

Humanization urged by Police Institute

Humanization of police work and applying sociology and psychology to law enforcement problems was advocated Aug. 30 at the 14th annual Police-Community Relations Institute.

Harold Warren, director of community services, Dallas Police Department, told 100 men and women at A&M "we must treat all citizens with complete human dignity to be effective in the community."

Warren said the future of professional law enforcement depends on how well the police meet social problems within their cities.

He suggested police and social agencies work together, and he told the social workers "I don't think we could be successful without you."

A&M's Police Training Division of the Engineering Extension Service is hosting the annual institute sponsored by the National Conference of Christians and Jews. State law enforcement agencies and associations have endorsed the seminar.

Conference participants are enrolled from Texas; Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Virginia and West Virginia.

Community relations, Warren emphasized, must involve the police department, community leaders and have the full support of police administrators.

He outlined the Dallas program, noting social science training for officers, beat committees, store front offices, a computer identification system, recruiting from minority groups and the Police Athletic League (PAL) for youth.

"We try to give our officers extensive training in sociology and psychology," noted Lt. Billy D. Prince, a member of Warren's 42-man staff who assisted with the program.

"There are usually more people effected by a crime than people realize," he continued, "like the victim, his family and the family of the arrested."

Prince said the social training includes bringing older, experienced field officers back to the training academy for "rap sessions with community leaders and minority groups."

Dallas currently has four store front offices, Prince pointed out,

with two additional store fronts included in the new budget.

He said store fronts are opened in high crime areas with community service officers working from the stores to aid people within these areas.

Fifty beat committees have been formed, he added, out of 109 police beats in Dallas. The community relations staff organizes the beat committee — some with 600 to 800 members — and then turns the organization over to three officers who work the beat.

Warren reported the beat committee concept is working well in low crime areas; but is not successful in high crime areas.

"We've found where crime is highest, attendance is lowest," Warren admitted. Since the beat committees were formed, he said, crime has dropped 12 per cent city-wide and the clearance rate on cases is up six per cent.

Dallas' computer identification system, Warren said, has a big advantage in that it "may prevent us from booking the wrong man."

The computer system produces instant information and is an aid in crime investigations. "We make special efforts to avoid arresting a man who is innocent," he stressed.

Currently Dallas has placed 90 per cent of its recruiting efforts toward minority groups, Warren revealed. He said it includes a revision of testing methods and promotion policies to make them fair to minority groups.

Wallace D. Beasley, executive director, Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Education, also spoke Aug. 30. Beasley said Texas has 39 junior colleges and 11 senior colleges offering degrees in law enforcement.

He disclosed college students are "very interested" in the new degree programs. He said there were 1,800 seeking law enforcement degrees in the fall of 1970 and 5,203 during the spring of 1971.

"Over one-half are planning to enter police work," Beasley said a survey found.

He added his office has certified 16,810 officers throughout the state under a new law which was effective last September.

Parents welcome to visit A&M campus, Williams says

A&M is not ashamed for parents of students to visit the campus and "see what we are doing," President Jack K. Williams assured Executive Board members of the Federation of A&M Mothers' Clubs Aug. 28.

Williams noted he had shaken hands with thousands of incoming students, at various activities and found them "bright and fresh and well-versed" with the desire to improve conditions.

"They believe in this country

and what it stands for," he continued.

Williams called attention to the wide range of student programs conducted in the Memorial Student Center.

"The student government is most responsive," Williams said. He pointed out that students had been serving for years on boards and other governing units in the A&M administration.

"This lets us know what is going on in student minds," he said.

Williams and other University officials spoke following a morning coffee honoring Mrs. Ruth E. Hewitt, "Aggie Mother of the Year." She is secretary to the Memorial Student Center director.

Mrs. E. T. Sikas of Houston, president, presided at the first federation meeting of the 1971-72 school year. Executive Board members and presidents from most of the state's 51 area clubs attended.

The Aggie mothers metbed "minutes in memory" of the late Mrs. T. O. Walton, who served as federation from 1929 to 1942. Her husband, who also is now dead, was president of Texas A&M University.

Mrs. Walton died last May in College Station. She had suffered injuries in an automobile accident.

Robert L. Melcher, international student advisor for the Dean of Students Office, com-

mended the mothers' clubs for forming an international hospitality group to assist in placing foreign students in members' homes.

The mothers also made plans for a tea in April, 1972, to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the federation. Mrs. Jack K. Williams will serve as hostess.

Mrs. Lewis Gross of Dallas was elected sixth vice president to fill a vacancy on the Federation Executive Board.

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Prisoners complete courses at A&M

Selected inmates of the Texas Department of Corrections (TDC) took a giant rehabilitative step Friday at A&M. The 23 inmates completed a water and wastewater treatment course of the Engineering Extension Service, a division of A&M.

After they received completion certificates, the group took tests, conducted by officials of the Texas State Department of Health toward Grade C or B certification as plant operators.

"The students' conduct was exceptional and they showed great interest in learning," commented Chief Instructor Leon R. Holbert, who was assisted by

eight Water Utilities Training instructors and two TDC guards, who also participated in the course.

The 12-week course was a joint effort of TDC, A&M and the Criminal Justice Council, financed through the office of the Governor of Texas.

A similar program for heavy equipment operators was conducted last year.

Study included mechanical and mathematical aspects of water and waste water plant operations. Lab analysis work equipped the inmates with knowledge of tests used in plant operations.

The first six weeks consisted of theory classes at the A&M Research Annex. Inmates were bussed to the annex each morning and returned to Huntsville in the evenings.

Since the participants were state-approved Trustee Class I inmates, TDC officers did not carry arms. Classroom instructors in the program were I. N. Ronhovde, O. L. Moody, Fred Overman, J. Winston Hayes, Bill White, Bob Langston, Richard McNeill, John R. Mathis and Holbert.

The second six weeks instruction was conducted at TDC labs in Huntsville, where students made tests on water and wastewater samples. A field trip to treatment plants was conducted.

Mathis presented certificates Friday. State Health Department tests were given by Stanley Thompson, regional engineer, and Pat Adell, his assistant. Robert Gilliam, TDC director of vocational education, attended the ceremony.

"This is the only thing I ever completed in my life," one participant remarked as he accepted the certificate.

"It's hard to give an unbiased opinion of these men after getting to know them and work with them 12 weeks," Mathis commented. "Morale was good. Numerical grades were in the 80s and 90s and class participation was above average in all cases."

"On a strict business basis, most of these people would make good employees," he stated.

Singing Cadets to hold auditions

Singing Cadets auditions for the 1971-72 school year are being held.

Dr. Robert L. Boone said students interested in auditioning should report to Room 119 in G. Rollie White Coliseum between 2 and 4:30 p.m.

Auditions will continue daily through Sept. 3 and Sept. 6-10.

The all-male glee club performs regularly at campus student events, conferences and short courses and makes numerous off-campus appearances. The group makes an annual tour in Texas.

"A fantastic voice isn't a necessity for Singing Cadets membership," observed Jim Randolph, the group's publicity manager. A 2.0 overall grade point ratio and equivalent grades the previous semester are required for upperclassmen.

"A lot of enthusiasm is the main thing," added Randolph, who said leadership, spirit and appearance are as important as vocal ability.

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