

DePaul Clinic: A New Site and Focus

By PAT PETRASKE

The DePaul Clinic at its new location at 750 West Main St. is changing its focus from a mental health clinic for Catholic school students to a clinic serving one of the four catchments in the county's mental health delivery system.

With the involvement of the federal government through the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, the idea of a mental health center for each geographic catchment or area of 75 to 200,000 people was established.

Celebrating 15 years of service, the clinic will more and more provide coverage for the northwest quadrant of the county. Those children who are now under treatment at the clinic from Catholic school referrals will, however, continue to be seen regardless of where they live. As an agency under Catholic Charities, the DePaul Clinic at one time was available to help the 40,000 children of the diocese.

After the sale of the Columbus Civic Center which housed several of the agencies under the auspices of Catholic Charities, the clinic began looking for a new home, and has been operating in the former Ss. Peter and Paul grammar school since July 1.

Functioning on an out-patient basis, the clinic treats a gamut of mental disorders ranging from emotional problems to mental defects affecting patients of various ages.

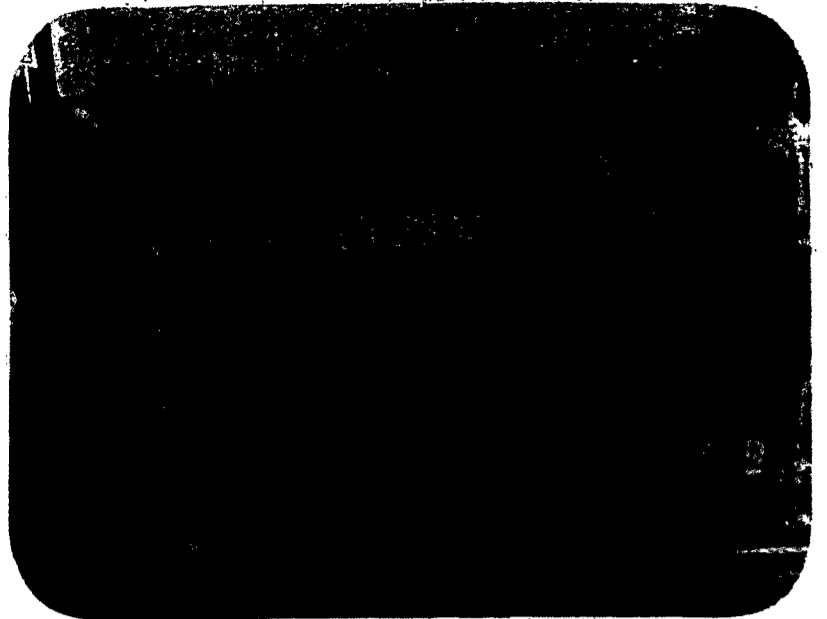
One of the youngest patients was only six months old. The child was from a foster home and was brought in to be checked for emotional stress. A social worker became alarmed because she felt the child wasn't responding properly to its environment, explained Mrs. June Pasnak, office supervisor. "The family also felt the child wasn't responding to people talking to him or to objects being given him," she said. "If a child has been neglected it will show up in the way he relates," she added. Testing proved their fears were

groundless for the child showed normal response patterns for its age.

The staff of 13 includes psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers and mental health specialists. Counselative and diagnostic work is done with such institutions as St. Mary's Hospital, other agencies under Catholic Charities, St. Joseph's Villa and the Genesee Settlement House where preplacement tests are administered.

Dr. A.W. Sullivan, director of the DePaul Clinic, cited one case where a child was labeled with bizarre behavior. He discovered, after testing and evaluation that she had a perceptual problem and was hyperkinetic. He described hyperkinetics as "impulsive kids who never run down; their motor is idling too fast." Medications and treatment can calm these children.

"Many of the problem children at school are over-placed," said Dr. Sullivan who has been with the clinic for 15 years. He added that 50 per cent of the children in institutions actually have learning problems.



Dr. A. W. Sullivan watches a game of ping-pong in the recreation room at the new offices of the DePaul Clinic.

The clinic which carries a caseload of 600 recently received its general psychiatry clinic license. "We often found that when a child was referred to us, the problem was not with him but with his parent," Mrs. Pasnak said. The clinic also works with case referrals from Family Court and has a tandem treatment

program where members of a family are treated individually and together. Weekly mothers' meetings discuss methods of handling problem children.

Funded by the state, county and Community Chest, the DePaul Clinic charges a fee based on a sliding scale.



THE OPEN WINDOW Fr. Louis Hohman

Q. In regard to your column dealing with papal authority and our obedience, may I refer you to the "Imitation of Christ," Book I, Chapter IX: "Although thine own opinion be right, yet if it is for God's sake thou leavest it and follow another man's, thou wilt profit the more by it," and "It may also happen that each one's opinion may be right; but to be unwilling to acquiesce in other men's, when reason or occasion requires it, is a sign of pride and obstinacy." I know you will agree that what is very much needed in our Holy Mother Church today are acts of loving obedience in evidence [visible and invisible] of respect for the Holy Father.

A. I have read the "Imitation of Christ" many times over and am quite familiar with the passages you quote.

Let's first of all define "opinion" as the statement of a proposition with some fear of its being erroneous. In social or community life there are many people who will have opinions about a given matter which differ one from another. The range of possibilities for these is very wide. For example, a group of people will have widely differing opinions about the facts and meaning of Watergate.

We even extend the word opinion to mean preferences such as how to spend an evening or what to have for dinner. In the case of a true opinion, one has it (or should have it) with the humble knowledge that he may be wrong. He also has respect for other people's opinions in the humble knowledge they may be right. His humility may even allow him to defer to the opinion of the other or he may simply drop the matter there. What the writer of Imitation is saying is that it is simply unChristian to insist that one's own opinion be accepted.

The matters I was referring to are matters of a totally different nature. The Holy Father is our spiritual father and we do owe

him respect and obedience. But when expert theologians (and believe me, I do not hold much stock in my personal expertise) after years of prayer and study formulate expressions of doctrine which may be at variance with presently held formulations, they are not being arrogant clingers to their own opinions. They are providing input for the family of God to the Holy Father.

The matters they study more often than not affect the lives of many people at a deep level. For some of them it has ceased to be a matter of opinion and has become for them at least a conviction. They feel bound in conscience to share these convictions with the Holy Father simply because he is the father of this great family which is being affected.

For a young person to disagree with his father reasonably and humbly does not imply disrespect and may render a great service to the father. So unless you attribute to the Pope an instantaneous and all-inclusive infallibility, it is reasonable to suppose that a child of the family of God help the father in matters of developing, applying or formulating Catholic teaching in service of the People of God. I fail to see how this is disrespectful.

We do owe the Pope obedience but this does not imply some kind of passive acquiescence to everything he says or does. The Spirit does inspire him in many instances but so does the Spirit inspire multitudes of Christians. To share these inspirations is vital to the Church's life.

Farewell Mass Draws 400 For Milwaukee 14 Member

Milwaukee [RNS] — With Bishop Charles Buswell of Pueblo, Colo., as celebrant and 11 other priests as concelebrants, a folk Mass was celebrated in St. Rose Church here as part of a farewell for Michael Cullen, a member of the "Milwaukee 14."

Cullen has been declared an undesirable alien by the U.S. Justice Department's Immigration and Naturalization Service and has been ordered deported. He has decided to return voluntarily to his native Ireland, abandoning further efforts to fight deportation.

"All those who know Michael and have felt the warmth of his love . . . call him a saint," Bishop Buswell said.

Cullen, 31, came to the U.S. in 1961. As one of the leaders in the anti-war movement here, he was involved with 13 others, mostly clergymen, who raided the Selective Service office in Milwaukee in 1968, setting fire to the records. He served one year in the Sandstone Federal Correctional Institution in Minnesota.

Explaining his decision not to contest deportation, Cullen told friends at the service that "after a

long journey in this land and discovery of myself . . . I must take complete responsibility for my acts."

He said he was not bitter about what had happened and had no regrets about burning the draft records. He said it was "an act of conscience."

About 400 persons attended the Mass for Cullen, his wife Nettie, and their four children.

Business In The Diocese

Robert C. Stockert has recently been appointed general superintendent of inspection and quality control at Delco Products division of General Motors. Stockert was promoted from the post of inspection superintendent. He has been with General Motors since 1942 and has been affiliated with the Rochester operation since 1969. He lives on Hazelhurst Drive.

13th SETON BRANCH
The 13th Seton Branch will meet Tuesday, August 14, at noon, at the summer home of Mrs. Clement Hans, Homeoye Lake.

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