

Schools

(Continued from 3-A)

us, attitudes, physical health and home conditions of the child.

The laboratory is set up to offer assistance to youngsters in the school system who are so handicapped. The psychologists attempt to classify behavioral patterns and to what extent they interfere with the learning process.

The nature of their contact with the student is preventive—eliminating the problem before it becomes more serious.

THERE ARE many facets to the laboratory's program.

It offers assistance to teachers and parents as well as the child.

The professors work directly with teachers for in-service training, dealing with classroom situations. They also offer consultation for teachers who might have a personal problem that would interfere or spill over into the classroom.

They also offer consultation on their own initiative, group sessions on normal problems that come up in the rearing of children. There also are individual sessions, according to Dr. Ambinder; to attendance at these sessions which are limited to groups of 12 couples. The discussion of common problems, parents gain insight into their individual problems," he said.

INDIVIDUAL children are referred for consultations with the psychologists by teachers, guidance counselors or parents. In such cases, parents are requested to bring an interview about the child. The youngster is tested, his teachers interviewed.

If further help for the child is needed, parents are notified and advised as to what steps can be taken. In certain cases, the laboratory's assistance is offered. In other cases, a referral to the Oakland County Child Guidance Clinic or family service agencies, with which the professors work as closely as possible, is suggested.

Dr. Ambinder emphasizes that the group does not attempt to treat mental illness, but does refer students with serious problems to psychiatrists.

Approximately 300 youngsters have been seen so far, mainly at the request of parents.

ALTHOUGH THE laboratory was not officially launched until this past fall, at kindergarten registration last May, parents were invited to come in and talk about any problems, even minor ones, which they felt their pre-schoolers might have.

Some 85 parents availed themselves of the service. In a few cases the parents were referred to further assistance. In other cases, the child's progress in kindergarten has been closely watched.

The class for gifted children at Vaughan is included in the total program. The class, started by the school system, consists of a group of children selected to attend this class because of extremely high performance as well as IQ. Creativity of the child was also a factor in his selection.

The children, of ages ranging from first through sixth grades, are being allowed to progress at their own individual learning abilities level.

It is hoped, Dr. Ambinder stated, that some of the factors involved in the make-up of the gifted child can be evolved to assist in the upgrading of more average children.

THE SCREENING tests to be made this month are to be given on a voluntary basis. Parents will be notified before the tests are given. A public meeting will be scheduled before the tests so that parents can become acquainted with the type tests to be given.

They consist of several questionnaires as well as achievement and intelligence tests. The teacher will fill out a questionnaire about the children in the classroom. The children will answer one about their own feelings. Another test, in the form of a play, will determine how the children see each other.

It is hoped the tests will uncover the child who is apparently not doing well, the child who has problems not reflected in behavior and youngsters who are individualists but completely normal.

The screening will only be given one year in the three-year contract. Other phases of the program are designed on a continuing basis.

OTHER PHASES of the program will develop as the need is seen. Since this is a pilot program, unique in its field, it remains a flexible one.

Dr. Ambinder stresses that his group is not only interested in student problems but also in finding ways to increase subtle learning ability.

"If we can learn about some of the pressures on all students, we may be able to bring about some changes in the school system," he concluded.

Named Kelly VP

The Board of Directors of Kelly Girl Service, Inc. has recently elected Angelo A. Agnello to the office of vice president and Controller. Agnello, who joined the Kelly organization in January, 1968, has held the post of executive financial officer. He is a resident of Huntington Woods and a member of the Birmingham Tennis Club.

FR. LOVELEY, S.J.

Panel to Discuss Ecumenical Council At Tuesday Forum

Tuesday Forum, sponsored by the adult education committee of St. Thomas More parish in Troy Township, will discuss "Controversial Aspects of the Ecumenical Council" at its Jan. 21 session.

Rev. Father Edward Loveley, S.J., member of the University of Detroit faculty and authoritative lecturer on the Ecumenical movement, will lead the discussion.

SLATED to begin at 8:15 p.m., the Tuesday Forum marks the first in a series of forums to be held in the recently-dedicated hall of St. Thomas More, located on Adams Road north of Waukegan.

A progressive parish, St. Thomas More is distinguished by its emphasis on adult participation and a stress on "two-way" communication, reports George Sold, of Walnut Hill Drive, chairman of the adult education committee.

"The Tuesday Forum is a beginning toward building better understanding and a spirit of cooperation between St. Thomas More and neighboring faiths," said Sold.

Public Is Invited To Reception for B'ham Artist Thom

A reception to meet artist Robert A. Thom and author George Bender will be open to the public from 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday at Oakland Center, Oakland University.

This is in connection with the exhibit, "A History of Medicine in Pictures," which includes 45 paintings by Thom of 6160 W. Surrey, Birmingham.

The exhibition is being seen locally for the first time. A reception for the series creators was held Sunday, and response prompted scheduling of the second open house. The show continues through Jan. 26.

NY World's Fair Slides Available

A color-slide preview of the New York World's Fair is available for Oakland County clubs, church organizations and other groups through the Detroit Edison Company, announced a spokesman.

The preview includes a representative from Edison's speakers bureau who narrates the program and will give a graphic account of the many exhibits. The program runs 20 minutes.

The Fair is scheduled to open in April. Requests for the slides can be made to Harlan B. Ritze, Edison's Oakland division sales manager.

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Bits of Birmingham

The Community House had a banner night on Wednesday of last week. The Birmingham Rotary Club-sponsored Wally Taber show drew some 500 patrons. In addition, every available room in The House was busy with some type of activity. One person commented, "I never saw so many people in The Community House at one time."

Party Will Benefit Children's Center

Under the chairmanship of Mrs. Howard Springer of Birmingham, members of the Modern Living Department of the Birmingham Women's Club will sponsor a benefit dessert bridge Friday in the YMCA, 409 E. Lincoln.

The affair is open to the public, with proceeds going to the Oakland County Children's Center. A new sewing machine was presented to the girls for their home economics room at Christmas time.

Assisting Mrs. Springer with party arrangements are Mrs. William Mikulas, Mrs. Donald Miller, Mrs. Vern Haagstad and Mrs. Frederick Betz.

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TAE

(Continued from Page 1-A)

statute. He feels the organization is not receiving it because of the school board's interpretation.

"I have said many times: 'treat us like you treat everybody else—like your Sigma Gamma, your Coliffion Club, your skating club, your horse-riding clubs — treat everybody the same,'" Kelley said.

"The worst thing that can happen in a society is when a public authority selectively enforces the law. That's why we have a constitutional provision guarding against this," he added.

Kelley said the board of education had singled out TAE and "sent out letters condemning this organization, with not a word about these other organizations."

MRS. RADTKE reported that the superintendent of schools, John Blackhall Smith, told her Saturday that he did not agree that Mason's orders and others should have received exemption from the statute.

Kelley said that was a good point. "If this is a thought entertained by Dr. Smith, who came to our community quoting Alexis de Toqueville."

Toqueville was an early 19th century French statesman and writer who praised the principle of association in his book "Democracy in America."

Some TAE members were not completely satisfied with just getting the attorney general's opinion. "What's your alternative," asked Kelley.

"Go to court and get a court ruling," answered Mrs. Sherwood. "If we had an injunction our girls could go ahead and participate. There's no other way to protect these girls other than an injunction, is there?"

KELLEY'S ANSWER was "no," but he said he feels that the ruling should be sought before any court action is instituted.

"I would never think about taking this into court without being prepared to go all the way—to the U. S. Supreme Court, if necessary," Kelley said.

Kelley said he had been told that "you can't fight the richest school board in the world."

"What makes this thing so ironic is that we're financing both sides of the fight," he said.

TAE, which listed members in Seaholm, Groves, Bloomfield Hills, Kingswood and Marian high schools, was outlawed in the Birmingham School District last spring.

SINCE THEN, TAE has revised its by-laws but was still judged illegal by the school board.

Groves and Seaholm are the only two high schools within the Birmingham district. Marian, a parochial school, and Kingswood, a private institution, do not come under the state statute.

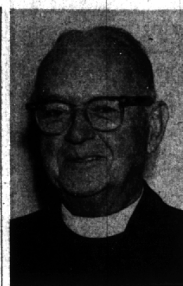
What about Bloomfield Hills?

"They choose to interpret the statute differently," said Mrs. Richard Mabee, a TAE member.

High school girls are only prospective members of TAE until they graduate, Mrs. Radtke said. Prospective members are chosen, first of all on the principle of legacy—whether they are daughters or granddaughters of present members.

"From there on, it's a matter of first come, first-served," Mrs. Radtke added.

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REV. PLANT

Name New Canon

The Rev. A. Fletcher Plant, assistant minister of Birmingham's St. James' Episcopal Church, is one of three clergymen named an honorary canon of the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Detroit. The announcement was made recently by the Rt. Rev. Richard S. Emrich, bishop of the Episcopal diocese of Michigan.

Rev. Plant came to St. James'

St. David States Workshop Program

A workshop program is scheduled by the Episcopal churchwomen of St. David's Church in Southfield on Monday, Jan. 20, beginning at 9 a.m.

Special emphasis will be placed on the church periodical headed by Mrs. Alice White and supervised under Chairman Mrs. Evelyn Inwood. Mrs. Marlon Smith of the diocese will be guest speaker.

Babysitting facilities will be provided, and it is suggested that women bring their lunches. Coffee will be served.

Immediately following his ordination in 1956, in 1958 he became executive administrator of the Cathedral Chapter, which directs the affairs of the Diocesan Cathedral Center.

LONG ACTIVE in the business world, Rev. Plant is treasurer of St. James' and is recognized for his lay reader training activities and through participation in laymen's work. He has been chairman of the diocesan department of missions since 1940.

Rev. Plant will be installed at the pre-convention services in Cathedral Church on Feb. 6.

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