and show cases had clever and colorful displays, planned and executed by University summer school students. A circus theme was used in this "intermediate" room of the educable. Clowns, circus tents, and animals were in gay profusion on all the walls. This group had been a tremendous discipline problem at the beginning of the six-week session, but in this last week there was no evidence of it. The youngsters listened intently to a story the teacher was reading, and then participated eagerly in a word game she played with them.

The most advanced of the educable groups were in another room more closely resembling an ordinary school room. These students will eventually be able to work in a sheltered workshop situation. They were taken on several field trips, to the Dane County junior fair, the University Arboretum, the State Game Farm at Poynette, and to the University Farms.

A third group of "educables" and a group of "trainables" completed the classes in this section of the Summer Laboratory School. Each section had a teacher and a critic teacher from the University faculty, in addition to student teachers taking summer school courses.

Through these summer experiences, physically and mentally handicapped children were receiving training and treatment which provides them with a definite promise for a brighter future.

a most popular nursery school

ONE OF THE oldest facilities offering a service to children to be found on the University campus is the pre-school laboratory. Many alumni of the UW began their academic careers in the old "University Nursery School", if they happened to be residents of Madison at the age of three or four years. It began 35 or 40 years ago as a mothers' cooperative, but was soon taken over by the University as a training ground for pre-school and kindergarten teachers.

Most students now doing their field work or observing in the laboratory school are working toward a B.S. in home economics, and enrolled in the course called "The Development of the Young Child." This facility is also used by occupational therapy, pediatric nursing, and social work students.

Sixteen three-year-olds come in the morning, staying for lunch twice a week. Twenty four-year-olds attend in the afternoon, coming early once a week to eat lunch. The lunch is a part of the program because the staff feels it is a good experience for the child, and also an added opportunity for observation of small children's eating habits, reactions to new foods, and to a group eating situation.

For a while this nursery school was so popular in Madison that mothers aware of its existence were wont to put their unborn child on the waiting list, hastily calling up as soon as it was born to report the first name and sex of the child. A recent decision requires that a child be two years of age before registering, and there is still usually a long waiting list. They take an equal number of boys and girls in each section, being careful to include some with birthdays in each third of the year. In this way it is possible to get a picture of what a three or a four-year-old is like as he matures toward the five-year mark of kindergarten readiness.

Miss Helen Dawe, director of the nursery school, explained that they try to get a varied group for the sake of the children participating as well as for observation and research. They frequently take some children that are different—perhaps deaf or blind, some with a physical condition limiting their activity, occasionally one with mild retardation or one with behavior difficulties. If a child cannot adjust to the group, he may be asked to withdraw, but Miss Dawe can recall only about six times in the last 25 years when this has been necessary.

Any parent sending his child to the pre-school laboratory agrees to cooperate by attending discussion groups, and occasionally granting student interviews and participating in research projects.

The school is now located in a building of its own between Ag Hall and the Home Ec practice cottage. There are two large rooms used for various activities, with an observation hall between them. A screen between the rooms and the hall make it impossible for the child to see the observing students. This school has more equipment than the usual nursery school because it is a teaching and research institution. The first four days of the week a normal pre-school program is pursued, but Fridays are different. This allows for experimental set-ups, changing the make-up of a group, or for individual work such as testing by the psychology department. Both spacious rooms open onto an outdoor play area that is used for a part of each day whenever the weather permits.

University students have an excellent opportunity to make "The Development of the Young Child" come alive for them, and 36 children in the Madison area also benefit greatly from this facility.

a summerful of creative dramatics

FOR six weeks last summer, one of the Madison High schools was populated with much younger children than is usual during the rest of the year. Sometimes they were simply children, but other times these youngsters were transformed into leprechauns, or animals, or Greek gods and goddesses. Actually, it was the Children's Theatre Institute, and part of its purpose was to provide a laboratory for summer courses in the speech department.

Sixty-two youngsters between the ages of five and eight were enrolled in Creative Dramatics, which met three mornings a week. There were an additional 64, ages seven through sixteen, involved in the Children's Theatre, which met from 9:00 until 4:00 five days a week.