Observations and Recommendations

T. A. Lessiter

I. General observations

A. Program as it now exists, lacks structure and purpose.

B. Program workers fail to plan and coordinate their activities.

C. The very loose schedule that exists, is not followed.

D. There is no communication between center program and other staff persons using the building. There is constant meddling and interference with kids while program is in session.

E. There is too much horse play between workers and children in the building. This type of play has value but tends to destroy or make it impossible to create the proper atmosphere for building program.

F. One worker has captured the hearts of the children who participate and all activities seem to revolve around him. This relationship could be used to great advantage in directing their interests toward constructive activities.

G. Facilities -
   1. Existing facilities are limited and make programming difficult, however use could be made of those offered.
   2. There are no limitations on use of equipment etc. for kids—this also makes it difficult to carry out program.

II. Recommendations

A. Childrens Program (ages through 12 yrs.)
   1. The program of reading, crafts, music and recreation now begin developed, should be adequate for this age group, if these activities are used to develop self-discipline and attitudes for participation in group programs. Also motivating factors for personal achievement and improvement. (Health and personal hygiene)
   2. All activities should be scheduled, and schedule closely followed.
   3. Workers should plan and work together on all phases of program.

B. Youth Program (13 through 16 yrs.)
   1. I would recommend the formation of a club with this age group with scheduled weekly meetings, the format of which would be lecture, discussion, panels or debate and recreation, (and service).
   2. Meetings should be planned for at least 2 months in advance with the youth.
   3. Suggested topics
      a. Local Government
      b. Hobbies
      c. Family relations
      d. Personality development
         -social etiquette
         -music appreciation
         -book reviews
         -clothing (for the occasion)
         -group singing
         -parliamentary procedure
      e. vocations and career exploration
      f. community problems
      g. crime and delinquency
   4. Other Activities
      a. sports festivals
      b. tournaments and contests
      c. special interest groups
         -dance
         -drama
         -arts and crafts
   5. Service projects
      a. set up Dewey Decimal system in Center Library, serve as librarians through the year,
      b. maintenance of Community Building and grounds.
c. offer tutoring service for smaller children...themselves being tutored by workers and other staff people where possible.