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COORDINATING COUNCIL

If this is to be a coordinating council aimed at avoiding ~~conflicts~~ duplication in activities and gathering up resources when needed for concerted action, it does not need an assembly of representatives from all participating organizations which meets regularly. (Such a general assembly cannot act effectively except to vote on previously studied resolutions presented to it. Such resolutions should be presented already formulated to the participating groups so that they may inform their assembly delegates as to their desires. One should note the word inform, instructed delegates then have no opportunity to vote on amended resolutions. Such an assembly would meet only once or twice a year.)

The council would carry on most of its work through its committee heads working with their counter-part committee chairmen in the various participating organizations. This would allow the participating organizations to involve themselves in only those fields where their particular interests lie.

The council would have a working board consisting of its officers and committee chairmen. This board should consist of a broad spectrum of those involved and concerned with the problem, but should be limited in size to about 25 so it can accomplish something. Such a board could handle current situations and send out a "call" to action to all organizations on short notice. It would work within a framework of policies decided upon by the assembly.

To keep the council from falling apart immediately it should be careful to avoid taking stands on issues which might splinter it into factions. The council should promote concerted action on those issues on which the majority agree. Other activities of separate organizations could be reported, so that similarly interested groups might find each other and coordinate their projects, but the council should stick to the basic issues and avoid taking a stand when participating organizations are at odds as to politics etc. One might use the example of city-wide busing of students to affect school integration; while one group feels this is the only way to cure racism, others feel that, at this time, a concerted effort to implement it would only increase racism-and yet in the future would be the ideal, others feel that the cure is in housing which would eventually eliminate the need for busing entirely. All honest and sincere opinions which could splinter the council if the issue is forced.

The newsletter would be of primary importance to the work of the council-the right hand must know what the left is doing. The council board's functions, in addition to the newsletter, would be to consider problems of urgency in time, and to promote in depth study of problems so that action taken can be truly effective and not cut-down at the start because of lack of knowledge of those trying to affect the action.

P.T.A. Programs

A. Central Campership Fund-this fund is supported by voluntary contributions by groups and individuals to provide the necessary fee in whole (approx. $18) or part to attend sixth grade camp for those children who would not be able to attend otherwise. When it was supplemented by federal funds last year, most children were able to attend. Now that federal funds have been withdrawn, the fund cannot come close to meeting the need. 9th District P.T.A. is urging P.T.A. units to contribute. The district also has a program to provide necessary clothing for those who need it, as well as bedding.

B. The 9th district is urging units and councils to sponsor programs studying th President's Report on Civil Disorders. P.T.A. sponsored programs must be non-partisan and so should have both liberal and conservative sides represented unless a higher unit of organization (state or national) makes a study and takes a stand-then only that side need be represented.

C. 9th District supports various programs for the under-privileged: the 9th district clothing room-to provide clothes to attend school, the Union Shoe Fund-to provide shoes, and the Dental Health Clinic for dental care. Students are referred to these programs by the school nurses. These are all valid contributions for any P.T.A. unit

D. 9th district is attempting to organize a program to teach elementary mending and sewing to mothers.

Further information on P.T.A. programs can be obtained from the 9th District office, 4100 Normal St., Education Center, Bungalow B3, S.D. 92103:phones 296-2155 or 296-2156

Pershing Jr. High is attempting to arrange dialogues between parents of its school and parents of schools in other areas.

Memorial Jr. High is happy to show people its plant and explain its program.

Mission Bay High has invited 500 Memorial students to attend a special showing of their Senior play "Bye, Bye Birdie". The transportation is provided by federal funds.

B.S.A. programs

In 1966 national Boy Scouts started a pilot program called "Invitation to Adventure" to get needy Scouts and non-Scouts to camp. In 1967 this was expanded and they hope will expand further in 1968. The program is sponsored by the local councils and by local funds. Two methods are used. One is to form Troops of needy boys with a provisional Scoutmaster for each troop of about 20 boys. The leadership must have special training, the boys are selected by referrals made by groups and individuals operating in the deprived areas: the funds are contributed by individuals and organizations. The second method is to urge organized troops to invite one or more guests to attend camp with them. Some troops might be willing to do this, but lack the necessary funds. Cost for one boy to attend camp is about $18. For further information contact Boy Scout Headquarters, 1207 Upas, 298-6121