

I am still in a state of confusion about what I should do at both Palmer's and Dewey. At Palmer's, where I have been supposedly observing, Mary Lou has been there for the full time only 4 times. Emmy has been there the whole morning five times. I really have not had a chance to absorb the outline which is followed, enough to be able to run the program. (Nothing is written)

The children (5 year olds) are all learning their A-B-C's and doing simple addition in work

books. They are learning to copy their A-B-C's and numbers.

But real progress in socialization and simple skills — doing things with their hands, singing, playing games (which can teach so much of life), discipline, cleanliness, etc. — are lacking.

Both Mary Lou and Emmy could probably make good teachers if they had definite training and some knowledgeable supervision.

At Dewey Street I feel I have been trying to find my way. The fellows were quite happy to see that things were going quite smoothly — at first.

3/ These youngsters are hungry for things to do that are creative. They are not difficult to work with since they are not used to questioning—so I could handle (and did several days) groups of 15-20 strange children.

The story hours have been most interesting because there are always some older children (teen agers) listening at least part of the time.

The thing that bothers me at Dewey is that we have not planned together — they are
Joe and Dick

^(seemingly)
4/ contents to have parallel pro-
grams going on For part of the
time that I have been here, of
course they have been involved
in Voter registration and Free-
dom Voting and other "emergen-
cy" things.

Thus far I have browbeat
Barbara into having one con-
ference about work which was
not held when others were runn-
ing in and out and sometimes
even interrupting. I think per-
haps this is unheard of in
the COFO structure, but felt
the need to say some things
about how things were going
at Palmer's that would not be

5/ distorted and repeated out of context. (This has happened)

Perhaps it does pay to persevere. Barbara is "generously" giving time off to people whom she feels have worked too long and too hard. Unfortunately, unless one is quite vehement, Barbara does not believe — or does not listen — to the fact that it is a waste of time and energy for someone to sit and wait for the motor pool to get organized and pick him up.

Of course, if we had some materials (aside from the 4 P's) we might be able to get going at DeWey — and Palmer's.

+ Rilly Douglas

My first impression of confusion has leveled out somewhat. Perhaps there is just a superfluity of "chiefs" around the COFO office. It seems to me that people are forever drawing up schedules and sending people out — but only after gathering as many as possible together for orders — Why not post them?

Having a "Freedom House" for lodging would solve the transportation problem somewhat — but probably would

not outweigh the very real bugs
to be found in housing and
~~feeding~~ feeding the staff all together.

It would be ideal to have
someone see to it that the diet is
supplemented with the necessary
fruit, vegetables, juices, etc. — and
the basic diet of breakfast and
an evening meal is supplied. I
believe an army needs to be
trim — not really hungry.

It seems as if I have been here "forever"! Perhaps this is the way it is with others here, and why they cannot muster enthusiasm for change.

In one sense I have shaken down into a routine - in another, I am completely disorganized.

This week was somewhat different because we knew that Mary Lou would not be here. Ruth and I got off to a good start Monday in furthering the children's acceptance of some new ways of doing things.

If Ruth had not been with me Tuesday, I would probably have fallen down on the job of clean-

ing. I didn't feel like it and the promised aid from others did not materialize.

At first I asked to be relieved on Wednesday (I had a sore throat and didn't want to be around children). But after it developed that no one else would be there, I went and was alone most of the time. The same thing happened Friday.

Thursday's staff meeting was another long drawn out session, extending from about 10:00 through lunch and until 2:00. It revolved around a report of the S.N.C.C. conference and a discussion

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of canvassing. There is much questioning of aims and goals. Evidently the SNCC conference arrived at some conclusions - namely that they needed to change direction and begin to ask people what they want; find their; get them to know themselves; get them to speak out. "Snitch" people must listen."

Other gleanings from the conference: SNCC has become institutionalized; there is a power structure (power in hands of few); there is a hierarchy.

One conclusion is that it is necessary for the Move-

ment to broaden out into the educational task - the staff must learn in order to help others to learn.

I was struck by the similarity of the language and ideas thrown around at this meeting and at the mass meeting that night to that of the Church.

It had been decided that most of the staff should go to Waveland in two shifts. This was objected to by most who felt that the greatest benefit would be derived from

a person's being there the whole time. Over the noon hour, Doug talked at length with Johnnie and Barbara, who were in the group which was finally selected to go to Waveland.

There was much grumbling and disgust voiced at Johnnie's going, although no one would say it aloud. Finally, I said something about the way things were done and Johnnie and I had a few heated words. Later we both apologized. She said she realized some of the dynamics going on - these were some of the same things

that had been voiced at the
conference of the educated
vs the uneducated and black-
white groupings. Johnnie said
she had talked with Doug about
sending someone else since she
had attended the first part.
Barbara was the "innocent" who
just didn't know what every-
one was so mad about.

Both Mary Lou and Emma Jean
had declared they were quitting.
The next morning Lou showed up
to say she was going to an aunt's
funeral - but would stay, if
I had no help.

Took most of Saturday and all
of Sunday off - allergy acting up.