Recent Trends in School Camping

From: Camping Magazine

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Two significant conferences dealing with outdoor education and school camping indicate the careful and studious way educational groups are helping extend education into the out-of-doors.

A three-day conference of national scope on community school camping was held at Haven Hill, Milford, Mich., the latter part of September. Sponsors were Michigan Department of Public Instruction, Michigan Department of Conservation, and W. K. Kellogg Foundation.

Nearly 100 leading school administrators, college presidents, deans of education departments, Office of Education officers, school principals, teachers and lay leaders from many sections of the country deliberated on school camping for older youth.

The group was divided into working committees dealing with problems of American youth, resource utilization and coordination of community agencies, and recommendations. It is planned the conference report will be in published form available through the Department of Public Instruction, Lansing, Mich.

Under sponsorship of the Division of Health and Physical Education of the New York State Department of Education, a three-day conference on school camping and outdoor education was held at Cortland State Teachers College's new camp at Racquette Lake, N. Y., September 30-October 3.

Some 40 school administrators, teachers, college faculty and leaders in outdoor education were divided into working committees on conservation education through camping, programs for elementary and advanced camping and outdoor education, facilities for school camps, and plans for school camping with recommendations and suggestions.

At Austin, Texas, the Board of Education started its school camp program for elementary school children on October 10, 1949.

Minneapolis public schools conducted their first school camp project in September, 1949.