

CAMP HILL SCHOOL OPENS ITS DOORS TO THE PUBLIC

LAST Saturday the Camphill school held their open day, giving the public the opportunity to see the farm and to try and understand the method and aim of teaching there. It differs somewhat from an ordinary school as most pupils are handicapped due to some or other pre-natal brain damage.

Visitors arrived shortly after two o'clock and were taken in groups by various teachers on conducted tours, who showed, demonstrated and explained their various methods and problems in teaching.

The original farm house, where Mrs Mary Redman, who had a handicapped son, started the school as far back as 1951 is today known as Dawn House. Adjoining this is Oak Tree Cot-

is to help pupils who find it hard to talk. They seem to join spontaneously when a teacher deliberately leaves out a word or hesitates on a very well known line.

At six o'clock the children are woken by the reed-like sounds flowing forth from a recorder played at the first house. This is answered in the same way from the next house, then the next, until every one is out of bed.

Before every story-reading a lyre is played to create the right atmosphere.

Reading, writing, arithmetic, geography and history are also taught, keeping as close to the general school curriculum as possible. One pupil was able to leave this school and join a government school where he passed standard VIII and later started working.

Handicrafts are also taught amongst others knitting, sewing, fabric weaving, woodwork, and basket weaving.

They are very good in expressing themselves through medium of painting. Some excellent examples were displayed.

Each house has its own kit-

chen and in the beautiful mansion built for the teenagers a girl of twenty does all the laundry and ironing, loving it.

The aim, as Mr Adler explained, was to help these children not only to be served, but to serve as well; not just to receive but to learn to give as well.

CONTRIBUTING

By doing the small chores, making their own beds, preparing meals, cultivating vegetables and fruit on the farm, they were contributing towards society in their own small way.

"If you work and are unwanted, you are unhappy" said Mr Adler. "Here the children feel they are wanted, are accepted, they feel they are contributing, are useful, so they are happy."

The Mayor, Councillor F. J. van Zyl expressed his view by saying that here in nature and close to nature, the purity of it, the receptivity of the pupils are enhanced; and that the teachers who voluntarily work here, without salaries, are doing real Christian work.

No street collections may be held. Some help comes from the Community Chest, but for the rest the school is dependent on their own resources for fund raising for further development.

The new playground was a gift from the members of the Elgin and Caledon Round Table, the Big School House from the Western Province's Lion Club, and they were lucky in receiving R10 000 recently from Anglo

A LOOK AT SPECIAL EDUCATION by EUGENE

American.

It is obvious that there is much happiness and devotion amongst pupils and tutors. As the principal, Miss M. Bloukamp, expressed it, "After the holidays everybody is longing to see everybody. On arriving, cheerful greetings are extended to each and all, because to the children it is like being BACK HOME FROM HOME."

A Page For Women

age, a residential home for the last fifteen years, which is at present used as classrooms.

After visitors had been taken through the Big School House, used for classes and Sunday services, they were lead to the little hall where Puppet shows are held and Eurhythmy lessons are given where gestures express phonetic sounds.

HARD TO TALK

The aim of the Puppet shows