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FORUM

PRWAD MEMBER HONORED

Robert G. Sanderson of Roy, Utah, has been awarded the Daniel T. Cloud Memorial Leadership Award for his outstanding service on behalf of the education and welfare of deaf persons in the U.S. He received the honor June 9, 1971, at ceremonies at San Fernando Valley State College.

Sanderson is Coordinator of Services for the Deaf, Division of Adult Education and Training, Utah State Board of Education. He was president of the 10,000 member National Association of the Deaf from 1964 to 1968, and is well known as a lecturer and writer on the problems of deafness.

The Cloud Award is given annually to an outstanding leader in the field of deafness rehabilitation and education. The award was originated four years ago under the sponsorship of the Leadership Training Program in the Area of the Deaf at San Fernando Valley State College in Northridge.

Taking part in the presentation were Dr. Thomas Mayes and Dr. Paul Walker of the College; Florian A. Caligiuri, spokesman of the Deaf Community; and Gene Cate, Statewide Coordinator, Services to Deaf Persons, State Department of Rehabilitation. A gathering of more than 100 persons attended the ceremonies and banquet.

Sanderson is a graduate of Gallaudet College, Washington, D.C., and holds a master's degree from Valley State where he was a participant in the Leadership Training Program in 1965. Presently he is enrolled in a doctoral program at Brigham Young University. He is a regular lecturer in teacher training programs at the University of Utah and Utah State University.

Dr. Ray L. Jones, Project Director of the Leadership Training Program, speaking during the award program, praised Sanderson for his "nationwide influence on improved education and em-

ployment opportunities for deaf people and his leadership qualities which have won respect and followers from the grass roots on up to high federal levels." Dr. Jones also cited Sanderson's efforts in enriching the educational programs for deaf children in the state of Utah.

In addition to his leadership in the National Association of the Deaf which he helped to develop into the largest national organization in the area of the deaf, Sanderson has been active in the Deafness Research Foundation which promotes the Temporal Bone Bank program, and the National Fraternal Society of the Deaf of which he is a division president.

The Leadership Award was inaugurated as a memorial to Daniel T. Cloud (1900-1962), a former teacher and administrator and "one of the greatest leaders in deaf education," Dr. Jones said. "His encouragement, guidance, and vision gave to deaf education hundreds of dedicated men and women throughout America who carry on his great ideals of leadership and service to the deaf. Dan Cloud is appropriately identified with this Leadership Award since his life so clearly exemplified the personal qualities which the Leadership Training Program in the Area of the Deaf attempts to instill in each of its participants and to perpetuate among its graduates."

Previous recipients of the award have been Dr. Boyce R. Williams, Chief of the Communications Disorders Branch, Rehabilitation Services Administration; Dr. Marshall S. Hester, former Superintendent of the New Mexico School for the Deaf, and Dr. Edgar L. Lowell, administrator of the John Tracy Clinic in Los Angeles.

A TRIBUTE TO ROBERT GORDON SANDERSON

Florian A. Caligiuri

Presented at the Dan Cloud Memorial Award Dinner

It has been customary and perhaps fashionable to put a deaf person on a pedestal, before an audience of his hearing peers and perhaps one or two deaf friends, and point to him and say, "Look, here is a man who has overcome his handicap; he has learned to

speak and to lip-read; he has studied at a university for the hearing where he earned his master's and perhaps his doctoral degrees. He has taken his place in society to the extent that no one notices his deafness." The fact is, he has removed himself from the world of the deaf, and to them and for them he is less than useless. In the final analysis, it is not so much the plaudits heaped upon the individual in particular as it is a plug for the institution which is putting on the show.

It is a refreshing turnabout when we gather here tonight to honor an individual, not for what he has accomplished for himself, but for what he has done and is doing for his fellowman. It has been said that every human being worth his salt hungers for superiority in some department of living, not excelling over other people exactly, but rather attainment in the sense of excelling. It is as normal as a warm coat on a cold day. But, he is most revered who can share his superior advantages with others without putting his subjects in the awkward position of feeling inferior.

In this room, we may have a Rehabilitation Counselor, a Social Worker, a Psychologist, a Psychiatrist, a Philosopher, a Teacher, a Lawyer, a Tax Counselor, a Scribe, a Bail Bondsman, an Economist, and Expert on Money Management, and perhaps a Baby Sitter. A Coordinator of Services to the Deaf is expected to know a little something about every one of these mentioned fields. The recipients of his services expect it, and doubly valuable is the counselor who can communicate with ease with those of very limited education, with the non-verbal, as well as with the better educated. There is great temptation for able people, both men and women, to try to run everything and everybody around them, but it takes great skill to help people to help themselves.

If there has been a man who has earned the sobriquet of "A Man of Many Talents," it is he who has dedicated his life to serving the deaf after they have left school. Such a man is Robert G. Sanderson, whose measure of greatness is in his dedication to the task of bringing out the best that is in others. He knows what it is to be deaf, and being deaf he understands the difficulties and predicaments of those he tries to help. The greatest tribute to such a man as Bob comes not from us who are here to honor him, but from those who have benefited from his counseling and have spread his name and fame from one end of the country to the other.