

Don't forget....
 all the trees & plants &
 animals & birds & fish &
 clouds & earth there ever was...
 KNOWS EVERY MOVE YOU MAKE!
 So watch it punk!

U.S. teachers feed dope to grade six students

By LOWELL PONTE
 Reprinted from The Quon
 "If you can't lick 'em, dope 'em."

That seems to be the new education method in the public schools of Omaha, Nebraska, where between five and ten percent of the 60,000-odd school-children have been led by their teachers into taking "behavior-modifying" drugs.

For a little over a year teachers have been encouraged by the Omaha School Board and its president, Merle Musselman, to single out those "hyperactive" and "unmanageable" students who seem prone to disrupt regular classroom routine, and to recommend that those students go on drugs. Almost all of the students thus led to pill popping are in the first six grades of public school.

The drugs, in all cases technically prescribed by private doctors, are usually one of five types: Ritalin, Dexedrene,

Deaner, Aventyl, and Tofranil. All drugs usually seem to have a stimulant tendency in the users.

But in a recent interview with Robert Maynard of the Washington Post, school board head Musselman admitted he knew little of Ritalin, the most frequently prescribed and used of the drugs. But, he says, "I did learn recently that it has a paradoxical effect on children. Where it would stimulate an adult, it works on the central nervous system to calm children."

Musselman, who is also an M.D. and chairman of the Department of Surgery at the University of Nebraska College of Medicine, also confessed to having little knowledge about the "behavior modification" program under which the drug use is encouraged. He admits, moreover, having made no effort to learn about the program because, says he, "I have great confidence in the competence of Dr. Oberst. He's a very competent man."

The confidence-competence man mentioned is Dr. Byron B. Oberst, an Omaha pediatrician active in forming the drug use program. quietive effects of Ritalin and Dexedrene. When Oberst returned to Omaha, he determined to crusade on behalf of the medications.

According to Dr. Oberst, "Ritalin increases the ability to concentrate. How it works is still the sixty-four dollar question. On any of these — even Dexedrene — nobody precisely knows the mechanisms of how they function. But, at the other end of the line, we know these children become more successful. They become more self-confident."

Ritalin is indeed a mystery drug, the product of early efforts to create an amphetamine-like drug without the negative effects of "speed". But as Dr. Richard Burack, physician and author of The New Handbook of Prescriptive Drugs, has pointed out, Ritalin might not be the success its makers hoped; in Sweden, he notes, "amphetamine abusers are beginning to ask for it. Sweden has banned its sale."

By November of last year other problems had become apparent. Thousands of elementary school children were wandering campuses with drugs in their pockets, sometimes overdosing themselves and often swapping pills with classmates. Teachers are legally prohibited from administering drugs to students, but in reported instances teachers have exhorted children to "take their pill" whenever problems occur; other teachers allegedly have upgraded children who they believed to be taking the tranquilizing drugs, thus encouraging the idea that medication and mentality are not necessarily related. At the very least, the program seems likely to encourage students to depend on such drugs in coping with social problems.

Dr. Oberst defends bringing "Mother's Little Helper" to the schoolroom, because he sees it as solving an adjustment problem, the alternatives to which he feels will lead to self-destruction, "vandalism... and anarchy," or juvenile delinquency.

He admits that problems such as side-effects do occur under his program, but he says correction of such difficulties requires only minor adjustment, usually a shift from Ritalin to Dexedrene.

Critics in the community argue that addiction and dependence may result from the program, as may unanticipated side-effects, as occurred with chemicals like Thalidomide. They complain that drug companies encourage the program to increase profits. They argue that drug use offers no real solution to social problems, only escapism.



Excalibur — Gary Woodill

What's a nice tree like you doing in a dive like York?

ST. LAWRENCE CENTRE FRONT & SCOTT STS.

COMING!!!!
OCTOBER 5 - 17
(NO Performance Oct. 14)
 Mon. - Thurs. 8:30 \$2.00 & \$3.00
 Fri. & Sat. 6:00 \$2.00 & \$3.00
 Fri. & Sat. 9:30 \$2.50 & \$3.50

SPECIAL MATINEE
MON., OCT. 12
(Thanksgiving Day) 2 P.M.
\$2.00 & \$3.00

BOX OFFICE NOW OPEN
Phone 366-7723

*...A SMALL MASTERPIECE...
 "Montreal Star"*

the Villager shoe shoppes

flick into a slick of a pant shoe!



By BRAYCO

Burgandy Python with Raspberry Suede, Tan Python with Rust Suede, Black Crinkle with Black Suede.

ONLY 16.99

Open Thursday and Friday nites. C.O.D. orders accepted.
 Credit and Chagex cards honored.

126 Bloor St. W.
 262 Yonge St.

Fairview Mall Shopping Centre
 1475 Yonge St. (near St. Clair)

HEADQUARTERS

FOR

YORK JACKETS

LEVI'S AND LEES

BLAZERS and CRESTS

CRESTED SWEATSHIRTS



Lynn-Gold Clothes Ltd.

401 YONGE ST. (at Gerrard) TORONTO 200, ONT.
 PHONE 368-7729