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By MARGARET MILLER
Women's Editor

It might not be too far-fetched to call Mrs. Clara Rousseau the mother hen of Schoolcraft College.

Her knowledge of the school which, since its earliest beginnings, has been part of her life-together with her genuine interest in everyone there from Dr. Nelson Grote, the president, to the student who gets a parking ticket—could well earn her the description.

Officially, Mrs. Rousseau is administrative assistant to the president of Schoolcraft, a title she acquired in 1967. IN THAT POST, she has served under both Dr. Eric Bradner, the first Schoolcraft president, and Dr. Grote, his successor, and was well qualified to serve as a liaison when the administrations changed last year.

"She has been invaluable to me as a brand-new president," Dr. Grote said. "I think somebody had Mrs. Rousseau in mind when they invented the words knowledgeable, organized, dedicated and professional. And besides all the other good things I could say about Mrs. Rousseau, she is an awfully nice person—a joy to work with and a joy to know."

WHILE APPRECIATING the thorough knowledge of his administrative assistant, Dr. Grote is inclined to tease her by suggesting she makes like a mother when dealing with the students.

And Mrs. Rousseau figures he's probably right. "I get the ones who have a problem," she says. "Rule infractions or not being able to get the classes they want. I see them when they've exhausted all other avenues for assistance. I try to help straighten things out."

"And I have to admit I'm

Women on the Go

Administrator 'Mothers' Schoolcraft Students



MRS. CLARA ROUSSEAU makes a point with Jerry Gist, editor of the Schoolcraft student newspaper, The Campus Globe. (Observer photo)

partly to the boy students—with two sons of my own I talk the boy language."

CLARA ROUSSEAU has been talking school language since her sons were small boys. "I've really gone through school with them," she muses. Bob now is completing four years in the Navy and Don is a freshman at Central Michigan.

A resident of Dearborn Heights, she worked first in elementary school offices in the Crestwood District and later in the administrative office.

She joined the Schoolcraft staff more than a decade ago when organization was beginning in the old Newburgh

school. Mrs. Rousseau was the ninth person on the staff of the new college, and now she has been with Schoolcraft longer than she. "At first there were two other girls, and we all just worked," she said. "There was so much to be done."

But as the organization grew, she took over as secretary to Dr. Bradner, and eventually moved into the administrative post.

HER EXPERIENCE with the college has been valuable to new members of the Schoolcraft board of trustees as well as to Dr. Grote. "It's pretty unusual that we had six new board members out of eight after the last election," she said. "They all are working to do a good job, and they've studied the workings of the school, but there are so many inside matters where they need more information. It's a challenge helping them."

Schoolcraft has grown a lot in her years there. Mrs. Rousseau believes—in its educational opportunities and public image as well as physical facilities.

The students have changed too, she knows. They've become more serious and interested in the whole educational picture, as the recent bid for student seat on the board indicates.

"I don't think that was really needed," she said. "Our new board has passed a policy that anyone in the audience during a board meeting may speak on the issue being discussed, so the students can be heard."

"And there are plenty of other channels through which they can make their ideas known."

WHAT DOES Mrs. Rousseau see ahead for Schoolcraft?

More educational offerings, more service to the community, more students taking advantage of the close-to-home college.

"And that means we must have more facilities," she added. "I don't see how people can vote down millage—they wouldn't if they'd stop to think how much they would have to pay if they were to take over the education of their children."

Baby Sitting Course Set By YWCA

A course in baby sitting for special children is being offered by the YWCA of Western Wayne County in cooperation with Mary L. Durbin in the special services department of the Garden City Schools.

The course, which begins Thursday, Feb. 17, is designed to train sitters to stay with retarded children. It will be offered at the YWCA, 1834 Monroe, Dearborn, one day a week for six weeks. Participants will make kits to help them in their work and will visit Elm School to observe retarded children in their school activities. They will also study general first aid, aids for games and crafts, understanding retarded children and techniques for working with them.

Anyone interested in taking the course should contact Aileen Grey, program director at the Y.

The Y is also sponsoring another special program, YEP's Fun Night. This is a once-a-month night out for trainable retarded children from Norris School.

Volunteers are needed to help supervise games, run movie projectors, make refreshments, help with tours and outings and share their skills and knowledge.

Women To See Robison Play

The Women of North Farmington and their guests will see David B. Robison's play "Promenade All!" at the Fisher Theatre, at 2 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 23.

Reservations must be made with Louise Dalseg, 28825 Ravenwood, by Feb. 18. Hume Cronyn, Anne Jackson and Eli Wallach star in the comedy in its pre-Broadway run.

CIS Villager Will Give Talk

The program of Children's International Summer Villages will be explained at a meeting at 8 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 22, in Bingham Farms School, 23400 W. 13 Mile, Birmingham.

Arrangements for the program have been made by Ernest F. Wheaton of Farmington, president of the Detroit Chapter of CISV. The speaker will be Rick Glasser, an 11-year-old delegate to a CISVillage in Chateau Fleuri, France, in 1971.

Wheaton, members of the CISV, past delegates and their parents will be on hand to answer questions.

Applications will be available at the meeting or may be obtained by writing Children's International Summer Villages, Inc., 19550 Fairway Drive, Detroit, 48221.

Guest speaker for a program Feb. 15, in Oak Park, also arranged by Wheaton, was Jonathon Ross, who was a delegate to a village in Kuddewords, Germany.

CISVillages are held in several locations around the world each summer. In 1971 there were 17 villages. Each

has from 30 to 50 11-year-old children from eight to 12 nations coming together for four weeks of camp life. Emphasis is on activities which encourage close relationships among the children, swimming, games, sports, arts, crafts and singing.

The organization selects 11-year-old students since it believes they are less apt to be influenced by prejudice and can absorb new ideas and thoughts about others in foreign countries to promote world friendship and understanding.

THE DETROIT CHAPTER will send a delegation to a village to be held at the College of Education, Beckett Park, Leeds, England, from July 9 to Aug. 4. Two boys and two girls and a qualified adult at least 21 years of age will be selected to go. The adult delegate will travel with the children and remain in residence during camp.

They will meet delegations from Costa Rica, Finland, Germany, Great Britain, Israel, Kenya, Norway, the Philippines, Rumania, Spain and Yugoslavia.

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