



(Photos - Janet Lynn
Bethel Child Development Center)

Student dropouts are dropping in

What's happening to dropouts from Cleveland High School?

They are dropping in to visit with Dr. Richard Newman and his staff at a "rap center" in a portable unit on Cleveland's campus.

The center, a joint effort of Cleveland High School and the Child Guidance Clinic, is reaching out to youths turned off by the conventional educational process.

Some of the young people who visit the center are school dropouts; others are potential dropouts; but many are just students with problems.

Since October 1971, the center has helped some 150 youths cope with their problems by staging small group rap sessions and hosting special discussions with guest speakers.

The discussions focus on topics selected by the students such as death, venereal disease, planned parenthood and student rights.

Directed by clinical psycho-

logist Dr. Richard Newman, the center has a rotating 22-member staff including a psychiatrist, psychologist, social workers, interns, college students and paraprofessionals on loan from community agencies.

In addition to counseling troubled youths, the staff conducts a training program for Cleveland counselors and teachers to assist them in early detection and handling of children with emotional and learning difficulties.

All of the center's services undergo the scrutiny of a four-man research and assessment team which continuously evaluates the program's impact.

Cleveland High School officials say they hope the center will prove an effective way to combat the school's increasing dropout rate.

Funded by the Portland Public Schools in conjunction with the Child Guidance Clinic, the rap center is open every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday during the school hours.

Cafeteria inspectors

Lunch hour learning and sharing has been on the agenda for students at Ainsworth Elementary School during the month of February. Groups of two to four students have been visiting other city schools during lunch acting as "cafeteria inspectors."

The students hope to learn ways of improving the cafeteria operation at Ainsworth from these visits. They youngsters are transported and supervised on these tours by Ainsworth parent volunteers. In addition to learning from the trips, students also gain experience in speaking and reporting. The day after the return from the visits they report to classmates on what they found and respond to questions. So far, teachers and students at the school think the results have been excellent and have resulted in some solid improvements in the cafeteria operation at Ainsworth.

GREAT NEGROES PAST AND PRESENT, by Russel Adams. This book includes drawings and biographies of Black heroes. Afro-Am Publishing Co. \$3.95.

BOYHOOD ADVENTURES OF FAMOUS BLACK AMERICANS, by John Hines. A series of plays that deal with the childhood of famous Black Americans. New Dimensions Publishing Co.

Workshops held

In an effort to promote better intergroup understanding, parents, students and teachers of Portland's Grant High School are conducting a series of workshops in human relations this spring.

A key element in the series, which was initiated by three teachers in response to the need for more racial harmony at the school, is cultural awareness. In the first phase there will be three workshops on March 4, March 11 and April 8. In the second phase, set for this summer, a workshop will train group leaders. Phase three, set for next fall, will see all Grant's 158 employees receiving special training in human relations. The project is paid for with federal funds under Title IV of the Civil Rights Act.

I Recommend Books for young people

by Lenwood G. Davis

LILLIE OF WATTS TAKES A GIANT STEP, by Mildred Pitts Walter. This is a study of a young Black girl and her family who live in the Watts area of Los Angeles. This book tells of her high school's adventures and how she overcame several emotional crisis. Doubleday and Co., Inc. \$3.95.

CHILDREN OF LONGING, edited by Rosa Guy. Essays by Black youths. They give their views on what they are thinking and feeling after the violent upheaval of the 1960's. Bantam, \$7.50.

ZEELY by Virginia Hamilton. A 13-year-old girl begins to live in her fantasy about an African queen. Collier, \$9.50.

I WAS A BLACK PANTHER, ed. by Chuck Moore. This book tries to explain a fairly typical Black high school student's point of view of why Blacks are attracted to the Black Panther Party. Doubleday, \$3.50.

SPIN A SOFT BLACK SONG: POEMS FOR CHILDREN, by Nikki Giovanni. A book with poems and illustrations for about children. Written especially for young Black children. Hill & Wang. \$5.50.

YOUNG AND BLACK IN AMERICA, compiled by Rae Pace Alexander. Eight short biographical sketches of well-known Black Americans and the many obstacles that they had to overcome while growing up in a white society. Random House. \$3.95.

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PSU scholars program expand

Through a working agreement with KISN in Portland, PCC broadcast students learn by doing and get paid \$2.50 an hour for it. Each month a student is chosen by Broadcast instructor Keith Allen to work four hours a week (1-5 every Tuesday) for KISN. The student works in areas such as programming, producing, news, and public relations.

During the summer KISN President and General Manager, Steve Sheppard, talked with

PCC Broadcast students at the Sylvania Center. He was impressed with the PCC radio broadcast students and volunteered support of the program. After discussions with Allen, the KISN work experience program was established.

Lisa Jones, one of the first PCC students who worked at KISN, is now working for the station doing public relations and servicing accounts.

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(Continued from page 1)

number of students actively participated in the campaign and continue in the government by offering volunteer services to the city. A number of students are conducting surveys for the policy makers separate from those taken by city employees and some are volunteering their services on a full time basis.

Widener states that, "Students work actively in the whole apparatus of city government." He continues, that the students make up a major part of the city and that they "ought to be able to participate in that government."

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