

EVALUATE CHILDREN'S TELEVISION PROGRAMS

Educational television programs for children have received praise and criticism. And rightly so, says James Van Horn, Extension family life specialist at Penn State.

Television is a teaching tool today and that's why it's important to look at both its pros and cons. Critics range from social workers and authors to educators. They claim that some children's programs are discouraging the development of any length in the attention span of the child viewing the pro-

gram. This is because content is given in such short and choppy form.

Others say that the program content is contributing only to mechanical—or what they term "rote-memory" or memorization type of learning. There's no real involvement for the children in some of the educational programs. And this doesn't result in lasting learning for the child.

There's criticism, too, that the children appearing on the shows are mere props. It's the adult who's in the limelight. And sometimes the adults do not respond to the children, unless the young-

sters follow the prepared lesson.

Mr. Van Horn urges parents to comment to producers on the programs their children watch. Educators are always willing to take a look at their teaching methods and make any improvements possible. And educational television is just as willing to perfect their techniques as the classroom teacher is.

Give Recognition For Service

"For Loyal and Valuable Services voluntarily given at the Hospital" 39 persons were given special recognition on Thursday, evening, September 23 at the State Hospital for Crippled Children, Elizabethtown. John H. Snyder, Director of the Patent Life Department, paid tribute to the Lancaster, Dauphin and Lebanon County volunteers who devote many hours willingly to working with handicapped children. The volunteers include men and women of all ages above 14 years (the youngest permissible) and from many walks of life who in their free time elect to perform such stints as reading to the children, playing games, just talking, and in general, offering friendly companionship.

Those to whom honor was paid include from Elizabethtown, Mrs. Martha Trimble, a veteran with over 1400 hours of volunteer service who also serves as Coordinator in the program. Other Elizabethtown volunteers with service hours varying from 50 to 600 hours are Debbie Cocker, Joseph Shanaman, Deborah Ann Becker, Ruth Shanaman, Barbara Pepper, Debra Snyder, Vickie Bomgardner, Donna Burd, Catherine Creager, Cindy Nolt, Robin Ann Roth, Vickie Conlon, Irma Millard, Betty Oberholtzer, Joyce Shearer, Vickie Snyder and Elizabeth Bynum. Columbia volunteers are Bernadette Nikolaus who has contributed ov-

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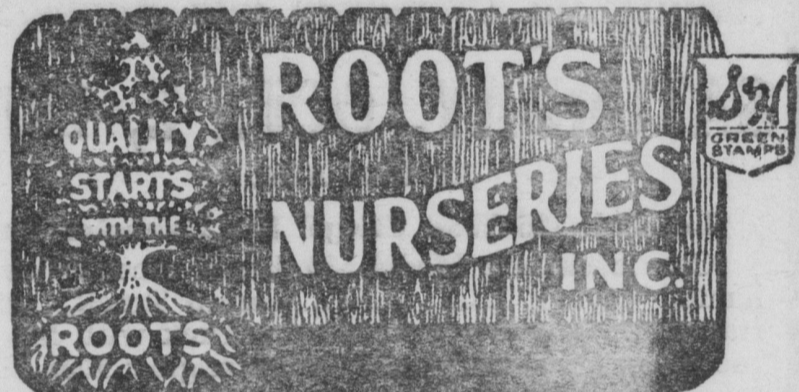
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er 900 hours of time, Kathy Lake, Robert Rineer and Bonnie Rohrbaugh from Mt. Joy are Carrie Ney, Suzanne Brooks and Joni Hassinger, and from Bainbridge, Martha Gerber. Evie Mullen is from Lebanon & Helen Geib comes from Lawn while Sharon Spangler is a resident of Cornwall. From Hershey, are Stella Rhoades and Christine Kalke. Middletown volunteers are Paula Ferry, Randy Schmoyer, Denise Smith, Linda Smith, Teresa Davis, Margaret Henessey, Alvena Spain and Kathryn Zuba. For anyone desiring to participate in the Volunteer Program at the Crippled Children's hospital, Orientation sessions have been set for 7 to 9 p.m. Sept. 29, 30, in the hospital auditorium. Interested persons over 14 years of age are invited to attend either evening session.

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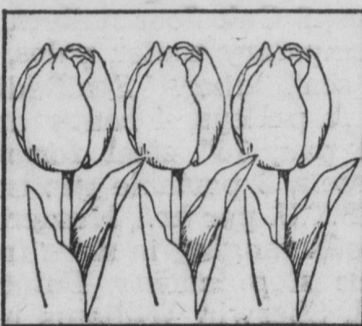
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