



STORY HOUR is always popular with the young members of the summer day camp program sponsored by the Columbus Youth Association.



HAPPY SUMMER days for young members of the Day Camp Fisher of the Genesee Settlement House include fishing at Seneca Park. These young men are all members of the older boys group in the Day Camp. Day Camp operates six weeks in the summer and the children pay a fee for their milk, transportation and craft supplies.

Day Camp Program Outlined

For a number of years the Genesee Settlement House has operated a summer Day Camp with a season of six weeks during the school vacation. Children aged 4 to 12 are enrolled for a summer of learning and fun. While the maximum capacity of the Day Camp is 200 to 250 the children are regimented in large groups but spend the summer in groups of 15 to 20 with two leaders who are either counselors with previous experience or have received training at a Pre-Day Camp Institute.

The youngest group within the total picture is the 4 through 5 year olds. This group requires quite a bit of physical care and therefore mothers of the Day Campers assist with this group in greater numbers than with the older groups. The program for the little Day Campers is one of going to the beach. All Day Campers from the Genesee Settlement House swim only at authorized places and parks, plus spending one day a week at the Settlement House. Usually Friday is spent at the Settlement House because most of the other Day Campers converge on Charlotte Beach on that day and it seems wiser to have the smaller ones out of the rush in both the bathhouse and the beach.

Age Groups
The next group is the 6 to 9 year old Campers. This is the largest segment within the total Day Camp—about 5 or 6

groups of 15 to 20 youngsters are in this 6 through 9 year old division. These groups meet at the Settlement each morning with the rest of the Campers. By 9 a.m. they are off, by Transit Corporation buses, to the various sections of the city.

Each group attempts to get to the beach twice a week. The other days are spent in the other city parks. One day a

GENESEE SETTLEMENT HOUSE
16 Babo Street
Provides educational and recreational services on a family basis for boys, girls and adults living in a crowded area.

week is spent at the Settlement so craft projects can be completed. It seems wiser to do crafts at the agency so that tools, supplies, etc. do not have to be transported to the parks. The groups choose names and compete for group attendance records.

The "big" boys and girls are aged 9 through 12. This group considers itself the "seniors" of the Day Camp and many of the 7 or 8 year-olds have 12 year olds as their heroes. The older groups are not mixed as to sexes—we find that boys and girls of this age have very divergent ideas and also little respect for each other so far as

abilities, etc. The two groups are brought together the last week of Day Camp for an overnight encampment at Powder Mill Park. By this time they have been together frequently during the weeks and are fairly well adjusted to each others limitations and capabilities.

Parent Participation
Parent participation is a source of pride to Day Camp Fisher. Parents are urged to participate as frequently as possible. They are urged to bring their lunch on any day they like and to spend the day with the children. In this way parents see a normal day's activity and no attempt is made to prepare the stage for parental visitors.

Several traditional activities are looked forward to each year by the old campers and their parents. "Achievement Night" is the big night of the year when all the campers gather at the Powder Millsite for a blazing campfire and the presentation of awards to outstanding campers.

Parents Picnic is always a big day. This is usually the last day of camp. Mothers bring their babies and the lunches and go along on the bus with the regular Day Camp or they drive their own cars and bring grandmas and grandpas with them. Daddy comes down after work and cooks the hot and the whole family has a chance to be Day Campers together.

The fee charged the children covers the cost of milk (they bring their lunches with them each day) transportation, and craft supplies. There are extra fees involved as parents may desire to carry accident insurance—day camp duffel-bags are purchased for the children. "T" shirts and hats are all on sale and may be purchased at the discretion of the individual families. The youngsters who go to the overnight camp are charged an extra fee for the food to be used at the camp site. Their day camp fee covers the rental of the camp site and incidental expenses.

Out-of-doors
Day Camping has intrinsic values that a summer activity program could not possibly give to children. A summer activity program is building centered, while the Day Camp brings children out of doors as much as possible. There is no attempt to visit factories, newspaper plants, etc., the feeling being that things such as this can be done the year round. During the Summer there is a chance to teach children the resources in the city to which they can urge their parents to take them.

Genesee Home Bureau

The Genesee Home Bureau Unit meets at the Genesee Settlement House on Thursdays from 10 a.m. till 3 p.m. This is a group of neighborhood mothers, 33 in all, interested in making things for their homes.

The ladies volunteer to go to Home Bureau Headquarters to learn the different projects and then come back and teach the other members. Kitchen curtains, etched aluminum trays, television stools, slipper chairs, cobblers' aprons, travel sewing kits and three-way pillows were among the articles completed by the group. Business meetings are held once a month.

The mothers bring their preschool children who are supervised by a staff member. Many of the women stay through lunch and are joined by their school age children.

Social Activities
The unit enjoys various social activities during the year. A dance was held by the group

in January, a dinner in May and a family picnic in July.

Several members attended Farm and Home Week at Cornell University on March 26th. This is the outstanding event

GENESEE SETTLEMENT HOUSE STAFF

Mary Hanneck, Director
Ann Stebbins
Ella Costantabile
Victor Aspromonte
Phyllis Holst
Edward Brennan
Joseph DeFrance
Phil DeFrance
Doris McLeod

of the year. The women are able to observe college life in addition to various exhibits, a fashion show, floral arrangements and an organ recital in Bailey Auditorium.

The officers are Mrs. John Ferraro, Chairman; Mrs. Anthony Caterino, vice-chairman; secretary, Mrs. Arthur Mason and treasurer, Mrs. Leonard Falzone.

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