

Kids Are In 'Social Limbo'—Locke

By ELIZABETH WISSMAN

A former administrative assistant to the Detroit police commissioner blames today's youth rebellion on the fact that American adults have created a society in which young people are in a "social limbo."

Speaking in Farmington at a meeting of the Eagle School PTA, Dr. Hubert G. Locke said:

"It should be noted that the single age group contributing most to the criminal problem are young persons between the ages of 16 and 19."

"In our society, these youth are neither fish nor fowl, neither adolescents nor adults, and we treat them ambiguously as both."

"We do not have in American society a definite right of transition from adolescence to adulthood—one that is clear and well-defined. Our youngsters live through this ambivalent and chaotic period in limbo."

"I think that you begin to understand why we have a mess on our hands when you consider this..."

LOCKE GROUPED the problem of today's youth rebellion with the problems of poverty, pollution, war and drugs, saying "The problems we face, not only with our youth, but on 12 other fronts, are so great that if we don't begin to work on them, these problems will be irreversible. If we don't find the answer within the next five to six years it will be too late."

"There has been accumulating residue that the pendulum of the youth rebellion is not going to swing back to normalcy, as some adults think it will, given time," he continued.

"We can expect the youth rebellion to escalate. We will not deal adequately with the problem until we deal with what our young people are rebelling over..."

NOTING that it is almost impossible to describe the style and kinds of the youth rebellion, Locke mentioned drugs, hippies, motorcycle gangs, the Black Panthers, the SDS Weathermen, calling the whole scene "an irrational, striking out at the system. The radicals have simply said American society is so far gone it's irreparable—their's nothing to be done but tear it apart."

Locke, who is also a church pastor and director of religious affairs at Wayne State University, listed two other reasons for the youth rebellion, in addition to his thought on social limbo.

Graham, Dooley

Get VP Posts

Alexander Hamilton Life Insurance Co., Farmington announced the appointment of two second vice presidents from Farmington.

Donald V. Graham joins the life firm as second vice president-controller. He comes from Michigan Hospital Service where he served as assistant director of finance. Previously, he had spent five years with the U.S. Internal Revenue Service.

James R. Dooley of 21032 Birchwood, Farmington, was promoted from director of methods and procedures to second vice president-administrative services.

Dooley joined the life firm a year ago after service with RCA as a computer sales representative and computer systems analyst.

Auxiliary Planning Vet Gifts

LIVONIA Future community services, packages for Livonians fighting in Vietnam and more socials for hospitalized war veterans were among many activities for which plans were made last week by the busy ladies of the VFW Post 3941 auxiliary.

They also discussed fund raising activities and how to gain additional members.

Following out their motto, "Show Them We Care," the auxiliary earlier held a bingo party for 65 veterans hospitalized in Ann Arbor as well as well as sending their annual Christmas boxes and greeting cards to veterans of Vietnam.

The packages contained homemade cookies, candies, peanuts, canned meat and shoe string potatoes and various comfort items.

"Some adults," he said, "blame the rebellion on too much affluence. I think that answer is too easy and I think it is inaccurate. With whites it might be true. But in the case

of the Black Panthers, for instance, the answer is not too much, but too little."

"A more liberal perspective on the youth problem is taken by older adults. They say that the youth today is manifesting all

the courage to face our social ills—that they are the real heroes."









"IN MY OPINION," said Locke, "this too fails to tell the whole story. It's too generous."

Today's youth are no wiser, more righteous, more heroic than their fathers and grandfathers before them. They can be caught in the same greed, but in their intolerance they defy this.

"But unquestionably," he added, "there are serious-minded youth today who are involved in our youth rebellion. We fail to listen to them to our own peril."

"American adult citizens today have to decide whether what we have created in our urban industrialization is an improvement over what we had, whether this is truly social progress."

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