



"TELL IT LIKE IT IS, MAN" was the theme of an evening panel on the problems of inter-racial communication.

Weekend Lesson: Communication Isn't Impossible

EDITOR'S NOTE: Last weekend the Livonia YMCA teen clubs sponsored an inter-racial conference at the Y's camp near Holly. The theme was communication; the conference title was "Tell It Like It Is." We asked two of the conference participants, one a white girl from Livonia and the other a Negro boy from Detroit, to explain what the weekend meant to them. Here are their reactions.

By MICHAEL BATCHELOR

My name is Mike Batchelor. I'm black and I'm from Detroit. Detroit's a big city, but the only part I know of it is black. And because of this it is on rare occasions that I get to communicate with white. It is one of these rare occasions that I write about. Our black group from Detroit was invited to spend a weekend with a white group from Livonia.

Now, when I say communicate this does not mean the "Hello" I might give to the man on the bus or someone I might see at school; this means to sit down face to face and "tell it like it is."

Friday, the first night, started out slow. The fear that we expected to see in the whites was very clear. I'm not saying that we broke the ice with booming conversation, but neither did they. We all just stood there waiting for each other to make the first move.

Later on there was a tower building project that was intended to bring each party a little closer together. It did, but only for the time that it lasted. For as soon as the project was over, we all went back to our groups.

The dance that was afterwards didn't prove to be a shocking success either. As a matter of fact, the only real conversation was that night in the cabin.

The next day our work project proved to be a little better. While working on odd jobs throughout the camp, it could be seen that the tightly-held groups were starting to break up.

This gave new hope to the conference. There was just one thing missing and that was the conversation of my race and yours.

So it was decided that night we would have a discussion to "tell it like it is." We learned that the big issues of concern in blacks and whites were of both major and minor nature.

But the most important thing that it was seen that whites and blacks could communicate and did communicate, which made it the weekend that it was. — we won't forget for a long time.

By DEBBIE FRECKA

Amid laughter, fun, games and sports, a valuable lesson was learned at a conference held at YMCA Camp Ohlyena last Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

The lesson? That two races CAN communicate with each other, CAN understand one another and CAN work together and enjoy one another's company.

The conference, sponsored by Livonia's YMCA Hi-Y and Tri-Hi-Y clubs, was aimed at promoting better relations between blacks and whites. Participating Y branches were: Downtown, Fisher, Macomb, Warren, Hamman and Western.

Along with canoeing, dancing, swimming, horseback riding, tennis and football, there was also a serious side to the weekend.

A panel, consisting of three blacks and three whites held a discussion in front of the group on what was bugging them about race relations.

The effect of the panel was great! The audience joined in with comments, and many things that were on our minds came out in the open. No longer was everyone overly polite. Views were being expressed; points were argued.

Many of the Negroes attending the conference had never met or had a relationship with a white person before. Likewise, many white kids had never met a colored person.

Because of the conference, many new ideas were exchanged. Among these: A trip to the alum areas downtown; working with small children from Headstart; going to school in the inner city for a day, and making the conference an annual affair.

Last weekend kids were INVOLVED in race relations.



A WORK PROJECT to renovate several of the camp cabins kept everyone busy on Saturday. The cabin was painted, but so were several sweatshirts, blue jeans, and even a few bare toes.



JEAN GAYMER, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dean Gaymer, of 35489 Minton, Livonia, has received a grant from the National Science Foundation to do research on basic chemical problems for ten weeks this summer. She is now a junior at Eastern Michigan University and plans to work toward a PhD degree in chemistry.

DORIS HIGGINS, of 24424 W. Seven Mile Rd., receiving the "Senior of the Year" award from Arnold Mistura, student council president. The award, presented at the University of Detroit College of Business and Administration Evening Division Awards Dinner, was a result of class vote.

The College Whirl

PATRICIA WANK, of Redford Township, was recently named one of 50 outstanding women in Michigan State University class of 1968. Miss Wank was a cabinet officer of the Associated Women Students during her senior year and is a

member of Alpha Delta Pi sorority. She will graduate with a BS in psychology this spring. Miss Wank is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Wank, of 15644 Denby.

THREE PLYMOUTH STUDENTS will graduate from Adrian College this June. They are: SUZANNE E. McCULLY, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William A. McCully, of 9382 Marlin, who majored in art; LINDA J. WILT, daughter of Mr.

and Mrs. Stanley Wilt, of 4500 Joy Road, who also was an art major; and JUDY A. GREEN, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. Harger Green, of 595 Simpson, who majored in social science and elementary education.

MISS DEB

Q. When you become 13, people begin saying, "Now you're old enough to..." Mom's latest dictum is that now I'm old enough to take over spring cleaning my room — including window washing and bedspread cleaning. Sounds like a real drag — have any shortcuts?

A. Springtime and growing up have advantages — but spring cleaning isn't one of them! Here are some time-savers. Window-washing is shortened and simplified with the use of new Kleen-Ups window washers.

Q. Miss, midl, maxi — I'm mystified! What's the real spring forecast? I don't want high

hemlines if we're about to be stormed by the mail!

A. The spring forecast seems to be gaily gams and the long-skirted, high-necked ladylike look — in other words a mix of mod and Bonnie-and-Clyde and whatever else strikes your fancy! Hemline length is ladies' choice — and what a relief! If your last year's dresses are a mile less than mini — and you like them that way, you don't have to spend the summer shortening skirts.

Q. Dad says no more Father's Day gifts, I think because I've

given him a tie every Father's Day (and Christmas and birthday) for the past four years. Now I'm fit to be tied! Any original ideas?

A. What about a Father's Day Feast? A yummy brunch with eggs and rolls, and fruits and sausages, cold cuts and champagne. A plan-it-and-fix-it-yourself-brunch will delight the whole family. Use a summer-bright color scheme and compliment it by using Kleenex paper napkins in the new deep colors: avocado green, antique gold, or Persian blue. Any father would love a tailor-made Father's Day Feast!



VISITORS to the German House for women on Albion College's campus receive fair warning before they enter that "Deutsch" is the only language spoken within. The "German only" rule is a special treat for Heidi Christiansen (right), a native German from Hamburg, who serves the house as both a housemother and as a teacher. Talking with Miss Christiansen is Jo Hildebrandt, an Albion College senior majoring in German.

Miss Hildebrandt, who lives in the German House, is the daughter of Ardyce E. Hildebrandt, 17071 Franklin, Northville. The college has three other language houses: a German House for men, a Spanish House for women, and a French House for women. Students living in the houses must either be majors in the language or must be enrolled in a language course.



SPORTY SPECTACULARS to wear for any excitement that's on your social calendar: a twill

wrap-belt culotte, a dirndl pleid skirt with a svedb vest, and a navy and white check wrap-around!