

Despite Honors, Adams' Work Not Done

By CORINNE ABATT

The 30-foot house trailer belonging to Schoolcraft College's Jon Adams, dean of applied sciences, is parked on campus behind one of the buildings.

He and his wife will soon hook it up and drive off and head for, as the retiring administrator says, "I don't know where."

It could be in the direction of Denver, Colo., where Adams has a son and daughter-in-law, the country he and his wife love.

In the past few weeks he has received many honors.

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JON P. ADAMS appeared officially in cap and gown at last April's Schoolcraft College commencement. (Observer photo by Bob Woodring)

"There is a place for women in drafting, I would think and a fourth could be women in all drafting areas. In electronics, we've never had any women, yet this is a tremendous area for women."

He mentions the need for strengths in math, something many women have, and the manual part which they could handle very well.

"Metallurgy is another field which women could get into, yet we've never had a woman in the courses."

He is disappointed that more women are not made aware of these opportunities which do not require and particular strength and offer good career possibilities.

The problem is that most people do not understand what is involved in some of these highly specialized areas.

One novel way to meet the problem was a result of brainstorming by several administrators. The college offers a special course which enables a student to spend one week in almost every phase of the applied sciences, to get a taste of each

civil technology, architecture, automotive service, electronics, electromedical, drafting, metallurgy, and more.

At the end of the semester his interests and aptitudes are evaluated. The course is open to high school students as well as those enrolled in the college.

The retiring dean can only wish that many more young people, men and women, could be aware of the career opportunities available in some of the lesser known technical fields.

He mentions the associate degree in biomedical equipment technology (BMET) which provides training in the maintenance and service of medical electronic equipment used in hospitals and laboratories, medical laboratory technology or medical laboratory technology. Surely, he surmises, some of those 400 women waiting to get into the nursing courses, would find these areas equally rewarding.

The dean has been involved in the areas of vocational training for a good portion of his life, both theoretical and practical.

He worked in industry for eight years after graduating from high school in Green Bay, Wis. He completed his college work for a bachelor's degree in industrial education at Wisconsin State University in 1934, took courses at other universities and finished his master's in industrial education at Bradley University in 1955.

But during all this, the career was in full swing. Before coming to Schoolcraft, he was regional representative for the U.S. Office of Education, Manpower Development and Training Program, and before that he served as dean at Ferris State College. He built the trade-technical division to one that has received national recognition.

Earlier he was a supervisor of the Vocational Technical Institute of Southern Illinois University, state supervisor of Trade and Industrial Education for the State of Illinois and a high school teacher in two schools in Illinois.

He also has served as a member and officer in many national organizations, author of more than 50 published articles and consultant for state and national committees, the most recent of which is the Motor Vehicle Manufacturers Assn. committee to finalize the new "Standards For Automotive Service and Service Management Programs."

Some 200 friends and associates from all over the state gathered at the Mayflower Meeting House in Plymouth last week to say goodbye.

Dr. C. Nelson Grote, Schoolcraft's president was master of ceremonies. Dr. Harold Sponberg, president of Eastern Michigan University, was the speaker.

The college recently granted Adams emeritus rank, yet few really believe that retirement for Dean Adams will ever become a total way of life.

His wife doesn't believe it, and neither would anyone else who has talked about the future of vocational education with him as he strides through the labs, checking and explaining the elaborate equipment, the computers and data processing machinery, the machines for cutting steel, and those which diagnose automotive engine malfunctions in a matter of minutes.

No, no one who really knows Jon Adams believes he can completely detach himself from an area that has been his first love and deep commitment.

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Area State Reps Say 'Nay' But House OKs Betting Bill

LANSDOWN

Only one local state representative supported a bill to permit off-track betting in Michigan which narrowly passed the House last week.

State Rep. Thomas Brown (D-Westland) voted for the bill, which would give counties the option of permitting off-track betting.

Voting against the bill were Reps. William Keith (D-Garden City), R. Robert Geake (R-Northville), John Bennett (D-Redford Township), John Markes (D-Westland), Raymond Smit (R-Ann Arbor), Raymond Baker (R-Farmington) and Joseph Forbes (D-Oak Park).

The bill cleared the House on a 39-45 vote (56 votes are needed for passage) and was referred to the Senate. The House has passed off-track betting bills in 1970 and 1971, but they died in the Senate. In 1972, the House defeated a similar bill.

Sponsored by Rep. George Montgomery (D-Detroit), the bill gives county commissioners the power to allow off-track betting in their area.

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