

# Delight on Women

## Volunteers Say Helping At Camp Is 'Real Treat'

By KATHY MORAN

With the onset of summer, children have time to attack some of the new books (instead of their brothers and sisters). In fact, most libraries had mothers in mind when they started summer reading programs.

Mothers will find that the modern-day book heroes for children have taken a newer look from the Robin Hood heroes of old.

Why are books like "The Bobsey Twins," "King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table," and "The Wizard of Oz" out of circulation after years of fame?

Books by James Fenimore Cooper, Jonathan Swift and Robert L. Stevenson, once considered literary giants, are busy collecting dust on library shelves.

Even Alice and the Mad Hatter are considered dated for the new generation.

THE NEW GENERATION is busy reading the true-to-life books written by a new breed of authors who are stooping down to get a child's eye view of the world.

Elizabeth H. Gross says in a book on the Newbery and Caldecott award winners that "authors and the artists, consciously or unconsciously are well aware of the undercurrents of this era and of the needs of boys and girls in these times of change, danger and uncertainty."

"Modern authors seem to understand modern youth," Mrs. McCrathey of the Plymouth Library, said. "There are so many new books, they have shoved the old ones into the background."

"I think they are getting more social problems in the books now," Cecilia Zaleski of the Redford Township Library, said.

At least one author takes a contemporary view of war: Harold Keith, in "Rifles For Watie," has a boy who sought the glory of war in the end declares: "Anybody that ever joins anything is crazy. I'll join nothing."

Following the great American style, the biographies of baseball greats like Denny McLain are favorites of boys.

Meanwhile the adventures of the Five Little Peppers are sagging in interest and the classics of Freddie and Flo, and Bert and Nan are not carried by most libraries now. "The Bobsey Twins," "Alice in Wonderland" and the adventures about Nancy Drew and the Hardy Boys are now frowned upon as bad literature. They have no characterization and character growth and do not show much imagination, according to several librarians.

The recent books spend more time on characterization and the characters are curious and imaginative, so teachers and librarians encourage children to read about them.

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SHARING LUNCH—and sharing summer day camp at St. John's Episcopal Church are Waymon, Darrel and Carolyn. Carolyn's mother, Mrs. Robert Barber is one of the church members who help with the program. (Observer photo)

In the woods until the moss grows on my back a foot long before I'll ever join anything again...

Picking up in interest are books on etiquette such as "What To Do," by Jeanne Bendick, in which an imaginative and illustrated approach to the dos and don'ts is taken.

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WYNNE SCOTT—models her new hat and enjoys her lunch. She is one of the day campers coming to Plymouth every Wednesday from the inner city. (Observer photo)

"Why not start the children with something good so they will develop good taste in their reading?" Mrs. McCrathey said.

An author who has survived almost 20 years of the generation gap is Laura Ingalls Wilder, whose tales of the west and pioneer life intrigue readers from all age groups.

While concentrating on biographies, romances, mysteries and fiction by more recent authors, the reading levels of children are getting higher and the books on the library shelves are facing a turnover.

characteristic of many books—made-films. With the advent of space travel, the demand for science fiction is more from the adults and less from the children.

The younger ones crave realistic accounts of the space trips. "Since the time of the astronauts, the interest in science fiction has dropped," Marilyn McBeth of the Garden City Library, said.

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# Heroes Have New Look

By BETTY MASSON

"I thought it would be bedlam, but I had just as much fun as the kids."

This was the response of one volunteer who had just spent five hours with 58 inner-city youngsters between the ages of three and 12.

Mrs. Marge Hawker is one of the many workers who have volunteered to assist the Rev. Robert S. Shank of St. John's Episcopal Church, Plymouth, and Sister Hilda of the Church of The Messiah, E. Grand and E. Lafayette, Detroit, in a new program of sharing.

The children are members of a summer day camp, run by Sister Hilda, who are coming to the Plymouth Church every Wednesday for five weeks.

"IT'S A REAL TREAT to be able to help out in this program," said Mrs. Hawker. Another volunteer, Mrs. Joan Barber, one of many who brought their own children, was quick to agree with her.

Both said they planned to come back next week. "Can we come, too?" piped up one of her children.

Father Shank feels the program has already taught him something. "We tend to over-organize," he said as he relaxed from working in the heat to further better race relations.

"We need to learn in a free kind of setting," he speculated that suburban children might be over-organized.

Certainly the children who come to Plymouth are well-behaved. Many volunteers remark on this. "They behave themselves and they listen when we talk to them," said Mrs. Barber.

The five-week summer camps were arranged by a new committee in the church: the Mutual Responsibility and Interdependence Committee. It has been formed to find ways of sharing what the parish has with others, in a situation in which the sharing is mutual.

This is the first project of the seven-member committee headed by Steve Urban. "One of our goals is that our people will become more personable and actively involved," said Father Shank.

WHAT DOES Sister Hilda hope to accomplish by sharing more than half a hundred children in a rented bus and bringing them to the suburbs? "I want to show the children it can be living anywhere and to relate the suburbs and the city," said the tiny Sister. The title denotes her rank in the Episcopal Church Army.

Her male counterparts, laymen who work for the church, usually in difficult areas, are called Captains. "I was a physiotherapist for 18 years, then I decided that I could best minister to people through the church," she said.

"I realized there was another form of suffering which needed easing." Charles Turner, a vocational consultant, with the Highland Park school, who visits her in the program, points out another result of bringing the children to the suburbs.

As seeing the well-kept homes and lawns, according to Turner, they go back saying, "Gee, I could do that." Then they go home to clean up their own areas, to take the little small children have seen there is another way of life.

The summer program includes gardening as part of a project to teach children how things grow. One of the gardens is in Plymouth, the other at Parish Field, a camp for older boys in the program near Brighton.

will have an illustrated book for next winter. Father Shank took his vesting members to the inner-city church, where the Rev. John G. Dahl is the rector, to find out what Plymouth's staff would involve, following the recommendation of the MRI committee.

They found that volunteers were needed to bring several frozen sandwiches every Wednesday, to teach art, drama and music and to supervise the gardening project and other activities.

The response has been encouraging, according to Father Shank. In addition to those who volunteered in help every week, some 40 or 50 individuals promised the sandwiches. The monetary response has been good, too.

Some people even apologized for being able to contribute only money or sandwiches because of vacation plans, but left frozen sandwiches to be delivered on the appointed day by neighbors.

The day camp goes to Christ Episcopal Church, Grosse Pointe, Mondays and Tuesdays. This is its third year there. Last year they took only pre-school youngsters, but this year they were asked to bring older children too.

Thursdays the group goes to a farm near Howell, and Fridays they have field trips. At the farm they are planning to try to clean up a small lake so it can be used for swimming. They are accompanied by volunteers from their own area.

Sister Hilda, an intriguing combination of the practical and the spiritual, explained that she is able to secure a small remuneration for these workers through Wayne County's Social Service Dept. She was also able to arrange for the children to have an airplane ride some time during the summer.

She has a way of getting things done... and the suburbanians seem to welcome the chance to help her.

After the first session, Sister Hilda thanked the volunteers from the Plymouth Church for their help. "Oh," said one, "I've gained more than you have. I should thank you for letting me come." Interdependence is the goal.



MRS. HELEN MCCRATHEY of the Plymouth Library helps Jeffrey Kavovich find interesting books for vacation reading.

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## Crippled Children Have River Cruise

Sailing down the Detroit River Tuesday, July 21, for the Crippled Children's eighth annual boat cruise will be some 300 handicapped youngsters from Wayne, Oakland and Macomb Counties.

Invitations have gone out to the Tri-County area from the Detroit Society for Crippled Children and Adults, Inc., 1750 Schaefer, for the event which is sponsored each year by members of the Automotive Boosters Club, B-19, an organization of automotive representatives.

Close to 60 privately owned cruisers have been lined up again this year for the event which was originally planned for boys and girls from the Detroit Society's Easter Day Camp and now has grown proportionately to care for many more children in the area.

THE YOUNGSTERS will be transported by chartered buses to Keen's Boat Harbor at the foot of Meadowbrook on the river, where facilities have again been made available by the Keens as in past summers.

There they'll be kept busy and entertained by a host of Moslem Shrine Clowns, and the music of Fred Day and his German Band during the boarding of the cruisers, which will begin about 9 a.m. By 10 a.m. the 10-mile river caravan is expected to be on its way.

with each passenger on the boats. To further insure safety on the cruise, two boats are especially equipped to handle cases of patients requiring medication during the trip. Doctors and nurses go along to cope with emergencies and on all of the boats passengers are supervised by staff members and adult volunteers from the Detroit Society Therapy Center.

The U.S. Coast Guard and the Detroit Police Harbor Patrol will be in front and behind the flotilla and senior Red Cross life guards will be spaced among the boats to care for any emergency.

Then it's off down the river to the Ambassador Bridge. At the Bridge enter the Detroit River Fire Boat will again salute the cruisers with a water display. Then—back up the island, around Belle Isle to Peche Island, and the return to Keen's.

Oakland Hosts Lily Exhibit The Michigan Regional Lily Society will hold a Lily Show in Building 4 of Oakland Community College on Orchard Lake Rd. from 2 to 9 p.m., July 18, and 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., July 19.

New Daughter Mr. and Mrs. Gary Harris of Livonia announced the birth of a daughter, Jennifer Mary, on June 18. She weighed 32 pounds and 12 ounces.

## m. m. memos

I figure vacation time offers a good excuse for guest memos.

The following, by the youngest member of our family, is offered without much comment as to literary value, but it does a good job of filling this space.

"Once upon a time there was a boy and a girl. They were twins and their names were Bob and Betty. They were 19 years old and lived alone. Once they went into a cave and it caved in. They had a little bit of food but it would only last a day. Betty was almost dead when Bob heard someone digging to get in. So Bob tried to help with his hand and did a great help because he got Betty out safely because he digged and digged to get her out."

THE END Well, it has a happy ending, too. We'll have to work a bit on that spelling.

YWCA Offers Swim Courses Registration is now open for the mid-summer term at Northwest Branch YWCA, 25640 Grand River. Enrollments will be taken for swimming classes, which are held at Greenfield Village pool, for all ages, including pre-schoolers. Swimming classes meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays for four weeks for a total of 8 lessons.

Make A Lamp Need an inexpensive lamp for a child's room? Buy a lamp base at a variety store and make the shade from a painter's cardboard roll and a piece of colorful cotton fabric. Pin the fabric together on the roll, on the bias of the material. Glue seams down with household cement.

## New President

Mrs. Ruth S. Jones of Livonia was sworn in as president of the Detroit Chapter of the American Society of Women Accountants at their annual dinner meeting.

At the meeting in Monte's Rastheller in Detroit, Jane McCall from the League of Women Voters in Dearborn spoke on "The Professional Woman's Role in Government."