Lieutenant-Commander Murphy and Captain O'Brien Die in Service

Two good stars have been added to the Honors Roll of the Boston School Department before the names of Lieutenant-Commander John T. Murphy and Capt. John J. O'Brien, whose deaths in the line of duty were reported in the last issue. Lieutenant-Commander Murphy died in New Guinea and Captain O'Brien was killed in France. Previously reported dead were Major Daniel J. Hogan, Donaus J. Hurley, Navy, Major Albert J. Kelley, and Henry W. Krupohl, Navy. Both men were permanently appointed intermediate school teachers, whose fine characters, friendly manner, and high professional ability will be long remembered.

School Enrollment 99,311, for October

Enrollment in all Boston public schools had reached 99,311 as of October 1, according to a report released by the office of the Superintendent early in October. Although this figure indicates a drop of 2,009 from the 1943 total of 101,324, it represents the smallest decrease since 1937, during the twelve-year period of falling enrollments.

Cushing by School Board

The following preamble and resolution, offered by Dr. Patrick J. Foley on the occasion of the anniversary of his Election to the Presidency of the Boston School Committee, was adopted unanimously by the School Committee at the meeting of October 5:

WHEREAS, Our Holy Father has called the Right Reverend Richard J. Cushing, temporary Administrator of the Diocese of Boston, to assume the arduous duties of Ordinary of the Boston Diocese, and has elevated him to the rank of Archbishop, we, the members of the Boston School Committee in meeting assembled, ever mindful of the love and esteem in which the leaders of our school system hold this truly great Prelate, offer the following resolutions:

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the Boston School Committee, rejoice with the countless other members of the City and Commonwealth in the extreme good fortune of the people of this diocese in receiving one of our own as our Spiritual Leader. The jubilant spirit of all Boston is richly endowed with innate and acquired talents that will carry this administration to greater glory not only upon himself but upon his Church whose representative he is and whose servant he is.

Tribute to Archbishop Cushing by School Board

The initial recommendation of the survey group, namely, that selection of School Committee members be appointed by the Mayor from a list of eligibles nominated by a committee of citizens. Such a method was characterized by its critics as “undemocratic,” “a denial to the people of Boston of their right to vote,” “Feudal,” and “Totalitarian.” The proposal is as follows: that two members be named for each vacancy (on the School Committee) by a committee of seven members of the City and Commonwealth. It is suggested that this committee could well be composed of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts and the Presidents of the following organizations: The Boston Chamber of Commerce, the Home and School Association, the Boston Federation of Labor, the League of Women Voters, Boston College, Boston University, Harvard University, and Simmons College.

New Promotional Lists to be Established

Many regularly appointed teachers on military leave are eligible for rating, according to the current circular of the Board of Superintendents of Boston Public Schools. All such teachers who desire to be rated this year should make application at once to the Board of Examiners, 10 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass., to establish eligibility. The circular further states: “Time spent in the armed forces will count as continuous teaching experience. Due allowance will be made for adjustment of credits in favor of the candidate when shown in the armed forces reports in lieu of opportunity to earn credit. Any teacher in the above category is expected to attend the required teaching demonstration because of absence from the country, etc., may complete his rating at any time during the life of the list.”

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