

Extract from the monthly Report for the month of May 1982.
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**(50) Swaroop Wardhini -
an Institution with a Difference**

The Field Adviser had on occasion to visit "Swaroop Wardhini" institution on the 12th May 1982 which operates in the New English High School, Ramaanbaug, Pune. This institution has its principal objective in "Enriching one's own weld", and mainly enrolls students from the slum areas and socially depressed classes from the eastern part of the city which is mostly inhabited by these classes. The Swaroop Wardhini, through its number of curricular and co-curricular activities, including physical education, sports and games, "strives to amalgamate the educational ideas of three great Indian reformers -Mahatma Phule, Swami Vivekananda and the Mahatma Gandhi."

The daily programme which begins from 6.15 p.m. to 9.00 p.m. includes in the first half, sports, games exercises, group activities and songs. During the latter half, academic coaching is given in English, science and Mathematics. Material help such as books, clothing, writing material medicines etc. is given free of cost to

the more needy students. In vacations, special camps are organised with a view to develop good work habits, leadership and cooperative living. It also organises lectures for the benefits of the boys. A fee of paise 50 only is charged for the month, the other current expenses are met from the generous donations from the public.

During the course of conversation with some of the students, the Field Adviser observed that about 50 to 60 percent of the 30 and odd boys present in the course, came from the families who earned their livelihood by working as coolies, cobblers, stone-crushers etc. The boys seemed to enjoy, involving themselves into various activities and moved about with confidence.

Swaroop Wardhini is proposing to extend its activities by opening another branch on 15th June 1982. For the boys in slums near Pune University. Mrs. Kuntitai Mujamdar and Mrs. Shalinitai Murdeshwar, prominent social workers of Pune/ Bombay, have offered their services to run the branch Mr. K. L. Patwardhan, aided ably by Shri R. P. Desai, is the moving spirit behind this project. . . .