

WILLOW RUN WORK CAMP
American Friends Service Committee

Ypsilanti, Michigan

1943

Report to
Willow Run Community Council

by

David K. Bruner, Director

The Willow Run Work Camp conducted by the American Friends Service Committee in Ypsilanti June 11 to August 13, 1943, provided some 600 days of recreational and other community service in Ypsilanti and vicinity, under the sponsorship of the Willow Run Community Council and other local organizations. The stimulation of community members to participation in these services and the demonstration of goodwill in a region of rapid social change are results as real, if less tangible. This report describes the camp, the work projects, and other activities carried on.

The American Friends Service Committee Work Camp Program

The Willow Run Work Camp was one of the 1943 volunteer service projects of the Social-Industrial Section of the American Friends Service Committee, which represents the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers). Work camps are located in areas of social and economic maladjustment and among minority and marginal populations, seeking and applying peaceful methods of reducing tensions and conflicts toward building the world of brotherhood which the Friends' religious beliefs lead them to consider desirable and necessary. In the words of the 1943 service project announcement (attached),

Through hard physical work members of the group earn the right to share in the life of the community, and seek constructive, non-violent solutions to the problems in

each region. Simple camp life, cooperative organization of camp duties, group meditation and discussion provide a setting for experience in constructive service.

In its ten years of work camps, the Service Committee conducted earlier camps in Michigan at Flint in 1938 and 1939 and at Monroe in 1942. The 1943 senior camps (for college students and older young people) included besides/^{the} Willow Run camp three located at Indianapolis, in conjunction with Flanner House, a Negro community center, and the Committee's year-round work center; at Chicago, in the Ida B. Wells federal housing project for Negroes; and in Wolfe County, Kentucky, ~~hasi~~. Another was conducted in Mexico.

Willow Run Work Camp

The local sponsoring committee for the Willow Run Work Camp was made up of members of the Ann Arbor and Detroit Friends meetings, and others including the director of the Willow Run Community Council. All work projects were sponsored by local organizations, particularly the Council, the Carver Community Association, and Local 50, UAW-CIO.

The first campers set up housekeeping June 11 in the basement of Brown Chapel A.M.E. Church under the leadership of Arthur C. Churchill, assistant director. The main body arrived June 13, residing in Harriet school through the cooperation of the Ypsilanti Board of Education and Mr. Eugene C. Beatty, principal. Throughout the main camp period there ~~were, including staff, about 13 campers with some changes of~~

were about 12 campers, with some changes, plus staff. Most were college upperclassmen, from colleges and homes in the East and Middle West. ~~There were~~ The campers included 3 men, at times 4; 1 Negro; and, incidentally, 2 members of the Society of Friends. The staff members, particularly the assistant director, joined in the work projects. An average of three evenings per week were given to discussions, mostly on phases of the Willow Run community problems.

Work Projects

The Willow Run Work Camp announcement (attached) said:

The camp will help build a semi-permanent community center to replace the present Carver House, which is no longer available for the Negro population in Ypsilanti. Some substitute building must either be built or renovated to meet this need. It is hoped that the work campers will have opportunity to assist in providing this piece of community equipment. The United Automobile Workers Union maintains several experimental cooperative trailer camps. Physical work in connection with providing play rooms and community center space may also make up part of the list of work projects. As way opens the campers will participate in helping organize the community services, including recreational work, that are desperately needed in this new population center. It is especially hoped that the campers can relate themselves to projects that help provide increased sanitation facilities for the area.

With the postponement of construction on Carver House, recreation took first place in the work plans. The projects for which the way opened fall into two groups, carried on in Ypsilanti and outside the city.

Ypsilanti

Projects in Ypsilanti included chiefly a play lot for small children, cutting firewood to be sold for the benefit of the Carver Community Association building fund, and assistance in the daily vacation Bible school at Harriet school under the auspices of the Council of Churches. Until the city recreation program opened, informal play leadership was provided at the school, particularly after the Detroit riots. Minor repairs at the Brown Chapel A.M.E. church and the Church of God, and patching the Harriet school driveway complete the list.

At the Monroe Street lot owned by the Carver Association, campers secured tools and workers from among the neighbors for the initial clearing, built simple play equipment from material the Association provided, and supervised "tot lot" play. The leaders called for and returned the children to their homes part of the summer. Some volunteer service was secured from the mothers, and the Association planned to continue after camp closed. Mr. S. A. Shackelford donated \$10.18^{worth} of play equipment and material, and Mrs. George C. Handy donated lumber and canvas for a 10'x18' shelter which campers constructed.

~~The Carver House building fund~~ An apple orchard uprooted to make way for the Park Ridge federal housing project was turned into fireplace wood to be sold by the Carver Community Association, with community participation reaching a peak at

the August 11 bee when 65 persons chopped, sawed, or carried water. These included Carver Association board members, representatives of the Young Communist League, members of the two local older boys' gangs, and others. (Press reports that the party lasted until dawn were exaggerated). A Congregational work conference group of eight young people, led by Rev. James Mead of Pontiac and Miss Esther Ewell of the state Congregational organization, was introduced to the project at this time, and carried on for a week after our camp. ~~The project~~ A local committee was organized to put on the finishing touches. Results in terms of the community's helping itself are obvious, although I do not have figures on cords of wood or funds realized.

Projects which remained in the discussion stage included cleaning and painting the Harriet School gymnasium, erecting a temporary building for the Carver Association from ~~the~~ WPA tool shed material to be made available by ~~Willard~~ Mr. Willard Martinson of Local 50, UAW-CIO, lawn trimming and repairs at Gilbert House, and various repairs on private properties.

Other

The major work outside Ypsilanti was in Lay Gardens-East Park, under the sponsorship of various local organizations. Campers cleared a vacant lot on Forest Avenue owned by the First Baptist Church of Ypsilanti, built playground equipment from material furnished by the church, and carried on supervised recreation. Rev. George Jerome, Baptist home missionary in the Willow Run area, introduced the campers to the

neighborhood and worked with them. Through neighborhood visiting campers secured parents as volunteers for each half-day period at the playground. They were instrumental in the organization of a community association, which under the leadership of Hans Schmidt of the Willow Run Area Recreation Project was sponsoring weekly movies and planning for a community building. A sanitary outdoor toilet was built to serve the playground and the proposed Baptist church at the site. This was considered by the County Health Department as a demonstration in an area of poor sanitation. Plans to erect a temporary community building did not mature in time for the work camp to assist.

At the Bomber-Lewis-Lake trailer camps a community building was repaired, play space cleared and equipment moved and repaired, under sponsorship of Local 50, UAW-CIO, and a budding community association. Inability to secure materials prevented further service here.

At the Holmes Road headquarters of the Lutheran church under Sister Margaret Schuete and Sister Margaret Fry a picnic and play lot was cleared.

The County Health Department had proposed ditching and sanitation work as an entrée for health education, which proved infeasible. The Director approved roadside trimming as a substitute entrée, and the County Highway Department provided tools, but other projects under way absorbed the camp manpower. Other projects discussed included building some twenty sets of playground equipment for a county pool, with Local 50 providing work-

ing space and probably participation; rehabilitation of the Sheldon community building under the Area Recreation Project sponsorship; and erection of a community building at other trailer camps under Local 50 sponsorship.

Other Community Activities

Much of the value of a work camp to the community, as to the campers, comes from contacts apart from the work projects. The reciprocal goodwill and friendliness between campers and neighbors was notable. To a considerable degree the so-called color line melted in work for common objectives not primarily "interracial."

Four members of the work camp sang in the Brown Chapel choir during most of the camp period, and participated in the choir recital directed by Clarence Foster of Ann Arbor, one of the original campers. Practically every church in Ypsilanti was attended by campers during the summer, as well as services at Ypsilanti State Hospital.

At the invitation of the Carver Community Association camp representatives attended board meetings and sometimes participated. They also helped serve the Association annual banquet. After the Detroit riots, officers of the Young Communist League requested a discussion with the camp of ways to prevent similar occurrences in Ypsilanti; some campers later attended a meeting of the organization. Incidentally their

aims and ideas proved similar to those expressed at a meeting of Ypsilanti church people, ministers and business men, which campers attended by invitation.

About fifty persons attended each of four neighborhood parties, with games, square dancing, and singing, held by the camp in Harriet School gymnasium. The use of public address systems, music or leadership was provided at various times by Mr. Eugene C. Beatty, Local 50, and Hans Schmidt of the Area Recreation Project. At the final party Butler's "hill billy" band, a group of Southerners, appeared through the courtesy of Mr. Frank Seymour of Local 50, to play for the ^{racially} mixed group.

Camp members provided music at several Willow Lodge church services. Campers joined in a panel discussion of migrant problems at the First Congregational church, ^{and} addressed two religious meetings in the government housing projects and the community church at Pratt. The assistant director talked on work camps to the Ypsilanti Kiwanis Club. The director was discussion leader at a Michigan Council of Churches goodwill conference.

Three campers are writing reports on phases of their camp experience and the local situation in connection with the American Friends Service Committee credit seminar, under the leadership of Professor Lowell J. Carr of the University of Michigan and the director of Willow Run Work Camp. Other reports planned are for various reasons not being completed.

These reports will be available to the Community Council and other interested organizations through Professor Carr. Miss Jean C. Atwell, of Dennison University, is writing on the impact of the Willow Run bomber plant on Ypsilanti, with particular reference to the role of labor organizations. Miss Betty Putman's paper deals with the growth of the Lay Gardens community association, in which she had a leading part. Miss Georgia Offutt made a house-to-house sanitary survey of the Negro section of Ypsilanti, with the cooperation of the County Health Department and others. A proposed study of race attitudes, with special reference to groupings in the Negro community, was not completed.

Conclusion

The value of Willow Run Work Camp to the community, and to the ~~ga~~ objectives of the Willow Run Community Council, can be better evaluated by the community itself than by the camp staff. Obviously there has been some recreation and other service that would not otherwise been provided. That such a demonstration of friendliness in interracial living has value, particularly in such a time of special stress as we have seen, we were told by several persons who should know. To a considerable degree the campers went beyond interracial relations to non-racial relations/ of friendship. Our experience suggests the validity of the principle that the most effective approach to "race

relations" is not organization about a race problem, but rather organization to meet a community need in which individuals participate as citizens rather than as representatives of this or that color. Labor unions provide one example. A work camp is not "the" answer to this or any other problem; but it seems fair to say the Willow Run camp was of some service.

Several individuals raised the question of a second work camp next year. The answer depends on several factors: the value of the 1943 camp, the need and the projects available, and the plans of the American Friends Service Committee. The Council might perhaps consider the desirability of a year-round work center somewhere in the Willow Run and Detroit area, such as is carried on in Indianapolis.

Finally, on behalf of the American Friends Service Committee and all the Willow Run work campers, I wish to express my appreciation of the interest, counsel and support of the Willow Run Community Council and its director.

David K. Bruner
 David K. Bruner

Report on the Ypsilanti Camp.

HL.M
The Ypsilanti Camp is located in an area of overwhelming material and spiritual need. The number of projects that come under the scope of a camp of this nature and could be taken up is almost unlimited. The camp finally succeeded in selecting the ones that seemed most meaningful in terms of community relations and in all likelihood would not be undertaken by any other group or organization.

As far as concrete achievement is concerned there is not too much to show toward the end of the camp period - a playground shelter has been constructed, a model privy is entering the final stages, a good-sized firewood pile has been extracted from an orchard wilderness. But that is not what counts. Attitudes and actions, which demonstrate good will, though less palpable, are far more important than the material accomplishments we might contribute to a community. And in that respect the Ypsilanti camp, I feel, has definitely made a place for itself.

The negro group, particularly children and younger people, have been drawn into our activities and we have participated in theirs. A relation of friendliness and confidence seems to prevail. More important than that even - there are indications ~~xxx~~ that certain white groups with traditional racial discrimination are revising their attitudes as they watch College-trained whites demonstrate that there is neither need nor justification for racial discrimination and segregation.

Music proved again a powerful factor in unifying the interests and understanding of colored and white people. Four of the camp girls sang in the very fine choir of a Negro Baptist church. I played before large audiences on a number of occasions and found a warm-hearted appreciation such as I had never met with before. More invitations to play in churches of different denominations were extended than I could accept in the shortness of my stay. All these activities helped, I believe, to lower the walls of misunderstanding and mutual distrust which account for so many of our social ills. And that is perhaps the most valuable contribution a work camp can make.

The group as a whole was alive and interested in a large number of questions. We talked about religion and ethics, and there was an eager response to what I had to say about the role of work camps in the coming period of reconstruction. Setting up and seeing through work projects in an area of distress such as the Willow Run district is in itself an object lesson in reconstruction and gives a strong taste of the bureaucratic tangles one might have to deal with abroad.

There are local, county, state, and federal bureaus one has to approach, the claims of church groups and social agencies have to be respected, political and racial leanings taken into account. The campers should be fully informed of all the difficulties resulting from such over-organization (in many respects strangely coupled with under-organization and lack of integration), in order to make delays and confusion understood and, in a sense, a fruitful experience.

It also would explain why the camp director cannot be working with the group on the projects as often as would be desirable from the point of view of group morale. There was a decided tension at Ypsilanti between leadership and campers, but also a sincere effort to overcome it, which again makes a negative situation instructive and valuable.

The meditation period did not seem to have acquired its full meaning and unifying force for the group. To some campers it appeared so empty that they wanted to stay away from it. However, in a discussion it was brought out that even though the meeting might be void of spiritual meaning to the individual, his or her presence should still be required as a symbol of group unity. On the other hand, it was stressed that no coercion could be brought to bear in such matters.

A word of praise must finally be said about the standard of food at the Ypsilanti camp, which excels that of any other camp I have visited so far in its variety, tastiness and pleasing way of serving.

Ewald Schnitzer.

YPSILANTI CAMP LOG

JUN 24 1943

Friday, 18th..... Florence Adams, keeper of the kitchen flame and Arthur Churchill, assistant director in charge of preliminary investigations, ate a lonely, basement meal at the "official opening of the Ypsi camp one week ago. Notwithstanding several patch-work jobs, we were projectless until this week. The Bruners arrived today in time to assist in the general exodus of cots (where were the rest of the cots) and campers to our permanent quarters at Harriet Street School. The cold, tiny hot showers were heaven-sent after a bathless week! With the cutting of Dick's tenth birthday cake at dinner we felt that camp had really begun. Folkdancing with the white Methodist church and singing with the Brown Chapel Choir were the highlights of the evening. Negro, parttime work-camper, Clarence Foster, outdid himself as guest director of the choir.

Saturday.....A vigorous morning scrubbing of our home ec mess-hall and class-room dorms was followed by an afternoon tour of the Willow Run problem area. Campers were appalled to find basement homes, families crowded into trailers, and shallow wells adjacent to privies; and were anchored by the rows of flimsy government homes. Douglas Steere paid us a brief visit today.

Sunday.....In our zealous desire to promote good community relations we sat through three-hour services in varying neighborhood churches. Bob Blood, accompanied by Pamela Rice on the violin, sang at the service at Willow Court, dormitory for unmarried bomber plant workers. Three other campers floundered through the "amens" of the Methodist choir. Sunday we traveled, via rationed gas and thumbs, to Ann Arbor, where we visited Meeting and relaxed with Ann Arbor Friends and mosquitos on a picnic. Neighborhood children met us at the school door on our return and came in for an impromptu song fest. Already the littlest ones have adopted us.

Monday.....Project began in earnest. Laden with good will and drinking water, one group attacked the potential playground at Ley Gardens, a defense housing area. Door to door canvassing produced needed tools and a friendly show of interest. In a spare moment, we intercepted two lost children, "the worst delinquents in Washtenaw County." Catherine Bruner conducted a one-man machineless laundry. Speaker for the evening was Mr. Martinson, educational director for Local 50, who outlined union activities at Willow Run and held his own against a barrage of questions. Two boys from the Mennonite CPS Unit at the Ypsilanti state mental hospital were also with us.

Tuesday.....Reinforced with straw hats, we returned to Ley Gardens and completed the groundwork. Showing good Quaker practicality we turned obstructing concrete blocks into an acceptable fireplace. This afternoon some of us tackled a vacant lot in a nearby negro section as the children seem to be inexhaustible in this vicinity. Continuing our tradition of rake borrowing we stumbled upon the leader of the all-negro local Young Communist League. He talked and raked with us for an hour. These contacts ~~were~~ are making with our negro neighbors seem particularly important now with the tension created by the recent race rioting in Detroit.

WILLOW RUN WORK CAMP

JUL 2 1943

June 30, 1943

Harriet School
Ypsilanti, Michigan

Reporters: Marion Bissell
Marjorie Way

The "big project" hasn't turned up yet; but meanwhile we are all learning to know the tail of a sawhorse when we see one. During the week we have designed and constructed several seesaws and sandboxes for our cut-over play lots. Recreation on all fronts still takes a high percentage of people and time. We are looking forward to Monday when Mrs. Payne, home mission worker, and son John take over part of Harriet School for a daily vacation Bible School. This will diminish the constant parade of small faces at our kitchen windows. Saturday we took a busman's holiday and were outplayed in softball by neighborhood boys.

Undermined by typhoid shots, two campers had to forego the homemade icecream and picnic supper which the Work Camp Committee shared with us last Thursday. On Sunday some of us went to a Baptist Young People's supper on the white side of town. Someone there donated an iron for the camp so that the girls may regain their femin-ism.

The Educational Committee has been making the most of Hower Morris' brief visit by planning discussions for the last two evenings on Quakerism and on the problems of Japanese relocation.

Because of the bomber plant, overcrowded Ypsilanti is considered a vulnerable spot for race riot instigators, and possible measures for interracial harmony have formed the keynote of our discussions this week. Concerned over the tenseness of the situation, the president and vice-president of the local Young Communist League stopped by one evening to discuss means of avoiding a repetition of Detroit. At the YCL meeting Friday evening six of us heard the state secretary's

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Willow Run Work Camp.....

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dramatic attack on Fascist elements which she blamed for the riot. The local group tended more realistically to split the responsibility and talked about cooperation and education in the longer run. Four of us sat in on a meeting of the Ministerial Association and laymen. As a result of community discussion, the American Legion carnival scheduled for this week was transferred at the last minute to the Willow Court area beyond the city limits. As outsiders, it seems that continuing our ordinary pattern of activities is the best way we can give reassurance to our Negro neighbors.

July 13, 1948

WILLOW RUN WORK CAMP

JUL 19 1948

Our project puzzle is beginning to work itself out. The way for one main project, that of the apple wood, has been cleared. Also, the wood for the model privy on the Lay Gardens playlot has arrived, but we still have to cut the usual official red tape. Showing a good deal of initiative, two of the campers have called on most of the neighborhood mothers and talked with them about making the lot a community playground. The latest possibility is that we may build a community center on the lot out of ten union WPA shacks. We hope that this will be a definite step in developing community consciousness and the response to date seems to justify this hope. Our Negro totlot has aroused neighborhood interest too, as when the general storekeeper, who has provided a constant source of colorful advice and encouragement, donated four dollars' worth of horseshoes. One of our most interesting jobs last week was the outfitting and delousing of four motherless/~~or~~ children who left today for a Lutheran childrens' home in Toledo. They were the particular concern of two Lutheran Sister Margarets whom we met through our work at the trailer camp.

Our most ambitious venture along interracial lines occurred Saturday evening when we had some square dancing and group singing with our neighbors in the school gym. Some fifty odd people, ranging Zootsuiters and a fascinated sideline of five year olds to the quaintly capped Lutheran Sisters, drifted in. The enthusiasm with which everyone laughed at his own mistakes more than compensated for the lack of experience. It seemed to be a tangible step towards cooperation across the color line.

Ed Miller's visit helped tie up a lot of loose ends. (Plug, Ed!) He met with the seminar group, added volume to the singing, was M.C. at the square dance, and talked with us about the philosophy of work-camps. Sunday we reluctantly sent him on to Indianapolis, but Catherine Bruner spent all Tuesday evening rounding up his wet wash.

We had two exceptionally good talks this week. Spencer Gordon, director of Willow Run Community Council, stressed the importance of our trying to find the pattern of local attitudes on specific problems. In a later talk, the principles of community organizations were outlined by Hans Schmidt, staff head of the Willow Run Area Recreation Project. Here's to more of the same by the Educational Committee.

HR

JUL 26 1943

Willow Run Work Camp
Harriet School
Ypsilanti, Mich.

July 22, 1943

Reporters: Marion Bissell
Marjorie Way

Ewald Schnitzer arrived Thursday, and is filling several gaps in camp activities. The Service Committee had written that he was an expert carpenter, and he has proved an invaluable consultant on the construction of a privy and a playground shelter - the privy now gives shade. We had not realized that he would be a ranking musician as well; we have assigned him to the piano whenever possible. Tuesday evening Ewald led the first installment of a discussion on work camps as a basis for reconstruction abroad.

The credit seminar people were encouraged by Dorcas Hall's mid-week visit.. She left today with a good dose of project sunburn.

We are beginning to be more a part of the community. The four of us who sang in the concert Sunday evening given by the Brown Chapel Choir, which Clarence Foster has been directing, felt that this was one of the closest bonds of fellowship we have tied. We were proud of Rusty's lead in "Balm in Gilead," and of the preparatory piano stool squeak of Ewald's solo. Participation in the choir included a generous share of the cake and ice cream at a birthday party for the president after rehearsal on Friday. Saturday, Dick Bruner swept the gym for our second weekly neighborhood party. The majority of the guests who appeared this time were people our own age or younger. Everyone seemed to enjoy the games and elementary square dancing, but the audience failed to share our enthusiasm for singing. After the party had gone, several of us talked with Frank Seymour, a colored union leader in the bomber plant, for a

July 29, 1943

AUG - 2 1943

Ypsilanti Work Camp

Ewald Schnitzer's very welcome music continued until his train left for Chicago on Monday. Wednesday evening we had the double pleasure of hearing Ewald and John Challis, harpsichord-maker and art collector, play Bach concertos on two harpsichords in John's studio. It was the first experience with harpsichords for most of us - including Ewald. About forty neighbors gathered in the front hall Sunday afternoon to hear Ewald's forty minute repertoire, and an additional original number.

When Homer Morris arrived here Thursday for a second brief visit, he was greeted with sandwiches which some of the campers brought back from a Lutheran spread. (The food had succeeded an evening of hard work.) The same evening another group of campers accepted a standing invitation to swim in the high school pool on the adult Negro night.

The Carver Community launched its annual membership drive with a discouragingly small mass meeting in the gym Friday evening. The Board is already discussing blueprints of and a location for a center. David Bruner was on the program and made a few remarks about work camp. The main speaker was ex-workcamper/ Ray Hatcher of the Detroit Urban League, who discussed the importance of a center to the community.

Ruth Neuendorffer, our new camper and an experienced recreation leader, added a lot to this week's Saturday night party. She directed circle games and Scott Colburn, an Ypsilanti FOR ~~and~~ member and C.O., called the square dances. We were pleased to find the four notorious young fellows suspected of having damaged both camp cars doing the Virginia Reel with gusto. Furthermore they gave up part of Tuesday afternoon to the applewood project.

Speakers this week included Arthur Dunham, who led a discussion on race relations, and Dr. Himler, psychiatrist from the University of Michigan.

WILLOW RUN WORK CAMP -- August 5, 1943

AUG 10 1943

Marjorie Way
Marian Bissell

This was to have been a very gay "educational weekend; but an unexpected ending left the Camp shorthanded, and one camper in the hospital. Friday evening, with the aid of some cups borrowed from Rev. Henry Simmons, we entertained the Brown Chapel A.M.E. choir at dessert and coffee. Afterwards we dashed over to Ann Arbor to see the University summer theater's presentation of "Lady Precious Stream," a Chinese play in which Clarence Foster took the part of the honorable reader. Nine of us left Saturday morning for the long-anticipated Detroit weekend. Enroute we visited Ford's Dearborn Village, a collection of historic birthplaces and public buildings. Some of us saw the play "Jane Eyre" during the afternoon, and we all met for dinner and atmosphere at the narrow basement "Russian Bear." Incidentally they won't serve vodka to minors! We spent the evening square dancing and singing at the Brooklyn Co-op, an old brick store building in a racially mixed Detroit slum area. About ten people, including five of the fellows who walked out of Coshocton, are living there on a cooperative basis, doing recreational work in the community and running the neighborhood cooperative dairy products store which was started by Bill Lovell and Don benedict. Various others, including FOR and CORE members, participate to some extent in the co-op program. The Coschoc-ton boys and Don and Bill, who have already spent a year in prison for refusing to register, are waiting for trial and re-trial in September.

At 12:30 those of us who were to spend the night at Florence Adams' left for Highland Park, and at a quarter of one we had a collision. The rest of that night--the ambulance, the policemen, the bewildered colored driver of the other car, the tow truck, and Florence Adams' cake and milk--all are rather vague. But the clear results are that the car needs, among other things, a new door and front fender, Betty Putnam is in Highland Park General Hospital with a fractured pelvis, and Marj Way is resting a sprained hip at the Adams home. The generally depleted manpower is somewhat replenished by the arrival Sunday of two new campers, Ira Butterfield and Eleanor Meyers, lawyer and YWCA secretary, respectively.

The only evening meeting last week was an excellent discussion Wednesday on religion. Thursday we chopped wood from seven to nine with a few neighbors. Afterwards some colored fellows came in and we played basketball, shuffleboard, and badminton in the gym. We plan to have at least two more evenings on the wood and hope to reach more of the older boys and adults who can't come during the day. We probably won't finish nearly the whole pile; but perhaps our axes have made an impression on the neighborhood.

Putty's address is: Betty Putnam, Highland Park General Hospital, Highland Park 3, Michigan.

Willow Run Work Camp Final Report

This final week and a half of camp has been crowded. We have been chiefly concerned with rounding off and arranging for the continuance of our scattered projects. The unforeseen but very welcome arrival in town of a small Congregational work camp helped a great deal. This group will only succeed us by a week, but they plan to staff the totlot for another week and carry on the wood chopping, working especially on cordi ng with the buzz saw. Still more encouraging, Carver Board is arranging to have a full-time paid worker on the playground until cold weather.

Our final woodcutting bee on Tuesday night was definitely climactic. Some 75 people from all parts of town worked "until dawn" (according to the account in the Ypsi Press) - community spirit towards a community center.

Saturday night's farewell party was rather hectic - when an unprecedented crowd of close to a hundred people milled into the gym and the union hall billy band was two hours late. With no microphone equipment it was almost impossible to shout directions for square dancing, and we finally ended with records and boogey-woogey.

Ray Hatcher came at last Friday night and we had more discussion on the riot. He told us about some of the harrowing experiences he'd had at the workcamp he attended in ^{The} tough Bedford Street neighborhood in Philadelphia.

Monday we helped the Carver Board spread its lavish annual banquet. We shelled a bushel of peas, cleared out of our kitchen for most of the day, and waited on table. Ypsilanti's mayor, a state representative, Young Communists, union members, ministers, and most of the Carver Committee were among the one hundred people there. The financial report was most encouraging - \$557 in membership fees.

At the evaluation session on Wednesday, we discussed every phase of camp suggested on the Service Committee sheet and more - and the consensus was that it had been, briefly, a very stimulating summer.

Last night we stopped for the evening - in the middle of hurried rounds of packing and cleaning - to have tea on the front porch of the family of neighbors we have come to know best. After that came the last Carver Center event of our summer when the Board treated us to a party in the gym. After all goodbyes have been said, we can't help but feel that we are really accepted by the community, and that if we had another eight weeks we might almost belong here.