

7-23-40 Quadrangle Is Actually A Recreation Laboratory

By Betty Coulson

From monkey-maze to archery, all the recreational facilities of University quadrangle are managed by Phog Allen's class in community recreation.

"Out there on the grass is the laboratory," said Dr. Allen. "Here on the second floor of Robinson gym is the lecture room."

But Dr. Allen has an informal idea of how a lecture room should be conducted. The whole atmosphere is friendly and the nine men and four women can and do speak up whenever they wish.

Dr. Allen and his class are proud of the attendance they mark up every night at their manufactured playground. They will tell anyone honestly that they entertain between 100 and 200 men, women, and children between 7 and 9 p.m. each day. Dr. Allen says firmly that the area between Robinson and Fowler shops is "the coolest spot in the state of Kansas."

Members of the class manage and supervise the different parts of the Hill's "little Olympics". According to capability — and with frequent changes—they are assigned one each to monkey-maze, sand pile, teeter-totter, swings, trapeze, turning pole, and hopscotch for children; to loop-tennis, shuffle-board, badminton, Goal-Hi, archery, croquet, and dart game for older youngsters.

Dr. Allen laughs when he tells of

three young married couples who were found playing on the tiny tots' monkey-maze after lights were turned off the other night. "We're actually building one for the older folks", he said.

Twice a week the group sponsors a co-recreational splash party in the gymnasium pool. Three times a week the group's efforts are turned to folk dancing and community singing.

Looking toward the future, Dr. Allen tells his class that next equipment in the line will be lawn-bowls "bowling on the green", and a lighted driving range. Archerer Davis, member of the class, has gained the supervisor's approval for a miniature Sherwood forest with painted card-board or wooden animals for targets. These innovations may be made next year.

Sooner or later everyone in the class will be chairman of one committee. A committee plans and supervises, down to the smallest detail, each street dance, variety show, steak fry or picnic. The committee chairman can go the limit, Dr. Allen says.

The class, for practical experience in recreation guidance, does all the real work, both on the playground and on the committees. Making a lot of its own paraphernalia from second hand, bought-in-the-rough, or discarded material, the group has learned its first lesson in economy, says Dr. Allen.