



University of Saskatchewan

1965.

SASKATOON AND REGINA, SASK., CANADA

UNIVERSITY NEWS SERVICES • 111 ADMINISTRATION BUILDING • UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN
SASKATOON, SASK. • PHONE 242-7671 EXT. 417

RELEASE ON RECEIPT

REGINA, SEPT. 17 - A new idea in long distance training will be introduced this year at the University of Saskatchewan, Regina Campus, to give an education class in four southern Saskatchewan communities.

Using ordinary telephone lines and a visual electronic remote blackboard, Education 342, an evening credit class on methods of teaching the new mathematics, will be given simultaneously in Moose Jaw, Weyburn, Melville and Swift Current, beginning the week of September 20.

Dr. F.L. Bates, dean of education at Regina Campus, said it is the first time a project of this kind has been tried in Canada, and it is being introduced by the University on a trial basis.

Dr. Bates said that the lecturer, Professor E.L. Klopoushak, will give the class from his office in the Education Building in Regina. Some 40 students in each of the four centres will be able to hear and converse with the lecturer and see on a blackboard size screen whatever he wishes to write for them. School superintendents in each area are looking after local arrangements, including provision of a classroom, and the Saskatchewan Government Telephones is handling the technical details.

Dr. Bates said equipment of this kind is especially welcome in Saskatchewan where most of the people live a considerable distance from a University campus.

...MORE

UNIV. OF SASK.

ELECTRONIC TRAINING - 2

"We don't have the staff to offer classes in the usual way in these various centres and yet we are continually being urged to do so. This gives us an opportunity to reach these distant communities without putting an undue burden on the teaching staff and without the wear and tear of extensive travel."

He said that the method may not be effective for some subjects, but it was thought that the new mathematics would be a good one to try. If it meets expectations during the 1965-66 winter session, other subjects may be taught this way.

Using a telephone mouthpiece and receiver and a device called an electrowriter, Professor Klopoushak will lecture and transmit his lecture notes over regular telephone lines. The groups in the four centres will hear the lecture through centrally located speakers and simultaneously view the notes on blackboard size screens when and as he writes them.

Microphones in each centre will allow the students to talk with the lecturer and, if necessary, with one another. A question asked by a student in Melville, for example, will be heard with the lecturer's reply in the other three centres, and any student wishing further information will be able to ask additional questions.

Dr. Bates said that student assignments and examinations written in the four centres will be sent to the Regina Campus by mail for checking by the lecturer.

The equipment for long distance training was demonstrated in the Education Building at Regina Campus last June for the school superintendents in the four participating centres and Dr. C.P. Collins, director of teacher training, Saskatchewan Department of Education. On the basis of the demonstration it was approved for use this year on a trial basis.