

and White

that it is caught in the grips of
 d with plywood. The sign, "Toy
 ng and peeling. The driveway
 ith weeds.
 fferent is obviously happening.
 young teenagers. There are the
 and electric sanders. Two big

benches making things with their
 how to use rulers and electric
 ng, and answering questions are
 employes and two skilled trades-

orkshop is in session—a tribute
 er Paul Schnacky.

se of the Sisters of Mercy inner-
 ears ago. The sisters first rented
 as simply to be friends with the
 hat they could. They soon found
 and, in response to an obvious
 fter school (games for children,
 ls.)

to be a neighbor is another. The
 neighborhood purchased by the
 moved into a larger store.

the next year, the neighborhood

y, the assistant pastor of Holy
 rch, Sister Patricia began to con-
 ferred her the use of her building;
 ca; others made cash donations.
 rs on company time and help fix
 donated tools. A group of Roches-

ars now from 20 to 25 boys gather
 from 3 to 5 p.m. Boys must agree
 are allowed to sign up. Absences
 boys are secretly pleased to be

s, carpentry and woodworking are
 sports (swimming and basketball
 nstruction.

ake items that are sold to provide
 enter. These include small tables,
 a Head Start youngsters, garden
 for children.

a \$3,000. They paid their heating
 a bank balance of nearly \$2,000.
 d to form an investment club with
 local businessmen. Each youngster
 d and then invested in his name.

the center also made soap box
 ak Park Division chapter, Junior
 youngsters on building the cars
 p Box Derby.

arian in the workshop, insists on
 tness. All visitors are greeted by



Kodak trainee Jesse Sheffa, second from right, helps youngsters as they paint classroom chairs they made.

each teenager with a handshake and explanation of the project on
 which he is working.

"I just can't say enough about what people have done for us,"
 Sister Patricia says. "Because of others, we are making progress
 with young people at what is a very crucial time in their lives. We
 had no idea people would be so understanding, so willing to help.

"One thing that helps is that our supporters realize (and it
 doesn't take the kids long to realize) that we're here to train them,
 not entertain them."

One aspect of the training is unique. At the close of every
 session the youngsters are required to recite the Negro history
 pledge, and then to explain its meaning. (See Courier/2 Page 1).

Father Schnacky is the assistant pastor of the neighborhood
 church. He's at the center every afternoon in his overalls.

"As some projects go, this isn't the biggest," he says. "But,
 after all, the important thing is that some people are being helped,
 being taught some valuable skills, being influenced in worthwhile
 directions. That's what any program is all about, and, unfortunately,
 what occasionally gets lost in big projects."

Jack Empey and Frank Humphreys are the two Kodak crafts-
 men on loan to the center. They are there on company time two

afternoons a week, and have found themselves spending more and
 more time with the project.

Empey describes their feelings, "It's easy to sit back and say
 that the problem we've got is up to the other guy. I feel a little
 better every night because I am at least trying to do something. I
 understand those kids, and maybe they understand us better."

Jesse Sheffa is a hero to the kids. He is young, black, and a
 high school dropout. He is now working in a special training pro-
 gram at Kodak where he is learning to be a skilled tradesman.

When he pulls his flashy sports car alongside the building, he is
 suddenly surrounded by a swarm of the youngsters.

"I don't think it's any big deal that I'm here. But the fact
 that Kodak would pay me to help out here, now that is something.
 Sure, I like what I'm doing. I'm proud because I'm doing a good
 job, because the kids look up to me. They know I've got a job at
 Kodak doing the things they're learning here.

"I guess I think of myself when I help out here. Just a few
 years ago," he recalls, "I was a kid like these. Who knows how
 much better off I'd be, how much more future I'd have, if there
 had been a Sister Patricia in my neighborhood?"



left, of Kodak, a skilled tradesman, works
 icky to help Richard Green in use of drill.



Kodak trainees Jesse Sheffa, left, and Nate
 Sheppard help with the finishing of some table legs.