

# IS . . . or . . . THIS?

By Judi Jarvill

"Daycare and Summer School are evidence that we care," said Ruben Contreras, Dayton Area Director. He knows of the poor toilet facilities and health conditions in the camps and fields. "If you have seen a child with diarrhea left in the car, where not only dust but also flies cover him, and the child has a high temperature from sickness, only then will you know what I speak of," he said.

The parents of these children are good parents--they love their little ones as a parent should, and they want the best for them. It is not their fault the children suffer in the hot sun--waiting, and watching their parents work in the fields. No, it is not the fault of the parents.

The Valley Migrant League is able to help these parents by providing a place for their children during the harvest season--Daycare and Summer School (see pictures at right.) The parents and children are well pleased with this temporary arrangement.

Time goes by quickly for children in Daycare and Summer School because there is plenty to do and they are not alone. They are on a planned schedule-----they eat well and sleep well, and play with toys that are new to them. The children are supervised----not left to wander.

Yes, a lot can be said about Daycare and Summer School, but the children's smiles and happy eyes are worth much more than words.

"El programa de atención para niños y la escuela de verano son evidencias que a nosotros nos importa," dijo Ruben Contreras, el supervisor del área de Dayton. El conoce las pobres facilidades sanitarias y las condiciones de sanidad en los encampamentos y en los campos. "Si Ud. hubiera visto a un niño con diarrea dejado en un carro donde no hay solo polvo, sino moscas cubriéndole todo, o a un niño con fiebre alta, solo entonces sabrá Ud. lo que estoy diciendo," dijo.

Los padres de estos niños son buenos-aman a sus hijitos y quieren lo mejor posible para ellos. Los padres no tienen la culpa que los niños sufran en el sol caluroso--esperando y mirando a sus padres, los cuales trabajan en los campos. No, los padres no, tienen la culpa.

El Valley Migrant League puede ayudar a estos padres por medio de proveer un lugar para sus niños durante la temporada de cosechas--el programa de atención y la escuela de verano. A los padres y los niños les gusta este arreglo provisional.

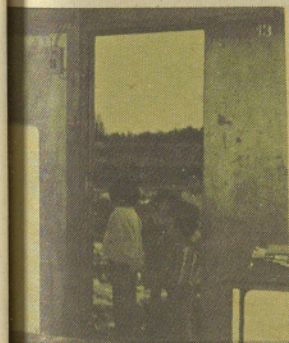
El tiempo pasa rápidamente en el centro y la escuela porque hay bastante que hacer, y no se está solo. Tienen un horario--comen bien y duermen bien, y juegan con los juguetes los cuales son novedades para ellos. Se cuidan a los niños--no se dejan andar abandonados.

Sí, se puede decir mucho acerca del centro de atención para niños y la escuela de verano, pero las sonrisas de los niños y los ojos vivaces expresan mucho más que las palabras.

dren," Granato said. "I worked in almost every phase of children's services in Texas."

Why did he come to Oregon? "My wife and I wanted to see some contrasting parts of the United States."

At that time Granato considered offers in Alaska, Montana, Delaware, and elsewhere. He chose Oregon. In Salem he worked for the State



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Welfare Commission, and he wrote the first day care services program in Oregon.

Granato has a Master's Degree in social work from the University of Texas, and he has acquired knowledge from personal experience and study. He is a member of the Academy of certified Social Workers.

Mr. and Mrs. Granato have four children, ages 2 to 8.