

AUTHOR NAME-SURNAME: ıgdem BUDAK

TITLE: PRIMARY SCHOOL CURRICULUM IN TURKEY AND THE EFFECT OF FOREIGN EXPERTS TO THE PRIMARY SCHOOL CURRICULUM (1923–1960)

Abstract

The attempts to benefit from foreign experts which had commenced at the late times of the Otoman Empire have been sustained since the first year when the Republic of Turkey was founded.

Total 123 foreign experts, 79 of whom between the years of 1923- 1960, that is to say, during the period of Atatürk – National Chief (1923–1950) and 44 of whom during the period of Democratic Party (1950–1960), came to Turkey.

On examining the reports, which John Dewey, Paul Monroe, George Stiehler, Frey, Adolphe Ferriere, the American Committee, Berly Parker, Kate V. Wodfford and Lester Beals, who were among these 123 foreign experts, had submitted to the Ministry of National Education, it was seen that they had stated important views and suggestions on primary education curriculum. These foreign experts, who had included their views and suggestions on primary education curriculum in their reports at their studies, and their reports were examined, and their contributions to primary education curriculum with their views and suggestions, were tried to display.

When this study was examined, it was seen that the views and suggestions which were introduced by the foreign experts, who visited Turkey between 1923 and 1960 and presented reports to the Ministry of National Education are generally as follows: Extending the period of primary education, school construction and equipment, physical capacity of schools, health conditions at schools and teaching health knowledge, education-training convenient to rural conditions, classroom conditions and equipment, student attendance, boarding schools, curriculum, the subjects of curriculum, guiding programme and applications, education methods and techniques, joined class applications, communal education applications. Some of these matters were applied to the education system in short term and some of them in long term.

Keywords: Foreign Expert, Primary School, Primary Education, Curriculum, Curriculum Development.