

Wednesday, November 6, 1968

(F) Page 3A

# Classrooms Fitted To PD Pupils' Needs

By ELIZABETH WISSMAN

A perceptual development (PD) classroom is different from other classrooms.

Take the PD room in Cloverdale School.

The lower parts of the windows are covered.

There are no pictures, no posters. No bulletin boards. The desks are shielded on three sides.

There are no lesson plans. There are usually only eight pupils in the room.

All of this is so because perceptually handicapped children are different from other children.

CHILDREN with perceptual handicaps do not need to be motivated—they are already too stimulated. Their distractibility is evidenced in hyperactivity.

Devices that cut down extraneous stimuli are helpful—covered windows, no wall displays, secluded working places, lessons divested of non-essentials.

To help parents of perceptually handicapped children enrolled at Cloverdale, the PD teacher, Mrs. Nancy Brodick, has prepared a three-page outline of the program's aims and purposes.

IN IT she states that "an educational diagnosis by the PD teacher forms the basis for all planning and implementation of procedures for each child."

The words "each child" are of utmost importance.

Techniques or methods used are not general applications to the whole class. They are tailored to the behavior, learning characteristics and personality differences of each child.

THIS IS TRUE because no one perceptually handicapped child manifests the same symptoms as another.

In addition to distractibility,

such a child may be poorly organized, show poor use of simple language, be emotionally unstable, be hyperactive, find it difficult to change tasks, lack good motor coordination.

Lessons have to be adapted to these handicaps.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES used in planning for the education of PD pupils include:

● Reduction of stimuli is used in general in the class and in particular for some children.

● An effort is made to use strengths to correct weaknesses.

● The parts-to-whole method is utilized.

● The point of breakdown in the child's developmental sequence is found and built upon from that point.

● Games and devices are used to help develop insight into a particular step in learning rather than for motivation.

● Manipulative materials are used to help the child learn.

AREAS OF CURRICULUM in a PD room are limited to developing skills in the language arts (reading, writing, spelling,

English, arithmetic and perceptual development).

How do you teach a child to read who sees the word "was" as the word "saw"?

Guidance to good laterality and directionality are given with manipulative aids, such as templates of circles, squares and horizontal designs, for black-board use.

HOW DO YOU TEACH a child to write who mixes up backward and forward and up and down?

Mrs. Brodick uses color-cueing with the familiar red, yellow and green of the traffic stoplight.

Green is used for the point at which a letter is begun, yellow for its connection to the red part where it ends.

Color-cueing is also used in the teaching of arithmetic, with green, yellow and red designating components of a problem.

Mrs. Brodick also uses concepts such as bigger, smaller, faster, or greater than and less than, in teaching her young charges to add, subtract and multiply.

SHE STRESSES THAT in all their lessons, her children need structured programs. Each day's work begins in exactly the same way, and always the lessons are geared to the visual, auditory and tactical approach.

In all lessons, the constant aim is to get the PD pupils to think in sequence. Techniques like color-cueing attract the attention of the child to the desired place.

IN SPEAKING of her pupils, Mrs. Brodick's very blue eyes

glow with pride.

"These are bright children," she says, "and they know they're here to work. It may look like they are playing with all the different devices they use, but they are working and working hard."

TEACHING her perceptually handicapped children is "a way of life" for Nancy Brodick.

She comes up with ideas like introducing her pupils to hand-

writing by use of a sandpile. Because most cannot confine themselves to an 8 by 10 sheet of paper, the freedom of the sandpile's shape makes the difficult job of learning to write more fun.



CONCENTRATION — Mrs. Nancy Brodick, perceptual development teacher at Cloverdale School, uses a manipulative device to teach her young pupils a lesson in sequence. Components of the device are color-coded to teach sequence to the children, many of whom do not know where things begin and where they end.

## Perkins Buys Site

A \$2 million headquarters facility for Perkins Engines Inc. will be constructed in Farmington Township's Farmington Freeway Industrial Plant.

Announcement of the plans was made today (Wednesday) by G.E. Smith, chairman and chief executive officer for North American operations, of the firm.

Perkins is a supplier of diesel engines for trucks and boats and is currently based at Wixom. The firm also maintains an engineering center at New Hudson.

Groundbreaking for the 80,000 square foot plant is expected in the spring with January 1970 being the target date for occupancy.

According to a company spokesman Perkins currently employs about 125, but it is not known how many people will be employed in the new plant.

Perkins purchased a 13-acre site in the industrial park and said that the plant will house both assembly and warehousing operations.

This is the 26th firm that has announced plans to locate in the Thompson-Brown-developed 250-acre industrial park.

## Red Flag Mounted On Bank

The corner facade of the old Farmington State Bank building at Farmington Road and Grand River has been used for years to hang banners, signs and effigies, but never has any placard had the implications of one hung Halloween night.

A 3 by 4-foot red flag and a smaller hand-painted sign with an anti-United States rhyme were mounted near the building's flagpole sometime during late Halloween night, Farmington public safety officers reported.

Both sign and flag were removed before 10 a.m. Nov. 1. The flag, which was tacked to a bamboo standard, was clearly visible from the ground. The sign had fallen to the roof and was not visible.

City of Farmington Public Safety Chief Robert Deadman said Monday that there was no evidence to indicate that the incident was organized, locally or otherwise.

## Bailey Aboard

Bolterman Second Class Richard A. Bailey, USN, 26, son of Mrs. Robert E. Farmington, 20834 Cotwell, Farmington, is serving aboard the anti-submarine warfare aircraft carrier, USS Yorktown, recently returned from a six-month Southeast Asian deployment.

## Farmington

## Socially

## Speaking

By KATHY ZISKA  
GR 4-7261

Brave soul, that Mrs. Loren Sennewald, of Carson. Last Tuesday, at approximately 4 p.m., there were about 25 pre-teen young ladies, all dressed in their Halloween get-up, gathered in her home for their annual Girl Scout dinner and Halloween party. Preparations and decorations for the affair were supposedly completed by

the young ladies. But Mrs. Sennewald was brave enough to encounter such an affair, approximately two hours long, and then had to feed to her own family's needs and appetites. A brave soul.

ANOTHER brave soul is Mary Ann Geer, wife of John and mother of three young ladies.

During the two days without school a week ago, Mary Ann gave her three daughters, Lauri, 9, Barbara, 12 and Nancy, 13, permission to invite one of their girlfriends to spend Thursday, Friday, Saturday and part of Sunday at a hunting lodge near Alpena. Father and husband John got there after work on Friday. Jenny Dunn, Shelly Ziska and Wendy Martin were the lucky threesome invited to participate. With strict supervision, the young ladies were taught to shoot at a target with a 22 rifle. The Geer daughters had been taught the proper respect for a rifle some time ago.

There is no exaggeration when the girls tell you they counted over 200 deer. While hiking, they spotted wild turkeys and raccoons. Other than staying up until 2 a.m. playing cards with the girls, and the unexpected event of two flat tires, everything went as long as planned for the hosts.

THE THEME for Nan Kapermaros' 11th birthday party was "Nan Loves Stuffed Dogs." And, according to her mother, Mrs. Louisa Kapermaros, of Foxgrove, Nan did get a good supply of stuffed animals as birthday presents at the birthday slumber party.

After the cake, ice cream and all the trimmings, late spook stories continued well into the wee hours of the morning by Gail Lawless, Dawn Shuter, Jennifer Clarke, Brock Wiley, Peggy MacIntyre, Zita Meggs, Susan Gasser, Patti Pierdon, Sue Strassel, Laurie Lind, Sue Schaffer and Nan Kapermaros.

Can you picture yourself entertaining an adult, overnight guest from out-of-town (not a relative) with all of the birthday-partying going on? It hurts my brain to even think about it, but Mr. and Mrs. Louis Kapermaros seemed to enjoy both the birthday party and the overnight guest, all handled capably, including breakfast for all, the next morning.



READY TO SELL — YMCA Indian Guide David Paul is all set to sell the Pow-Wow Popcorn Totem Packs this month. An estimated 200 Indian Guides will be in the area selling the 2,400 Totem Packs in order to raise funds for Y activities. Cost of the pack is \$1.



## WONDERLAND CENTER

PLYMOUTH ROAD at MIDDLEBELT  
57 FINE STORES  
OPEN EVERY EVENING UNTIL 9

## COMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER

9

### ICE SCULPTURE EXHIBIT, CONTEST

See an interesting exhibition of ice sculpture on the Wonderland mall at 3 p.m. Then, after the sculptor has finished, estimate the time it takes for his work of art to melt. Winner will receive a 25-pound Thanksgiving Turkey.

NOVEMBER

16

### BIRD FEEDING STATION BUILDING CONTEST

Livonia Parks and Recreation Department and Detroit Audubon Society jointly sponsor this unique contest. Submit your entry for judging on the Mall, weather permitting. Display from 10 to noon; judging, 1 to 1:30 p.m. Entries may be dropped off in the Civic Room from 3:30 to 8:00 p.m. on November 15.

NOVEMBER

23

### SANTA SKY-DIVES AT WONDERLAND

Watch Santa drop from the clouds from high above Wonderland at 11 a.m. Join the festive parade to his enchanting Candy House on the Wonderland mall. Santa will lead the way in his own special Snowmobile... See Bambi and other Santa reindeer, too!

DECEMBER

20

### STAG NIGHT...FOR MEN ONLY!

Special shopping hours for men only! Wonderland's fine ladies' shops will set aside a special three-hour "men only" night from 9 to 11 p.m. — complete with refreshments!

Look For  
Fun And  
Value At

## WONDERLAND

BIG! CONVENIENT! FRIENDLY!