

Mothers, Children Invade YWCA For Day of Fun and Relaxation

By OLIVE DICKASON

A small, but noisy and very cheerful group invaded the Y.W.C.A. yesterday and had a fine time of it in the nursery and the swimming pool.

The group consisted of eight mothers and their 10 children. They came under a 'Y' plan to help the mothers "get away from it all" and forget their household chores for a few hours. Every Thursday for the next four months mothers will be able to bring their three-to-five-year-olds and leave them in a specially set-up 'Y' nursery while they swim, watch movies, do rhythmic gym, model clay, do leathercraft, etc.

Hectic Day

The first day was a bit hectic. Mrs. Elizabeth MacDonald, director of the Y's young adult department, arranged for the mothers to get their medicals, then go for a dip in the pool. The youngsters were bundled off to the nursery, where qualified volunteers were on hand to read stories and direct games.

The day lasted from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Yesterday the mothers were presented with a tentative program, which they discussed after lunch. They have their choice of lectures on such subjects as art, theatre, nutrition, careers, books, or of films on such topics as ballét, interior decorating and planning menus.

Mrs. MacDonald explained that the plan is designed to provide mothers of young children with a change of scene. The charge is small, only enough to cover the cost of the scheme.

"We expect to have about 20 mothers and 30 children by the time we are underway," Mrs. MacDonald said. The group at the 'Y' yesterday included women from Ste. Anne de Bellevue, East Greenfield and St. Lambert.

This is the first time the Y. W. C. A. has launched such a project

in Montreal. There were a few bugs in it yesterday . . . such as getting a film properly threaded in a projector, and finding the mother of a young lad who decided he was lonesome. But the mothers were enthusiastic, and looking forward to the 15 Thursdays for which the program is scheduled.

