

Seek Service Club Help in Organizing Drug Seminar

The outcome of an informal meeting of 25 housewives Thursday night, may well be a three evening public seminar on the use and abuse of drugs.

Following a two-hour question and answer session held at the home of Mrs. M. Bowden, Chelvia Dr. Peggy Palmer of the Addiction Foundation of Ontario, agreed to set up a kit outlining the procedure in setting up such a seminar. A small meeting of interested parties including, it is hoped, a representative from each service club will be held to organize the seminar.

equacy are found in those who keep on with the habit, said Mrs. Palmer. "The kind of kid who can only attain 65", but the parents expect 80% is an example," she added.

She emphasized that alcohol among the young is a bigger problem than drugs, with a higher percentage using alcohol than drugs.

KIDS ARE PUSHERS

She claimed the social problems brought about by a conviction for possession of marijuana included the inability to travel abroad, the difficulty in finding a job with a police record, and the overall image given the offender. She likened the euphoria attained by marijuana to beer, and from hashish to whiskey.

She stated the kids themselves are the pushers, "the user is the pusher, most of the time," she remarked, "with the marijuana being sold in what is known as nickel and dime bags." The nickel bag is five-

dollars and the dime bag, ten dollars.

FIND OUT WHY

"We need a sense of perspective," Mrs. Palmer commented. "We are not going to wipe out drugs at this point." She pointed out it would be more sensible to find out why the child is depressed enough to use drugs, rather than to get hysterical about their use.

"What do you do if you find your child is using drugs?" someone asked. "Don't go to the police, go to a counselling service, or a physician," she replied.

She left leaflets explaining facts about alcohol, LSD, marijuana, hashish, solvents, and amphetamine or 'speed' as it is commonly known.

Mrs. Bowden would like any representative of a service club to call her if they are interested in participating in the organization of the seminar.

DRUGS ARE HERE

Mrs. Palmer stated society has to accept the fact drugs are here. "We live in a chemically oriented society, with adults taking alcohol or tranquilizers," she stated, "the only difference is that it is behind closed doors." She contended that 80% of the young people who try drugs out of curiosity stop using them and forget about it. Personality problems or a feeling of inad-

quacy are found in those who keep on with the habit, said Mrs. Palmer. "The kind of kid who can only attain 65", but the parents expect 80% is an example," she added.



Peggy Palmer of the Addiction Foundation of Ontario (right) talks with hostess Betty Lou Bowden at a neighbourhood housewives' meeting Thursday where drug abuse was the topic.

CHATTING with MARY BIEHN

Finds Canadian Authors Tops in Fiction, Biography

● I LOVE OUR winters, but it's the month when I turn, even more than usual, to books, to give me a lift and stimulate a mind grown groggy from lack of sunshine and fresh air. Or something.

● AND I FOUND ONE this year that gave me just what I was looking for. I was surprised, because the author, Emily Carr, is famed as an artist, not a writer. Her book — "Hundreds and Thousands," is a diary of the most intimate kind seeming to have been written for no eyes other than her own. A chronicle of her day to day activities, frustrations, and inspirations, it is unassuming and forthright, as Emily Carr herself was. Even she admits, the literary style is not polished. But the beauty of her thoughts as she absorbs and distills the physical grandeur of British Columbia, stands her writing with descriptive gems. As she tells of her deep, never-ending struggle to express the divinity of creation through painting, her diary allows you to become the close confidante of a wonderful person. And that's a rare happening.

So of course, Hundreds and Thousands has made me most eager to acquire some points of Emily Carr's paintings. You may have seen some of her originals displayed at the McMichael Conservation Area Art Gallery, along with those of the Group of Seven. When we visited the gallery last fall, before I had read her book, I was amazed to learn her paintings had been done by a woman, they convey such a sense of power. Which I now realize is precisely what she spent her life striving to do. The irony of it all is that she died not knowing how well she had succeeded, both with pen and paintbrush.

● I SEEM TO HAVE been on a Canadian wave's kick this fall, and I thoroughly enjoyed it. All the books are first rate, and in our own town library.

● FIRST I PICKED up Claire Martin's "In an Iron Glove" — a gripping, bitter autobiography — which I counterbalanced with the gentle, sensitive novel by Marjorie Lawrence, "A Jest of God." Next, "A Sparrow's Fall" by Fred Bodsworth provided a completely different change of pace again. An epic of our northland, it is comparable in excellence to Hemingway's "Old Man and the Sea." And last, but not least, purely out of curiosity, I read Judy LaMarsh's "Bird in a Gilded Cage." Have to admit to being all set to dislike Judy's book, and Judy, but I ended up liking both better after I'd read all that she had to say. Aside from her malicious slashes, it

is quite a fascinating, serious look behind-scenes at Ottawa.

● NOT BY A CANADIAN, but a book which has just made a tremendous impression on me is Pearl Buck's "To My Daughters With Love". I think it should be on the "must" reading list for young women of all ages.

● PROBABLY I SAY that because she crystallizes so well my own thoughts about women and their place in society. Granting there are some inequalities that should be adjusted, Pearl Buck puzzles over the current trend of placing so much emphasis on women competing with men. We women have our own uniqueness to develop and glorify! By teaching young people how to understand the different approach and reaction to life of male and female, thus creating harmony, rather than competition between the sexes, lies the greater hope for human happiness, Pearl Buck believes.

And she deprecates how, in the name of 'free love', so many women are sabotaging the very institution society has evolved over the centuries to protect them and their children... marriage. This is freedom and equality???

● READING I'VE ALWAYS loved... in all its stages. First were the fairy tales. Charming, gruesome, or frightening, I was fascinated by them all. And I enjoyed them a second time around, reading them to our children.

But I blame one frightening aspect in some of them — namely witches — for putting one small daughter off reading for many years. The broomstick baddies terrified her to the point where she was afraid there'd be a picture of one every time I turned a fresh page. This terror was fueled to a large extent by the otherwise delightful movie "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs." The witch in it WAS terrifying... and she sure did cast a spell...

After the fairy-tales came the boarding school stories. How I gobbled them up and envied the heroines their adventurous lives. About that time Heidi came into my life. And

will always stay. When we visited Switzerland a few years ago, I had a feeling I actually knew the people who lived in those alpine villages way up on the mountainsides.

Next stage, heralded by Louisa Alcott's "Little Women" and L. M. Montgomery's "Ann of Green Gables" were the love stories. How innocent those novels compared with what our young people read and see today. Anything more ardent than a kiss was left to the reader's imagination. But the search for a novel who was more explicit no doubt led to the reading of a great many more love stories than "would other" have devoured. And the search culminated in that great racy saga "Gone With the Wind." A real shocker by my nineteenth-century standards... but still, a good book.

And now I guess I'm really over the hill, because a novel isn't my favourite kind of book anymore. Autobiographies head my list now. And travel books. And thought books.

● STRANGELY ENOUGH, I've never read many mystery stories. So — perhaps they will be my next reading stage — who knows... that's the beauty of reading... there is an endless variety, and a seeming endless supply of books... For which I thank heaven.

WANT FULL TIME MOH FOR COUNTY

Immediate appointment of a full-time Medical Officer of Health for Halton was one of the recommendations of the Grand Jury, following inspection of public institutions last week.

The jury also felt the partitions between private offices at the Health Unit should be extended "in view of the private nature of the conversations conducted here."

Halton County Jail was termed "adequate in view of the age and limitations of the building." The Jail has been downgraded by many Grand Juries over the past few years for its antiquated facilities.

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LIMEHOUSE

The February meeting of the WMS was held at the home of Mrs. Mitchell and Mrs. Sanford. Mrs. Mitchell, president, opened with poems. Scripture from Psalm 19 was read by Mrs. A. W. Benton and Mrs. Patterson followed with prayer. Mrs. Patterson also gave highlights of the recent annual meeting at Campbellville and offered prayer for those suggested in Glad Tidings. Choice of a speaker for the spring thank offering meeting was discussed. "Generation" was text word answered in a verse of scripture as was roll call. Mrs. Sanford in charge of study read two chapters from The Daily Word, "A Summer with the Donkours" and "One Winter's Night."

The meeting closed with the Lord's prayer in unison after which the hostess served refreshments.

We hope that Mrs. Neil Anderson is soon recovered from her bout of pleurisy.

We extend sympathy to the Lloyd McEnerys in the passing of her uncle Mr. Ray Watson of Grimsby.

We are sorry that Mr. Vance Langille has had a stay in hospital in Guelph. We hope he continues to feel better since returning home on Sunday.

— Mrs. A. Benton

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