino in the "Aula Magna" of the University. (Raffaello was born at Urbino March 28 1483). The "R. Accademia Raffaello" sponsored the program. Prof. Francesco Carnevalli, Director of the Fine Arts School of Urbino spoke on the "Teachings of Raffaello".

In Marche Region all school personnel has been included in the new financial allotments approved for all state

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employees in order to improve living conditions. This added remuneration has also improved the morale of all school personnel.

An extract from Civil Censorship intercept:
(letter dated 12/2/45 from a woman in Ascoli Piceno to an addressee in Larino, Province of Campobasso)

".....also the educational field has been invaded by the black market, and imagine that a book store will ask a kilo of potatoes for an exercise book of 10 sheets! Also for a Greek and Latin dictionary they have asked a ham; and all the other books that are used by we students, must be exchanged with beans, "ceci", cheese, and other groceries."

ON A VISIT

On March 27, 1945 the Regional Education Officer accompanied by the Provveditore agli Studi and the "Ispettore Scolastico" paid a visit to the elementary school of NEPEZZANO (little farming community) in Teramo Province.

Building and Equipment: The first, second, fourth, and fifth classes of the elementary school are situated in the main building just outside of the little farming community of Nepezzano. The third class is located in a classroom in the center of the village.

The war did not damage the school greatly. Broken glass has been replaced with cardboard taken from "C" ration cartons. The interior, although quite bare, is clean and has plenty of light. The premises, however, lack a playground for the children.

The equipment such as "banchi" and desks is very old and worn, but good enough for the moment. All classrooms have a blackboard - the largest is about 2½ feet by 4 feet - not the most satisfactory for efficient teaching purposes, but worth having at this time.

Teachers: The school has five classes with four "di ruolo" teachers instructing in all subjects required by the curriculum. These are three women and one young man of about thirty. (The R.E.O. questioned the young male teacher as to the reasons for choosing elementary school education,

since not many young men are found in this field in Italy. He replied that it had been a family wish that he follow in this branch of teaching, but that he personally was looking forward to entering secondary education). Several times this young man achieved discipline (only temporarily) among the class in a peremptory tone of voice using dialectal expressions. The women teachers had a better control of the situation and showed greater interest in their work.

Children: The total enrollment in the school is of 171 children. The school is coeducational. It functions in double shifts - the R.E.O. visited the morning session and found the following attendance in each class:

ATTENDANCE IN RURAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OF NEPEZZANO

	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V
<u>Enrolled</u>	48	25	33	22	17
<u>Absent</u>	10	8	2	2	4

The excuse given by the teachers for the above absences was sickness and lack of clothing on the part of some pupils.

Two thirds of the children come from farming families, the remainder from the laboring class. The garments which the children wore were modest, but satisfactory under the circumstances. The girls were better dressed. All children lacked good shoes - most of them wore worn out wooden sandals.

Most of the children were quite timid and when interrogated were afraid to reply. However, this did not occur so much in the fourth and fifth class. In the fifth class the R.E.O. noticed that the majority of students interrogated replied in dialect and seemed very deficient in Italian language.

Children's Interests: A boy in the fourth class and a girl in the fifth class showed a desire to continue their education after leaving elementary school. The boy's desire was to attend the "Scuola Tecnica Industriale". The girl wanted to attend the "Scuola Media".

Only one boy in the third grade showed interest in music, and had a violin at home. Very little interest in art was shown - none is taught or encouraged. Children showed an

interest in organized play for their physical education class, but none is offered. All children in the fifth class were happy that they no longer would have to attend school after completion of their elementary education...with the exception of one child.

Teaching aids: The school has two maps: one of Italy and one of Europe (Pre World War I). These are the only two teaching aids in the whole school. Only one teacher showed some interest in decorating her class room - with some flowers. There is no library available. The 200 book library and most of the desks were burned by the German troops! The new text books are being used, and all children were supplied. All children have some colored chalks (very small to be a good medium for children), but do not use them in organized art work.

The male teachers makes the ink for all classes. "Quaderni" are available to all children, costing from 20 to 30 lire each.

The Provveditore agli Studi and the "Ispettore Scolastico" interrogated many children. They demonstrated a complete lack of understanding of the approach to be taken with children - spoke loudly and almost wildly at times. They treated the children with a tone of superiority and abruptness. The teachers, at the request of the Provveditore, pointed out in front of each class those children who were not doing so well or for whom there seemed to be little hope of improvement.

The third grade teacher when asked what materials or equipment she desired and needed most at this time, she replied: "This classroom needs more than anything else a crucifix - it is the basis of our education, of course, we need 'sussidi didattici' also!"

STATISTICAL REPORT

For the month of March the statistical report showing the school situation in Abruzzi and Marche regions has been divided into two sections. Since Abruzzi Region will no longer be the responsibility of the R.E.O., in order to show the individual situation of this region the last statistical report to be submitted is rendered separately.

During this month more schools have opened in Pesaro Province, therefore, a statistical report for Marche Region is also included.

CONCLUSION

The school situation in Abruzzi-Marche Region is almost normal.

Allied Military Government objectives have been achieved in so far as possible.

Epuration proceedings are about completed in Marche Region through the excellent work of the Hearing Committees.

With UNRRA taking over the feeding of school children in the provinces of Aquila, Chieti, and Pescara the school lunches program will be given a great boost, for UNRRA will provide free lunches.

John P. Simoni
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1st LT. C.M.P.
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