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OCR Text

Handicapped Discover Their Gap Easter Sea Appea Supports State's On y Handicapped/Camp By PAT WILLEMS "Sunday News Women's Editor T 1; HERE'S something contageous at Camp Courage. It makes 'campers, ask for more. It makes campers talk about the camp the rest of the year. Tin not alone in this look at all these other guys and they're 'game,' so why not me," one camper said. He referred to seeing and hearing about live animals, making gifts for friends in the craft shop, going on a pontoon and fishing, swimming in Cedar Lake, having boat, canoe and water bike rides, overnight trips and sleeping in tents on Ohitika Island, singing and square dancing. ALL THE CAMPERS are handicapped. Some are blind, some wear braces, some have speech difficulties. Camp Courage is Minnesota's only camp for physically handicapped children and adults sponsored by the Minnesota Society for Crippled Children and Adults. Located between Annandale and Maple Lake, Minn., the camp served 387 children and 119 adults last summer. The camp season was extended last summer by adding a one-week experimental session for senior handicapped persons from June 11 to 18. The Service Club for Handicapped, Inc., spent one week at Camp Courage at the close of the regular season with 70 attending. WEEKEND activities began with the Annual Institute for Families of Blind Children and culminated in the Annual Lions Halloween Party Oct. 29. Nature program equipment includes a glass-bottom boat, dissecting microscopes, a micro-projector and screen, astronomy globe and nature recordings. A small animal zoo is provided and hikes are taken. Wheel chairs, crutches and hydraulic lifts are plentiful, but that's all that resembles a hospital. Staff members and counselors help campers only when they need help. Campers discover many things they can do for themselves. CAMP COURAGE is supported by the Minnesota Society for Crippled Children and Adults, Inc. which will conduct a city-wide drive Sunday. The society's program for crippled persons includes recreation and research, employment, aids and appliances, treatment and education. A day camp was started at Grand Rapids, Minn., last summer and another was started in Austin the year before. Year-round swimming and recreational programs have been started in metropolitan areas. Research grants of the society are made through the Easter Seal Research Foundation, of the National Society for Crippled Children and Adults. Inc. This provides cooperation and coordination of research of experts on a national level. The Ability Building Center, Rochester, affiliated with the society since its inception in 1957, is a

sheltered workshop which provides on-the-job training to handicapped people from Southeastern Minnesota. The Minnesota Rehabilitation Center works with handicapped people who already have received maximum phy-. sical restoration services, but have not been able to obtain employment. A similar center is located in Mankato. E G T' I O N CAMP COURAGE, Minnesota's only camp for physically handicapped and blind children, is located on 120 acres of ground between Maple Lake and Annandale, Minn. Opened in 1955, the camp last year served 506 handicapped individuals during the regular season, and hundreds more through weekend activities. Total investment is approximately \$3,000,000, and all buildings were" built and equipped as special service projects by statewide organizations such as the American Legion and Auxiliaries, Lions Clubs, Association of Moose Lodges and Women of the-Moose. Eagles and Auxi- liaries, Minnesota University Sororities and Fraternities, Minnesota school children, Rotary Clubs and many foundations, clubs and individuals: GLORIA BUBLITZ, 15, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Bublitz, 267 W. Mark St... enjoys telling about her first canoe ride and the overnight camping trip that was rained out when she; attended Camp Courage last summer. Gloria and Mrs. Bublitz, second from left above, are shown discussing Camp Courage with Mrs. Frank Kinzie Jr., district major for their district, left, and Mrs. Roger Zehren, city chairman, right, in preparation for the Easter Seal appeal Sunday. At right a group of blind children are shown in a special program at the camp designed to help unfold the world of nature to them. Blind children as well as children handicapped from polio., cerebral palsy, muscular distro-phy, arthritis, accidents or any other physical handicap are admitted at Camp Courage. CAMP COURAGE has been built by the voluntary gifts of charitably-minded Minnesota citizens and it's support, which makes a brighter tomorrow possible for many handicapped children, depends on the continued help and gifts of thousands more. Visitors are: always welcome at Camp Courage. The camp opens for its regular season June 10 this year and continues through Sept. 7. Overnight trips and nature hikes are part of the fun. A 17-acre island, called Ohitika (courage), in a nearby lake was acquired for overnights KSsJfflSgsJ'.urcvMS ssff.MKjwsaiass t a nearby parish for Catholic -- . ~ . piness through -(he many different activities and the warm relationships with counselors (right) and other

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