

Coops at the old Park Street School, Mr. Everett Otis teacher and More

Mechanical Drawing class: Picture taken 12/28/1957

Back Row, L-R:

Thomas Chase, Arnold George, Terry Crowley, Charles Schmitt, Richard Watkins, Proctor Dutton, Winston Churchill, Richard Burton, Mr. Otis

Seated Front Row:

Peter Koledo, Paul Krupski, Douglas Gilcris, Eugene Patch, Charlie Siroski, Missing when group gathered, Murice Thomas
Those who quit after picture was taken: Proctor Dutton & Douglas Gilcris, Murice Thomas didn't participate further.

TWC, For note: before Mr. Otis, John Pierce was our Mechanical drawing course. In the 10th grade after having choosing whatever courses we desired, the Coop Course for future endeavors instead of the College Course or Nursing...etc. He was with Russel Porter (Hartness House) and had the observatory. I have a book written and illustrated by Mr. Pierce. Mr Pierce was a big guy, very easy going, learned a lot from him. but remember had bad breath and a great teacher as many in SHS teachers were, far before their time. Those that didn't take Mechanical Drawing would never know Mr. Pierce.

John M. Pierce (1886 – March 4, 1958) was an American teacher and amateur astronomer.

For references see:

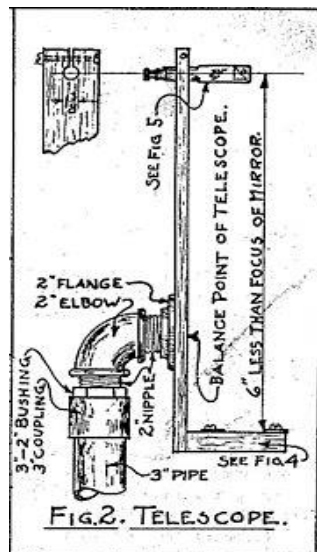
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stellafane>

Also:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_M._Pierce

Also noted, I have a book by John Pierce and desired to make a telescope that incorporated his illustrations.....collector's item? Stellafane is a huge event each year, usually in August.

John Pierce worked with Russell W. Porter to organize Stellafane, the observatory near Springfield, Vermont where amateur telescope makers still meet annually for the Stellafane convention. He was one of the earliest members of the Springfield



Telescope Makers and served as its vice president.

Drawing by John M. Pierce of a simple Newtonian reflecting telescope. From "How To Make A Reflecting Telescope" (1934)

Pierce contributed many articles to the telescope making column conducted by Albert G. Ingalls in *Scientific American*, and wrote several chapters in the *Amateur Telescope Making* series of books, including "Motor Drives", "Making Astronomical Flats", and "A Telescope Anyone Can Make" (the latter appeared only in the earliest printings). When the hobby was new and supplies were hard to come by, Pierce set up a small business to provide kits and parts for amateur astronomers.

In 1933 and 1934 he published a series of 14 articles on telescope making in Hugo Gernsback's *Everyday Science and Mechanics* called "Hobbygrafs" (or sometimes "Hobbygraphs").

Robert E. Cox, in an obituary for *Sky and Telescope* magazine in 1958, considered John M. Pierce on a par with Ingalls and Porter, describing him as one of "the big three behind the amateur telescope making movement in America."

Biography

Pierce graduated in architectural engineering from Pratt Institute in 1910. He spent most of his life as a teacher; from 1919 to 1956 he was director of the Springfield High School co-operative course, which included training in machine-tool work, cabinet making, sheet-metal work and auto repair. He was also active in civic affairs and well known as a musician and amateur geologist.

References

"John M. Pierce Dies", *Sky and Telescope* **17**, June 1958: 407

Cox, Robert E. (October 1958), "Albert G. Ingalls, T. N.", *Sky and Telescope* **17**: 616–617