

July 12th - Trip to Batesville to confer with community center workers there. Met mostly with Martha Tranquilly who has done most of the work on health survey and problems there. She has talked with all area doctors and has discovered many cases where people are not getting welfare funds which they seem to have coming to them. Her reports of individual cases have been sent to Jackson and from there should be sent to federal agencies. We felt as though with the time they had, less than 3 weeks, much valuable information had been gained. Several of the area doctors seemed interested in working with them on some sort of a baby care program.

Staff meeting of considerable length in the evening!

July 13th - Class with pre-school youngsters in the morning. They have difficulty working on a common project.

Canvassed for freedom registration - little response.

Benton County in the afternoon. Wonderful response from many adults and young people. My work was with the pre-school age youngsters and similar problem as with those in Holly Springs. They want their own ways, and often they don't agree on what they'd like to do.

July 14th - Class with pre-schoolers. Size of class fluctuates with this group.

Swept floor of Freedom house.

Class of 20 junior high aged girls. We continued with our team game of guessing geographical questions. Also ran some relay races which appealed to the 9-12 year olds, but not to the 13 - 14 year olds.

Benton County school again. When given individual attention the youngsters are fine, but again, as is usual at their age, they don't work well in group play.

July 15th - Spoke with group of prospective nurses and arranged to work with them on anatomy. They seem anxious to learn.

Again had the class of young teenagers and spoke with them about the problems of the adolescent girl. As is normal with this age, they were reluctant to ask questions, but seemed interested in knowing about themselves and the changes that take place in their bodies at this time.

Downtown to see Dr. McClatchy, but he was too busy. We went instead to Dr. Tyson, a very young dentist. All of all the medical people we have seen he seems to be the most liberal and gladly talked to us about the project and dental conditions in the area. He continued his dialogue as he filled a tooth of mine, and, unfortunately I couldn't challenge some of his remarks. He seems to think that the white population would have accepted readily our project if all the volunteers had been Negroes. He thinks the basic problem is economical, not a new idea. He also stated that he felt the Negroes were often given opportunities, but often did not take advantage of them. He said the need for a dental clinic was great and that it could easily be a part of the local Health Office. He said he would be willing, as he felt the other dentists likewise would be, to donate a day or 2 a month to staff it. Apparently such facilities exist in some areas and are sponsored by the county.

Benton County mass meeting to elect local representatives.

July 16th - Class with older girls in anatomy. They are very responsive. I really prefer older groups.

Class with 3 very young ones went well today.

Class with teenagers disorganized because they stayed in another class past their usual time.

Benton County - took care of only 2 little ones. One previously belligerent girl reacted very well to the personal attention I was able to give.

July 17th - Class in art for Bettina, not exactly my field, but we got through it drawing "live" things.

Began interviewing people for what I hope to be the next newspaper article.

July 18th - A day of rest. Gazette newspaper of Schenectady, N.Y. published my 4 page report.

Swimming at Thom's and dinner at Polk's.