

OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE

Retarded Children Can Be Helped!



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APRIL, 1963

President Submits Radical New Retardation Plans

President Kennedy, in an unprecedented message to Congress on February 5th, urged bold new programs to prevent thousands of new mental retardation cases and to cut the nation's mental cases in half within the next ten to twenty years.

The plan would require Congress to approve spending \$31.3 million this session. With the participation of states, the bill would run into hundreds of millions of dollars.

The proposals are the first in a message sent to Capitol Hill by an American President.

First Congressional reaction to the Kennedy message was warm.

Speaker John W. McCormack, Democrat, Mass., said it "points the way for a compassionate people to extend a helping-hand to those who must depend so much on their fellow man."

Senator Ralph W. Yarborough, D-Tex., said the message was "timely", coming when "a new national approach is badly needed."

The President said he was mindful of the need to hold down expenses on new programs at a time when he was asking for tax cuts and deficits in a 9.8 billion dollar budget.

But Kennedy said, "We can procrastinate no more."

In his opening statement the President said, "mental retardation ranks as a major national health, social and economic problem. It disables ten times as many people as diabetes, 20 times as many as tuberculosis, twenty-five times as many as muscular dystrophy, and six hundred times as many as infantile paralysis."

His program includes the following points in the field of mental retardation:

1. **Prevention.** He recommends a five-year program of project grants to states to plan, to initiate, and develop comprehensive maternal and child health care service programs, with an initial appropriation of \$5 million rising to an annual appropriation of \$30 million dollars by the 3rd year.

He further recommends doubling the existing 25 million dollar annual authorization for Federal Grants for maternal and child health, a significant portion of which will be used for the mentally retarded. And finally, a doubling over a period of seven years the present \$25 million annual authorization for Federal Grants for crippled children services.

It is hoped that through this massive attack much of mental retardation will be prevented.

(Continued on page 16)

INSTITUTE FOR BASIC RESEARCH IN MENTAL RETARDATION, STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK



FORDYCE & HAMBY ASSOCIATES, ARCHITECTS

STATE CONVENTION — OCTOBER 3, 4, 5, 6 — NIAGARA FALLS

OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE

Issued four times a year by

**NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION
FOR RETARDED CHILDREN, INC.**

19 UNION SQUARE, NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

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A Non-Profit, Tax-Exempt Organization of Parents and Friends
of Mentally Retarded Children

Chartered by the State of New York
February, 1949

Affiliated with National Association for Retarded Children, Inc.

President: **PETER C. KEISCHGENS**

Executive Director and Editor: **JOSEPH T. WEINGOLD**

A CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR MENTAL RETARDATION

Almost three years ago this Association proposed to Governor Rockefeller the creation of a Citizens Committee for Mental Retardation.

The purpose of this proposal was to break out of the mold in which all planning of programs (such as they are) and follow up of implementation are left to the very departments charged with this responsibility and without citizen participation.

After many conferences with members of the Governor's staff, the Governor in January 1962 announced, as part of his master plan, that he was going to appoint a Citizens Committee for Mental Retardation. Although more than a year has elapsed since that statement to the Legislature, nothing has yet been done.

The Association has made its position very clear, that this Citizens Committee should be an on-going body, advisory to the Governor, and charged with the responsibility for helping plan overall services for the mentally retarded and to see to it, as a watchdog, that these services are carried out.

This Citizens Committee becomes extremely important now in the light of the President's Message to Congress and the federal legislation that has been introduced to implement the plans set forth in that message.

New York State has had the chance to be in the foreground of this kind of activity through the suggestion made by this Association years ago. The time is not too late to do it even now. If we do, we will probably be the first state in the United States to act in this manner. We hope that another opportunity will not be lost.

WHOSE MONEY IS IT?

We have received a number of reports and read a number of items in the newspapers around the state to the effect that Boards of Supervisors of some of the counties are either cutting budgets for Community Mental Health Services or refusing to enter into contracts because "funds are not available".

We wonder at the reasoning behind this when a chapter of the Association applies to enter into a contract for a day training center and offers to put up one-half of the money to operate the facility. Since the other half comes by way of support from the State of New York, no funds are involved that belong to the county. Nevertheless, in all instances the counties include the total amount in their own budgets and in all instances act as if all the money is coming from the county.

We think it should be made perfectly clear that in instances where voluntary organizations, such as a chapter of the Association for Retarded Children, applies for a Community Mental Health contract for a day training center and offers to put up one-half of the funds, no county funds at all are involved. We hope, of course, that some time in the future county funds will be involved (this is happening to some extent now in Suffolk County), but until then we fail to see the reasoning behind the budget cuts of County Board of Supervisors that would cripple these services.

DR. PENSE RETIRES

Dr. Arthur W. Pense, Assistant Commissioner of Mental Hygiene since April 1, 1944, retired on February 6, it was announced by State Commissioner of Mental Hygiene, Dr. Paul H. Hoch.

Dr. Pense was in charge of the state's Office of Mental Retardation which is charged with coordinating all mental hygiene programs for the mentally retarded.



Dr. Paul H. Hoch, Commissioner of Mental Hygiene, (left) offers warm wishes for a long and happy retirement to Dr. Arthur W. Pense. Shown with them is Mrs. Pense.

Dr. Pense, widely recognized as an outstanding administrator in the mental retardation field and a friend of our association for many years, has received many awards from chapters of the association and the state association in New York State. In recent years, he has spurred the development of local services for the retarded under the state's community mental health program.

In announcing his retirement, Commissioner Hoch praised Dr. Pense for more than 36 years of "outstanding service" to the people of New York State.

In acknowledging Dr. Pense's retirement, the association stated, "Our association for the past 13 years has created a real understanding on your part of our aims and aspirations and an appreciation on our part of how much you have accomplished in the face of great obstacles and adverse conditions."

"Some day, we hope that mental retardation will be given the status in our state government that would have enabled a person as dedicated as yourself to have achieved a total program, such as we have discussed."

"If this is ever done, your work will have contributed significantly to it."

Dr. Pense first came to the central office of the Department of Mental Hygiene in October 1943 as acting medical inspector. Following his appointment as assistant commissioner in April 1944, he became deputy commissioner on December 1, 1945 holding this position until April 15, 1961. From May 1, 1946 to December 31, 1948 he served as acting director of Utica State Hospital, and from December 31, 1954 to July 7, 1955 was acting commissioner of the Department of Mental Hygiene.

Dr. Pense is married to the former May Beatrice Wiggins of Brooklyn. They have three children.

Dr. Hoch has announced that Dr. Pense will be available for consultation to the department on mental retardation matters.

KEISCHGENS APPOINTED

Peter C. Keischgens, President of the New York State Association for Retarded Children, has been appointed a member of the Governor's Committee on Children and Youth, it was recently announced by Governor Rockefeller.

This Committee of citizens of the State of New York has been formed to follow up the recommendations of the White House Conference on Children and Youth.

It will work closely with Alexander Aldrich, Director of the Division for Youth.

FEDERAL LEGISLATION INTRODUCED FOR MENTAL RETARDATION PLANNING

A bill has been introduced by Representative Mills, Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, implementing part of the President's program on Mental Retardation.

The bill, HR3368, to be cited as "Maternal and Child Health and Mental Retardation planning amendments of 1963" has for one of its major purposes planning grants to the States.

The bill appropriates \$2,200,000 for the purpose of assisting the States to plan and "take other steps leading to comprehensive State and community action to combat mental retardation."

To be eligible for grants States must indicate the manner in which provision "will be made to assure full consideration of all aspects of services essential to planning for comprehensive State and community action to combat mental retardation, including services in the fields of education, employment, rehabilitation, welfare, health, and the law, and the services provided through community programs for and institutions for the mentally retarded".

This is an additional appropriation to the \$4,200,000 previously made available to the States to help them formulate plans for comprehensive mental health programs, limited thereafter to programs to the mentally ill.

Two other bills have been introduced, HR3689 and HR3688, Mr. Harris, further to implement the President's recommendations.

HR3689 is entitled "Grants for construction of Centers for Research on Mental Retardation and related aspects of human development". The bill authorizes appropriation of \$6,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1964, \$8,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1965 and \$6,000,000 each for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1966 and the fiscal year ending June 30, 1967 and \$4,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1968.

Title two of the bill is "Grants for Construction of Facilities for the Mentally Retarded". The need for such facilities are to be determined by the state plan submitted. It is interesting to note that a state plan must provide "for the designation of a State Advisory Council which shall include representatives of State Agencies concerned with the planning, operation, or utilization of facilities for the mentally retarded and of non-government organizations or groups concerned with education, employment, rehabilitation, welfare, and health, and including representatives of consumers of the services provided by such facilities."

These acts will need much more careful analysis than we have had time to give them in order to be able to make appropriate comments. We await the rest of the legislative program to see how the President's message to Congress is intended to be implemented.

Still to be heard from is the legislation concerning construction of sheltered workshops and the whole field of vocational rehabilitation. (just introduced, we learn.)

MEDICAL EXPENSE DEDUCTION AND SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS FOR THE HANDICAPPED

A number of aids have been developed to guide parents of handicapped children with regard to their medical expense and deductions from income tax and possible Social Security benefits.

A "Check List" has been developed by the Legal and Legislative Department of United Cerebral Palsy Association, Inc., 321 West 44th Street, New York 36, New York. Copies of these may be obtained from United Cerebral Palsy.

Mr. Leo Fixler, Chairman of the State Institutions Committee, has been working with the Social Security Administration to develop a pamphlet on Social Security benefits for adults disabled in childhood. This is not yet complete, but information can be obtained from the State office by those who are interested.

FULL JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE PROGRAM INTRODUCED

TOTAL PROGRAM THREATENED BY BUDGET CUTS

At a meeting of the Joint Legislative Committee with its Advisory Committee in Albany on January 15th, the program of the Committee for this legislative session was put into final shape.

Seven bills have been introduced. These are a bill to aid public and non-profit sheltered workshops; demonstration vocational rehabilitation center with a residence for the mentally retarded in Westchester; elimination of reimbursement by parents for children in state schools for the mentally retarded; elimination of state pre-audited claims for the physically handicapped; — provision for preventive treatment — inclusion of cystic fibrosis, muscular dystrophy and others in the list of handicaps; state aid for care of handicapped in private institutions within the state as well as outside the state where there are no public facilities available within the state; state aid for transportation up to 20 miles for public school children where the distance exceeds 20 miles; transportation to clinics for physically handicapped through the Health Department.

A resolution continuing the Committee was also introduced with a requested appropriation of \$60,000.

These are the measures sponsored by the Joint Legislative Committee. Many others were introduced at the request of the State Association for Retarded Children to implement their legislative program reported in the last issue of "Our Children's Voice".

At this writing, the struggle in Albany over funds threatens all programs for the handicapped. It has been revealed that budget cuts may include all appropriations for the new state school in Long Island; the state school at Wilton (Mt. McGregor); failure to lift the ceiling on state aid for Community Mental Health program; aid to sheltered workshops, the Westchester demonstration project for a regional workshop and residence center and aid to the physically handicapped.

SCHOOLS FOR MENTALLY RETARDED NOW ELIGIBLE FOR SURPLUS PROPERTY

Public Law 87-786, approved in October 1962, amends the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act by permitting the Surplus Property Division of U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare to donate Federal surplus personal property to schools for the mentally retarded and the physically handicapped.

The State Association is now communicating with the Director of Surplus Property distribution in New York State to ascertain what conditions must be met by the schools for the mentally retarded that are being operated by the State Association's Chapters in order to qualify for surplus property.

The regulations recently issue also include sheltered workshops for the mentally retarded and the physically handicapped if they provide as a major part of their services vocational training and education. This aspect of the regulation is also being investigated and will be made known to the Chapters as soon as completed.

The New York State Association for Retarded Children qualifies as an educational institution under section 501 (C) 3 of the Internal Revenue Law and therefore meets that qualification in the regulations for eligibility for surplus property.

If eligible, this can mean a great saving to our Chapters in terms of equipment and supplies for the network of day training centers and schools that are now in operation by the Chapters and will grow as time goes on.

Sheltered Workshops in Maryland, Delaware, Texas, Washington, D. C., and some other states already receive surplus property. This is a local state decision.

POSTMEN'S MARCH NETS NEAR-RECORD FUND FOR RETARDED

ELMIRA GOES OVER THE TOP

With the Postmen's March on Thanksgiving morning netting \$5,172.15 for the annual fund drive of the Chemung County Chapter, the Chapter was well on its way towards going over the top of its goal of \$9,600.

The total collection was the second largest in the seven year history of the drive despite the fact that the Chemung County Appeals Review Board had disapproved the chapter's request to conduct the drive this year.

About 85 postmen took part in the march from 9 a.m. to noon. They gave up three hours of their holiday and went door to door to pick up donation envelopes mailed previously by the chapter.

Mrs. William E. Murdock, Chapter President, expressed hope that the goal will be reached. This hope, we understand, is now an actuality.

The highest collection on Thanksgiving Day was made in 1959 when about \$6,000 was collected. Last year's drive netted only about \$3,000.

The fund will be used to continue the operation of the pre-school nursery for seven retarded children five days a week. However, Mrs. Murdock said that the success of the drive would help to carry out the Chapter's program to initiate a day training class for older children. There are about 10 on the waiting list and she hopes to start the class in the near future.

Stephen F. New directed this year's Postmen's March. Mrs. Walter Garthwaite was drive chairman.

OPERATION "GUMBALL"

At the last meeting of the Board of Governors in Glens Falls, a contract was signed with United Vending Corporation of California for the placement of gum vending machines in locations throughout New York State.

According to this agreement, all chapters are asked to cooperate in finding locations for the placement of these machines. The machines will have a sticker on them with the legend that 20% of the funds collected through the vending of the chewing gum in these machines will be contributed to the Association for Retarded Children.

Operation GumBall has been in effect in a number of states for the past three years and has shown that a considerable sum of money can be raised through this device. Chapters have been asked to cooperate signifying their desire to enter into this plan. Representatives of the company will meet with chapter representatives in order to discuss further plans and the procurement of the locations.

Although few vending machines have been placed, some money is already being received by the State Association for distribution to the chapters according to the decision that the Board of Governors will reach at their April 27th meeting in New York City.

This is an opportunity to raise funds painlessly and in some areas in considerable quantity. Let's all get on the "Gumball".

If you have missed it, write the State Office.

DR. DUBROW ELECTED

Dr. Max Dubrow, Director of AHRC Training Center and Sheltered Workshop, New York City, was elected Secretary to the National Association of Sheltered Workshops and Homebound Programs, at their recent National Conference in Detroit.

The Training Center and Workshop of New York City is operating under a VRA Grant, now in its eighth year. The Workshop is the prototype for all such projects for the mentally retarded in the United States.

AHRC COOK BOOK DEVELOPED BY NASSAU COUNTY CHAPTER

The Nassau County Chapter of the State Association offers something new and useful in a combination of fund raising and vocational rehabilitation. They have recently published the AHRC Family Secret Cook Book, with silk screen cover and printing done entirely in their Vocational Training Center in Hempstead, New York.



Jane Martin of Long Beach helps with "drying out" the covers of the "AHRC Family Secret Cook Book"

The idea started with member Mrs. Frederick Marks, Jr., winner of the Delmarva National Chicken Cooking Contest 1958 and the Newsday Cooking Contest 1960, collecting and editing over 100 recipes. Newspaper artist Ivy Bottini donated her time and talents in designing the cover and the delightful illustrations.

The book has had an excellent reception and so far includes distribution at a major Long Island Department Store.

Although the book sells in individual copies for \$1.50, the Chapter is offering the book to other affiliates of the State Association for their fund raising purposes at a 50% reduction. In other words, chapters may purchase the book for 75¢ and resell them for \$1.50. A bulletin to this effect and copies of the Cook Book donated by the Nassau County Chapter have been sent to all chapters of the State Association. If anyone is interested, communicate directly with the Nassau County Chapter, 189 Wheatley Road, Brookville, Glen Head, New York.

SOME INTERESTING STATISTICS ON FUNDS RAISED

Recent statistics issued by the National Information Bureau, a Reporting and Advisory Service for Contributors, presents some statistics that indicate that frequently there is no relationship between the size of the problem and the amount of funds raised.

Mental Retardation, affecting some 5 million people in the United States is exceeded only by diseases of cardiovascular system and mental illness (10 million and 9 million respectively).

For example, although active tuberculosis affects some 800,000 cases in the United States, National Tuberculosis Association raises about 29 million dollars. National Association for Retarded Children raises some 11 million dollars "nationally and through all its affiliates" affecting more than 6 times as many cases as tuberculosis. Cerebral Palsy affecting some 550,000 cases raises over 13 million dollars. On the other hand severe mental illness affecting some 9 million cases raises \$5,700,000 through the National Association for Mental Health. Polio, affecting 1,327 in the United States raises through the National Foundation, March of Dimes, \$25,500,000.

We leave it to others to draw conclusions from this.

GLENS FALLS OPENS SHELTERED WORKSHOP

GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY DONATES MATERIALS

The opening of the Sheltered Workshop in Glens Falls on January 3rd, 1963, with three workers, has been announced by Harold W. Lucia, Treasurer of the Workshop.

This venture is the result of a great deal of planning and help from many sources. An outright gift of \$5,000.00 from the Glens Falls Foundation, made the Workshop possible. The local plant of the General Electric Company has given them a contract to salvage aluminum foil from discarded Capacitor rolls which will gross the workshop a minimum of \$12,000.00 per year, according to Mr. Lucia.



Harold F. Edwards, left, plant manager, supervising the first three employees of the Workshop.
(Photo Courtesy Glens Falls Times)

The Workshop has also received an offer for the shop to make small gift articles to be sold at one of the largest gift stores at Lake George.

"We have more work than we can handle at the moment," writes Harold Lucia.

The Workshop is at present housed in a former factory building, 3-stories high, but utilizing the ground floor only. Organizations that are cooperating with the Warren-Washington Chapter of the Association, are the Glens Falls Association for the blind; United Cerebral Palsy Association; Muscular Dystrophy Association; Warren County Heart Committee; and the Health Association of Warren County.

Construction of a ramp on the northern side of the building to be used by employees confined to wheelchairs is nearly completed.

Members of the Home Builders Association of northern New York, built work tables for the workshop.

This is an excellent example of what a small community such as the Warren-Washington Chapter of the Association and Glens Falls can do to stimulate and create vocational rehabilitation facilities that will serve the mentally retarded as well as other handicaps.

FRAENKEL APPOINTED

Dr. William A. Fraenkel, Executive Director of the New York City Chapter of the Association, was recently appointed a member of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped.

It is gratifying indeed that there are at least three members closely allied to the field of mental retardation on this committee. They are Dr. Gunnar Dybwad, Executive Director of the National Association, Bernard Rosenberg of our Westchester Chapter, and Bill Fraenkel of our New York City Chapter.

NEW YORK STATE SECOND IN VOC. REHAB. OF MENTALLY RETARDED

New York State ranks second in the nation in the number of mentally retarded persons rehabilitated by the state Division of Vocational Rehabilitation during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1962, according to figures prepared by the Division of Statistics and Studies of the Vocational Rehabilitation Administration. New York with 446 ranked second to Pennsylvania with 599. Texas was third with 298, New Jersey 4th with 203 and Virginia 5th with 186.

The total number of mentally retarded rehabilitated through the Divisions of Vocational Rehabilitation has risen from 531 in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1955 to 4,460 in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1962. The figures in New York State rose from 84 in 1955 to 446 in 1962.

It is interesting to note that the rise in these figures coincided with the development of the sheltered workshop movement, almost exclusively instituted by units of the National Association of Retarded Children, for services for the mentally retarded.

Although these figures are fairly dramatic, they point up the enormous needs that still exist when it is estimated that some 75,000 mentally retarded persons could still profit from vocational rehabilitation services in the United States.

More dramatic than these figures are those revealed by the total number of persons rehabilitated in these years. From 57,981 in 1955 the figures grew to 102,377 in fiscal 1962. Percentage of the mentally retarded rehabilitated was .9% in 1955 and grew to 4.4% in 1962.

"SO YOU'RE GOING TO HIRE THE MENTALLY RETARDED"

A pamphlet with the above title is now in preparation by the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped. It will be distributed to all employers to acquaint them with the possibilities of the mentally retarded in employment and what should be done to help make them good employees.

The Introduction reads as follows: "So you have decided to hire a mentally retarded worker. Chances are you are sitting at your desk wondering, 'Now what?' Here are a few 'Do's' to keep in mind to help you (and him) get off to a right start.

"After reading them please pass them on to all persons who will be supervising your new worker.

"And remember: You are gaining not a retardate but a human being who happens to be mentally retarded; a human being who nevertheless has work-ability, and who can become your devoted, loyal, hard-working employee."

Copies of this memo in preparation may be obtained from the State office, 19 Union Square, New York 3, New York.

OVR NOW VRA

As part of a major reorganization of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Secretary Anthony J. Celebrezze recently announced that he has renamed the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, the Vocational Rehabilitation Administration. Miss Mary Switzer, the dynamic head of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, is now given the title of Commissioner of Vocational Rehabilitation.

"The size and importance of this program have increased markedly over the past several years," the Secretary said.

All of us in the field of rehabilitation, and certainly in the field of rehabilitation of the mentally retarded, congratulate Miss Mary Switzer on this deserved change of status and the department on this recognition of the outstanding job it has been doing.

RESERVE THE DATES — STATE CONVENTION, OCT. 3, 4, 5, 6

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE ISSUES PROGRESS REPORT

The last progress report of the Office of Mental Retardation, Department of Mental Hygiene, shows continuing development of programs, under adverse conditions.

The department reports the approval of grants for day training centers made by Mental Health Boards to the Capital District Chapter, Albany, in the sum of \$5,986.00, and to the Onondaga County Chapter in Syracuse in the sum of \$20,000.00. These are in addition to the approved grants reported on May 15th to Nassau and Cayuga County Chapters.

In addition, a contract has been approved with the Niagara County Chapter for consultation services in the sum of \$1,200.00 and in the sum of \$7,240.00 with our Oneida-Herkimer Chapter.

The Commissioner's report on the implementation of the legislation passed this year to pay for private residential care of children under five pending the availability of accommodation in a state institution shows the difficulties we have run into. Under the program, patients on the waiting list for children under five years of age who have medical and nursing care needs may be placed in approved facilities (private) at state expense. There is a provision for reimbursement to the state for the amount that those legally responsible can contribute to the cost of the care.

Experience shows, states the report, that to date the scarcity of non-state facilities for young retarded children will be a limiting factor. By October 15, 1962, approximately 35 patients were in temporary care under the program pending the availability of a state bed, and another 25 additional patients have been approved for whom non-state facilities were not available.

The regulations of the Commissioner were published in the September Issue of O. C. V.

First class graduated September 19th, 1962 from the School for Practical Nursing at Willowbrook State School. The twenty-one graduates returned to their home institutions and their places at the school will be taken by thirty new students.

Bids were received and contracts granted for construction at the new State School in Suffolk County, a power plant in the sum of \$1,446,710; Newark State School, a School and Assembly Hall for \$1,555,995; and at West Seneca State School, a laundry, in the sum of \$788,000.

Work has started on the first contract of a continuing project to modernize the older buildings for patients at the Rome State School. The first work for sections known as building F & G will cost \$504,000 and the work on these will take more than a year to be followed by succeeding contracts for other sections until all of the older buildings have been modernized.

Construction is proceeding at Willowbrook State School on dining and serving rooms additions to eight of the two-story patient buildings at the School. The wooden corridors between buildings are now being replaced with permanent corridors suitable for the transportation of food from the kitchens to new dining rooms connected to the patient buildings.

The report also announces that Dr. Feinstein, the Director of West Seneca State School, has made a number of key staff appointments.

The J. N. Adam Hospital is functioning now as Division of the Seneca State School, instead of being a unit of the Gowanda State Hospital. Facilities will be used mainly for young mentally retarded children requiring bed care. Children who are ambulatory and require facilities for more activities than J. N. Adam Hospital provides will be transferred to the West Seneca State School which has generous play rooms and out-door activities space.

The first patients have been received at the West Seneca State School as reported elsewhere in this issue.

Another short course for Social Workers in New York City agencies in pre-admission counseling was conducted

(Continued Next Column)

"TOMMY STAYED AT HOME"

THE STORY OF A MONGOLOID BOY WHO WAS KEPT AT HOME

The story of a mongoloid child who was kept at home by his parents, and his adjustment to the family and the community, has been printed as "Tommy Stayed at Home" in the January issue of 1963 Mental Hygiene News of the State Department of Mental Hygiene.

This is the story of Leroy and Catherine Hoyt and their mongoloid son, Tommy. The story of the Hoyts, residing in North Syracuse, N. Y., was chosen from dozens of such stories solicited by the State Association in cooperation with the Department of Mental Hygiene to prepare a pamphlet to contribute to the public education program of the department concerning the potentials of mongoloid children for home adjustment. The introduction to the story states, "To a parent there is nothing in life so overwhelming as learning that a newborn has been somehow 'damaged' — that he has come into the world with a physical or mental impairment. Shock, grief, and guilt are the natural reactions — fear of the future and worry as to what is best for the child and for other members of the family.



TOMMY AT HOME

"Obviously a handicapped child needs desperately the warm support of family love. But when the child is a mongoloid mental retardate, the questioning parents are urged to place him in an institution. The fact is that most mongoloid children can be brought up at home. To help parents make this difficult decision the Department of Mental Hygiene and the New York State Association for Retarded Children sought out parents who had successfully raised a mongoloid child at home. Many, many families responded. The story of Leroy and Catherine Hoyt is more or less typical. It is told in 'Tommy Stayed at Home'."

Reprints of the article will shortly be available. They will be distributed widely through New York State to physicians, agencies and individuals in order to reach as many families faced with this problem as possible.

MENTAL HYGIENE REPORT (Continued)

during October by Miss Muriel McInerney, Supervising Social Worker in the Children's Unit.

The report also states that ten new classes were organized in the state schools for the fall school term, five of these at the West Seneca State School.

Commissioner Hoch announced that one of the buildings of the new Bronx State Hospital, capable of caring for 700 patients, will be utilized temporarily to relieve overcrowding in the state schools for the mentally retarded in the downstate area. These accommodations will be used pending the completion of construction of the new school in Suffolk County and will be for patients over five years of age who can be cared for adequately in the available building which has six stories.

SCHENECTADY AND SUFFOLK GET COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CONTRACTS

The list of Chapters obtaining Community Mental Health board contracts for day training centers for the mentally retarded was increased by two in the last few months.

Schenectady County Chapter reports that it has entered into a contract with the Community Mental Health Board for \$50,000 (one half of this is contributed by the chapter) for a day training center. Under this the Chapter will provide day training classes at its Center for those mentally retarded individuals, "residents of Schenectady County, who are ineligible either by reason of age or condition to receive such services provided by Schenectady City or County school districts, and the Chapter shall also provide counseling and guidance for parents."

Suffolk County Chapter, after much negotiation which has been reported from time to time in the issues of *Our Children's Voice*, has entered into a \$30,000 contract with the Suffolk County Mental Health Board for the day training program, on a 50-50 basis retroactive to January 1, 1963. This contract is much larger than the figure quoted because a special consultative staff will be assigned to the program by the Suffolk County Mental Health Board. This is over and above the \$30,000, and will involve no cost to the Association. Such staff will include a social worker, psychologist, psychiatrist, speech therapist and, hopefully, in the future, music therapist and other such persons as needed. All school age children will be transported by public schools as is now being done.

These two evidences of further growth of the field of day training centers for the mentally retarded are extremely gratifying, said Joseph T. Weingold Executive Director of the State Association, and bode well for future developments. Perhaps some day, he continued, the counties will pick up some of the expenses of these projects so that the Chapters of the Association can turn their funds and energies to other needed projects to round out the total program.

OTHER HANDICAPS USE FULTON COUNTY CHAPTER SPACE

Paul W. Hermon, Board Member from Fulton County, reports that the Fulton County Tuberculosis and Health Association and the Heart Association have rented space from our chapter in the Chapter building for their rehabilitation project.

The building is an old school building purchased some time ago by the Fulton County Chapter which is using it for their program for the mentally retarded. The Fulton County Chapter has prepared an application for an expansion and improvement grant from the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation for a sheltered workshop for the mentally retarded. To date, this has not been submitted finally to the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation because of the necessity for providing funds to carry on the project after the DVR grant lapses.

In the rented space, the handicapped with cardiovascular and pulmonary diseases and effects of strokes will, it is hoped, be rehabilitated.

The Association is gratified at this cooperation with other organizations working for other disabilities in the county.

Paul also writes that "the pilot program for the detection of PKU to be started in the Nathan Littauer Hospital in Gloversville was aided, to some extent at least, by our own little Chapter."

This aid came in the form of communicating with as many doctors as possible in the area and contacting the local hospitals.

"We were extremely pleased," writes Paul Hermon, "with the results and although our part was very small, it at least is a step in the proper direction."

NASSAU'S DECADE OF SPORTS DINNER



Left to right — Mrs. John Gross, President, Nassau County AHRC, Ray Hickok, Jimmy Brown, Willy Mays, Eddie Arcaro and James A. Farley, Jr., pictured at AHRC's Decade Sports Dinner. Brown, Mays and Arcaro, shown holding their awards, were three of the twelve athletes chosen by 250 sportswriters and sportscasters for outstanding achievement in their field of endeavor. Ray and Allen Hickok, donors of the famed S. Rae Hickok "Professional Athlete of the Year" award made the presentations and James A. Farley, Jr., was chairman of the event which was held at New York's Americana Hotel on November 26th. Ed Sullivan was Master of Ceremonies of the highly successful affair, proceeds of which went to AHRC.

TOTAL PLANNING FOR RETARDED PROPOSED IN MONROE COUNTY

A coordinating service to meet the total community needs of the mentally retarded is proposed in a comprehensive community plan recently announced by a 40 member committee formed five years ago in Rochester, New York.

The proposal is for the director of an office of mental retardation to work under the county board of mental health to help alleviate "probably the most diffuse of all human insufficiencies."

The committee also considered community studies into programs for aged retardates, who will need workshop and recreation facilities. Eventually partially, if not totally, self-supporting residential units for the elderly retardate may be operated by a voluntary agency.

A community that desires really successful and well coordinated program for the mentally retarded must work for it, nurture it and permit it to come about, the committee says.

This seems to be an attempt to maintain the coordination of services that had been started under the State Demonstration Plan for the mentally retarded that has been in existence for some four years with a state grant of \$150,000 a year. The State Association Chapter of Monroe County is providing a number of services within this total plan including a sheltered workshop, a residential center, counseling and recreation.

An important feature of the new plan is the establishment of a central registry of retardates so that as new cases are reported, follow through could be made and recorded.

The estimated cost of all the needed services which would be subject to further scrutiny is \$402,113, exclusive of school programs and residential centers.

Chapter News

The PUTNAM COUNTY CHAPTER . . . is happy to report that the "trainable class" in Mahopac school district, including children from other districts, which was segregated for one year and three months has been transferred to the school building as of December 17th. The teacher is now working on taking part in general activities . . . NIAGARA COUNTY CHAPTER continues to put out the outstanding chapter report in "The Stride" . . . A correction . . . in the December issue of OCV we stated that Mrs. Bowers was the editor and publisher . . . we have been corrected . . . It is Mrs. E. Worrell . . . Mrs. Francis Hefner of North Tonawanda has been installed as Vice-President and Chairman of the North Tonawanda Sub-Chapter of the NIAGARA COUNTY CHAPTER . . . Together with Lockport . . . this makes two sub-chapters and expansion of services into other areas of the county . . . Lockport Lodge No. 41, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks has presented the retarded children's school with an electrically operated duplicating machine and a year's supply of duplicating paper and supplies . . . The Niagara-Weeksfield Central School Board of Education has agreed to supply transportation for mentally retarded children attending the Association for Retarded Children school in Niagara Falls . . . Get a hold of the September 1962 to January 1963 report of the Niagara County Chapter . . . You will find it very interesting indeed . . . We could go on at great length about Niagara County but must turn out attention to others . . . Have you seen the bulletin of the ERIE COUNTY CHAPTER? . . . It is called "Focus" . . . We like their calendars of events running through at least two months . . . Reports that the Projects Committee is commencing a family service program of retarded children with time and opportunity for relaxation away from home and provide expert care for the retarded child in his home while his parents are away . . . a real visiting nurse service . . . Ellen Craig, Chairman of the ERIE COUNTY Institutions Committee is busy as can be with visits, institutes and programming . . . The pre-school class and adult activities program are being begun . . . CAPITAL DISTRICT CHAPTER reports the first Girl Scout Troop for mentally retarded girls in Albany . . . All have met the requirements for tenderfoot rank and also accomplished a service project by making scrapbooks and a lollypop tree for children at the Sunnyview Orthopedic and Rehabilitation Center in Schenectady . . . CAYUGA COUNTY CHAPTER (Auburn) reports the first Cub Scout program for retarded boys started in December . . . Clyde E. Bay, Chapter President, states that this was the second new program now offered to the retarded of the county — the first being a series of Friday night socials for young people . . . Other programs under way include the sheltered workshops, Auburn Community College student-teachers at the North Street School, the possible introduction of PKU testing in local hospitals . . . CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY reports that the United States Veterans Council sponsored the fund drive this year . . . Students in special classes for the retarded prepared publicity folders for the drive . . . Jamestown General Hospital was the first in the country to ask for testing facilities to use the Guthrie test for PKU . . . BROOME COUNTY CHAPTER deep in the negotiations for a community mental health board contract . . . This hard working chapter certainly deserves it . . . Reports that the Institute on Retardation sponsored by the Interdepartmental Health & Hospital Council's Sub-Committee on Mental Retardation Institutes a huge success . . . Ignacy Goldberg of Columbia University the main speaker . . . Elizabeth Boggs, (who seems to be traveling all over New York State) was the November speaker on "The President's Panel on Mental Retardation" . . . BENEVOLENT SOCIETY — WILLOWBROOK CHAPTER, has supplied hearing aids for several children at Willowbrook State School . . . Children from Willowbrook enjoyed the show at Radio City January 7th and 16th, also ate at the Automat . . . Others went to see Nutcracker Suite at the New York City Center . . . And hundreds of Christ-

(Continued Next Column)

CHAPTER NEWS (Continued)

mas gifts were distributed by the chapter . . . BENEVOLENT SOCIETY—WILLOWBROOK CHAPTER was honored by the presence of John Fettinger, President of NARC at installation ceremony . . . ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER still eager for that sheltered workshop . . . The Officers' Wives' Club at Stewart Field aided the classes at Newburgh by supplying wonderful volunteers . . . and also presented the classes with equipment and supplies . . . Insurance Women's Club of ORANGE COUNTY presented a check of \$500 . . . ONONDAGA COUNTY day training center (Community Mental Health Board contract) flourishing . . . The local chapter of the National Council of Jewish Women "adopted" a boy's ward at Rome State School . . . The day training center has engaged a social worker, we are glad to read . . . MONROE COUNTY CHAPTER held open house at the residence center on March 11th . . . This is a half-way house for young men returning to the community from Newark State School . . . Similar to the Wassaic-Westchester project . . . Also announces a two days a week recreation program for young adults now in operation with the city recreation department co-sponsoring the project . . . An interesting item from WESTCHESTER . . . 25 clients in the White Plains Workshop were invited to attend the Annual Christmas Party of the Stamford Workshop in Connecticut . . . WARREN-WASHINGTON CHAPTER really humming with their sheltered workshop . . . Already beginning to plan for their summer day camps . . . Had a candle light installation ceremony for their Girl Scouts . . . 17 girls . . . an interesting item from Glens Falls . . . the trainable class from the Warren County Board of Cooperative Educational Services visited the National Biscuit Company bakery . . . Part of the program of education by direct observation and learning participation . . . United Commercial Travelers very active in support of the chapter . . . As indeed for many other chapters throughout the State . . . ULSTER COUNTY CHAPTER reports support . . . \$350 . . . from United Commercial Travelers Kingston Council 356 . . . To help with speech therapy . . . an interesting item is that expenditures in January for the chapter exceeded income by almost over \$100 . . . What are we in business for, we ask . . . SUFFOLK COUNTY CHAPTER announces Community Mental Health Board contract . . . you can read about this elsewhere in OCV . . . The Clinic has moved from Brookhaven Memorial Hospital to Smithtown General Hospital . . . It has, as the chapter says, a "modest" budget of \$60,000 . . . Chapter provides ¼, the County another ¼ and the State supplies matching funds through Community Mental Health Board of 50% . . . the Industrial Home for the Blind Suffolk Service Centers day center recreation program members . . . prepared fund raising kits for the AHRC drive in Suffolk County . . . and of course you have read that SCHENECTADY COUNTY CHAPTER also has Community Mental Health Board contract for day training center . . . glad we finally learned about it . . . our new SARATOGA COUNTY CHAPTER . . . formerly part of Upper Hudson with WARREN AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES . . . spread all over the pages of the Saratogian . . . A full page spread "For the Love of Their Children" with many photographs and interesting text . . . A real publicity bang . . . Note that ONONDAGA COUNTY from time to time publishes books of interest and pamphlets in their newsletter . . . Seems like a good idea . . . Also news from the public school classes around the county . . . ONEIDA-HERKIMER CHAPTER full of plans for summer camp programs . . . Also lots of parties . . . Valentine, Auxiliary, General Electric sponsored parties, etc., etc. . . Ford Motor Co. Tractor and Implement Division in Yorkville gave pre-workshop a beautiful portable Philco Stereophonic phonograph to carry out their "remotivation" program . . . Just had to write to Rod Vandenberg what that is . . . An interesting sidelight . . . a client had to take a taxi home each afternoon . . . so as further training the clients are learning to use the phone and call for a taxi . . . Complains that contracts are scarce for the workshop . . . We really should have State (and I mean State of New York) help on this workshop procurement question for the chapter workshops . . . Come on all you not mentioned — send in news items for this column . . .

SYRACUSE TRAINING CENTER



Mrs. E. R. Vadeboncoeur examines play school block which is being made for the children at the Frank C. McCarthy School in Syracuse. Mrs. Vadeboncoeur is co-chairman of the Onondaga County Fund Drive and wife of the president of WSYR-TV. Mr. Robert J. Daly, Director of the ARC Activities Center where these blocks are being made, is looking on.

REPORT FROM A SMALL CHAPTER

Cattaraugus County Chapter, through Louise Simon, sends in a very interesting report to those chapters who believe that because they are small they cannot accomplish too much.

She writes that in a fund drive last November in which they sent out 2,000 letters with return envelopes they received \$673.00. "We think that this was a very good return for the number of letters that we sent. Of course we need to raise more money as we hope to send 25 needy children to Camp Cornplanter."

"We have written to Charles Goodell in the U. S. Congress asking for 400 blankets for Camp Cornplanter and have his promise that he will help us get surplus blankets."

"We have thought of trying to send some of the children in institutions to camp this year. Polk County in Pennsylvania sent 100 retardates to our camp every year."

"We are having our March meeting in Salamanca (Olean is the main city) to try to reach more people in the County. If this meeting is successful we will plan on going this on a regular basis. We hope to increase our membership also."

"Eighteen chapter members made the tour to West Seneca State School, February 8th."

"Plans have already been made for swimming instructions in the municipal pool and participation in the city playgrounds."

"Our pre-school class is coming along very well also. All our members are working with the rest of the people of Olean to get a vocational school here."

Any comments?

NEW HEALTH COMMISSIONER

DR. HILLEBOE RETIRES

Governor Rockefeller has appointed Dr. Hollis S. Ingraham, Commissioner of Health, to replace Dr. Herman E. Hilleboe who retired after serving since 1947.

Dr. Ingraham, who was first Deputy Commissioner of Health, has been with the Department since 1934 when he was an epidemiologist-in-training.

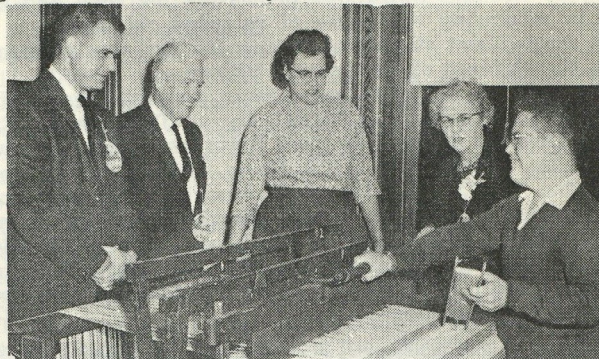
The Association's contact with Dr. Ingraham goes back to 1950 when Mr. Weingold, going to all the State agencies for help, met with Dr. Ingraham to find out what the Department of Health can do for the mentally retarded.

The Association offers its congratulations to Dr. Ingraham and its cooperation.

TEN YEARS OF PROGRESS IN CAYUGA COUNTY

Ten years of progress was celebrated by the Cayuga County Chapter of the Association in Auburn on November 4, 1962. The Chapter held an "Open House" at their North Street School, sponsored a Founders Day dinner, and concluded the Anniversary with an address by Dr. Elizabeth Boggs, past president of NARC.

The Open House was attended by over 200 parents, friends and local legislators. Visitors were given the opportunity to see the school program in action. Students from the school demonstrated the activities that take place during their normal class day.



(l-r) R. Alan Graves—Open House Chairman, Clyde Bay — Chapter President, Dr. Elizabeth Boggs — Past President NARC, Mrs. Edward Delaney — School Director, and workshop student.

At an opening evening meeting with over 100 community leaders, present, Dr. Boggs encouraged the audience to anticipate the needs of all retarded. She noted that "the mentally retarded find themselves in varying degrees of dependence and independence and that treatment can be either generalized or specialized."

Among her concluding remarks were references to the recent report submitted by the President's Panel on Mental Retardation.

Anniversary Committee members included: Mrs. Edward Delaney; Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Bay; Ray Owen; Wilbur Townsend; Harold Vroman; Fred Carr; Charles Conkright; Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Riley; and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Reardon; and teachers: Mrs. William Quigley, Mrs. John Luker, and Mrs. Robert Mitchell.

Reports coming from the community after the Anniversary indicated a greater community awareness and support for the Chapter's program. For example, the Chapter has finalized plans for its first Cub Scout Pack, Student Teacher Program at the School, and sheltered workshop building. Recently, Zonta, a professional women's organization, has initiated a community-wide project to purchase a station wagon for the School thru the collection of blue stamps; and a local scholarship is now anticipated to encourage graduates of the Auburn Community College to pursue courses in special education.

As the report from Auburn says, "The Tenth Anniversary was truly a case where the past is prologue!"

EDITH ROMANO ELECTED TO BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mrs. Edith Romano, Director of Cooperative Board School for Retarded Children in Syracuse, and former director of Educational Services of the Onondaga County Chapter, was elected one of the members of the Board of Education of the city of Syracuse in the recent election.

This is the second time that Mrs. Romano, a democrat, has run for the office.

The Association congratulates both the city of Syracuse and Edith on this election. It is always good to have another friend of the retarded on the Board of Education.

COME TO NIAGARA FALLS — STATE CONVENTION, OCTOBER

WELFARE LEAGUE—LETCHWORTH VILLAGE CHAPTER CELEBRATES 23RD ANNIVERSARY

In the beautiful Imperial Ballroom of the New Americana Hotel, the Welfare League — Letchworth Village Chapter of the State Association, celebrated its 23rd Anniversary on December 8th, with an attendance of 2500 guests.

Dr. Robert Guthrie was presented with an award for his outstanding contribution to the study of Phenylketonuria. Dr. George Jervis, Chief of Research at Letchworth Village, made the presentation to Dr. Guthrie.

Sam Cook Diggs, Vice-President of C.B.S. Films was presented with an award for dedicating his time and efforts to advancing the cause of retarded children.

A magnificent staging of "South Pacific" was performed by the children of Letchworth Village.

Among the distinguished guests present were John C. Fetting, President of NARC, Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of the New York State Association, Arthur Hull Hayes, President of C.B.S. Radio, William B. Williams of Station WNEW, Master of Ceremonies, William Kaufman, Charles D. Becker, Lee C. Dowling, Senator Harry Kraf, Charles I. McAllister, Assemblyman Francis P. McCloskey, Hon. Isadore Siegel, Assemblyman Stanley Steingut, Mr. Robert H. Wagner, former President of the New York State Association.



"Dites moi, pourquoi . . ."

N.B.C. CARRIES SERIES ON RETARDED

The TODAY show on the N.B.C.-T.V. network carried a series of segments on five consecutive days, beginning February 18th and ending February 22nd, on the subject of mental retardation. The program was broadcast from 7:30 A. M. to 8 A. M. eastern standard time each morning.

The schedule contained presentations by the following: Dr. Leonard Mayo, Chairman President's Panel on Mental Retardation and Dr. Samuel A. Kirk, Chief, Department of Special Education, University of Illinois, on the subject of "Diagnosis and Education"; Tuesday, Dr. Robert A. Guthrie, University of Buffalo, on "Phenylketonuria (PKU)" and Dr. Robert A. Cooke, Chief of Pediatrics, Johns Hopkins University Medical School, on "The Mongoloid Child"; on Wednesday, Dr. Martin Palmer, Institute of Logopedics, Wichita, Kansas, on "Success in Taking the Cerebral Palsied and Aphasic Child out of the Category of Mental Retardation through New Techniques in Communications with them"; on Thursday, Judge David Bazelon, Chief Justice, U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals, Washington District, on "Law and the Retarded" and Henry Viscardi, Jr., President, Abilities, Inc. discussing successful efforts being made in employing the Mentally Retarded; and finally on Friday a report on a community effort in Bridgeport, Conn., in dealing with the Mentally Retarded.

This is the first time that mental retardation received this kind of exposure on television from a professional point of view.

FIRST TIME IN NIAGARA FALLS — STATE CONVENTION

DR. ETLING HONORED AT COMMUNITY LEAGUE LUNCHEON



Dr. George F. Etling, Director of Wassaic State School for the mentally retarded, accepts from Mrs. Helen J. Altman an invitation to be guest of honor at Community League's annual luncheon to be held at the Biltmore Hotel, New York City. Dr. Etling, long held in fond esteem by the members of Community League, has been singled out for this recognition because of the steady progress made in the sympathetic and intelligently informed care of the retardates at Wassaic during his administration.

MENTAL RETARDATION INSTITUTES TO BE CONTINUED

STATE SPONSORED

The Committee on Mental Retardation of the Interdepartmental Health and Hospital Council has approved the continuance of the program of Community mental retardation institutes for another year, it was announced by James E. Allen, Jr., Commissioner of the State Department of Education and Chairman of the I.H.H.C.

These educational activities are designed to assist local communities in developing a greater awareness of the problem of mental retardation and to focus attention upon the community organization necessary to meet the needs of the retarded.

The institute sessions are for both professionals and lay persons and are made possible through funds from the Bureau of Maternal and Child Health of the New York State Department of Health.

Institutes in the past have been held in Broome County, Dutchess County, Albany County, Rockland County, Niagara County and Chemung County. Presentations are made and discussions in workshop sessions led by outstanding authorities in the field of mental retardation.

"The Interdepartmental Health and Hospital Council's Committee on Mental Retardation, consisting of members from six state departments with areas of responsibility for the retarded, working closely with the local community mental health board, Association for Retarded Children, public school systems health and welfare department, and other community agencies, has not only made a major contribution to bringing about a better knowledge and acceptance of children who are mentally retarded, but has also been instrumental in stimulating the growth of essential services for the retarded in the community throughout the state," Dr. Allen said.

Communities with chapters of the Association for Retarded Children interested in the organization of these mental retardation institutes should contact Dale E. Harro, M.D., Chairman, Sub-Committee on Mental Retardation Institutes, Interdepartmental Health and Hospital Council, 84 Holland Avenue, Albany, New York.

NORTH EAST REGIONAL CONFERENCE, NARC, JUNE 14th, 15th and 16th NEW YORK CITY CHAPTER, ARC, TO BE HOST

The North-East Regional Conference of the National Association for Retarded Children will be held this year on June 14th, 15th and 16th, at the Sheraton Tenney Inn, LaGuardia Airport. The New York City Chapter of the Association will be this year's host.

The entire conference will devote itself to "Implications of President Kennedy's Panel Report on Mental Retardation."

On Friday, June 14th, there will be a meeting of local and state executive directors. The Association for Retarded Children, New York City Chapter will have open house the same day so that visitors may see the Educational Training Classes, the Occupational Day Center, Sheltered Workshop, and the Bronx Training Center. There will be a reception from 9:00 to 11:00 p. m. in the Grand Ballroom.

Confirmations have been received that Mr. F. Ray Power, Director, West Virginia Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and a member of President Kennedy's Panel on Mental Retardation, will be the Luncheon speaker Saturday, June 15th. His talk will be "President Kennedy's Panel Report — The Community's Responsibilities."

On Saturday afternoon, Dr. Gunnar Dybwad, Executive Director of NARC, will address the members on "President Kennedy's Panel Report — Your Association's Challenge". The discussants will be Carl E. Fritz, Delaware Association for Retarded Children, Mr. Maurice Mezoff, Executive Director, Massachusetts Association for Retarded Children, and Mr. Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director, New York State Association.

On Sunday, June 16th, after the State President's Breakfast, there will be a general session that John Fetting, President of the National Association, will address.

Plan to be there and bring your bathing suits.

CHILDREN'S BUREAU SPONSORS SOCIAL WORK INSTITUTE NEW YORK CITY CHAPTER CO-SPONSOR

Twenty-five faculty members from eight schools of social in the greater metropolitan area assembled at New York University on Feb. 1 and 2, 1963 under the auspices of the U. S. Children's Bureau and the New York City Chapter of the Association to discuss and deal with ways and means of bringing in material about mental retardation into the curriculum of schools for social work. This was the first event of its kind ever undertaken.

Mr. Michael J. Begab, Chief Specialist in Social Services to the Mentally Retarded of the Children's Bureau, acted as the seminar leader. There were faculty members from the schools of social work of New York University, Columbia University, Fordham University, Hunter College, Adelphi College, Buffalo University, Syracuse University and Rutgers. There were also selected representatives from the social work staffs of Bronx House, Flower Fifth Avenue Hospital and the Emmanuel Midtown YMHA.

The tremendous value in an educational endeavor of this nature lies in its attempt to help educate future social workers to be more understanding and sympathetic about retarded individuals and their families. The seminar provided the participants with material, knowledge and even some skill in transmitting this information and feeling in classroom situations with social work students.

On its own initiative, the group of professionals and educators asked that the AHRC and the Children's Bureau convene the same individuals at the same time next year to assess what has been accomplished during the year.

\$150,000 GRANT TO NEW YORK CITY CHAPTER

NIMH 3 YEAR GRANT TO DEVELOP COMMUNITY RECREATION RESOURCES

A three year grant totaling approximately \$150,000 for "Community Recreation Resources for the Mentally Retarded", has been awarded to the New York City Chapter by the National Institute of Mental Health for the first program of this kind in the country.

Conceived as a bold attack upon provision of new services in group work and recreation, this grant will make it possible for the Chapter to continue to pioneer in various kinds of recreation programs.

Its main concerns will be:

(1) Helping community centers, Y's, and settlement houses to accept mentally retarded individuals in their groups, exploring how to serve them most effectively and (2) determining what is expected of the Association for Retarded Children and the community center in dealing with services to the retarded.

It is anticipated that the results of this action-research program will be of direct benefit to the retarded in revealing the possibilities that exist in the many resources in the community which have not been heretofore open to such individuals. The concern about what responsibility community agencies should assume is an old one for the Association, as it has pioneered in the area of mandatory legislation for education and in other vital areas.

The grant will make it possible for the current group work and recreation program of the City Chapter to be strengthened and deepened.

Mr. Meyer Schreiber, Director of Group Work and Recreation of the New York City Chapter, will be the project director.

TENTH ANNUAL TEACHER'S CONFERENCE JUNE 14TH, 15TH AND 16TH

TEACHERS OF TRAINABLES, PSYCHOLOGISTS AND SUPERVISORS TO MEET IN JUNE

The tenth annual conference of teachers of trainable children, psychologists and supervisors will be held in New York City on Friday and Saturday, June 7-8, 1963, it was announced by the New York State Association Education Committee. The conference is co-sponsored by the State Education Department.

The theme of the conference will be "Towards Better Communication Between School and Home".

The Friday meeting will consist of visitation and sessions at the Occupational Day Center of the New York City Chapter of the State Association at 220 East 5th St. This is a program for retarded adults not eligible for sheltered workshops training or employment at this time.

The Saturday session will take place, as in previous years at the Carnegie Institute at 345 East 46th St. It is planned to have prominent speakers and many workshop discussions on the various aspects of the theme. Parents will be prominently involved in the program.

The announcements will be ready in the near future and will be sent to all persons concerned with education of the trainable mentally retarded in New York State.

Mr. Charles Becker, Chief of the Bureau for Mentally Handicapped Children is the liaison between the State Department of Education and the Education committee of the State Association.

Announcements may be obtained from the State Association's office, as soon as available.

SYMPOSIUM ON "RESIDENTIAL CARE FOR THE RETARDED" HELD AT WEST SENECA

MEETING SPONSORED BY ERIE COUNTY CHAPTER

Location of the new multi-million-dollar school for the mentally retarded in West Seneca, "closes the gap that existed for this type of service in the western part of the state," stated Charles McAllister, director of Educational Services for the State Department of Mental Hygiene, before about two hundred educators, retardation officials and parents of mentally retarded children at a luncheon in the Roycroft Inn, East Aurora, February of this year.

The day-long program, which included an inspection of the West Seneca School, was part of the symposium on residential care for the retarded sponsored by the Erie County Chapter of the New York State Association for Retarded Children.

The main contribution to the mentally retarded, Mr. McAllister said, "will be to teach them persisting life situations which have their foundation in fundamental problems of daily existence." He listed these major needs which they must be taught: to maintain their physical well-being; live safely; to understand oneself; to learn to get along with others and communicate ideas.

Other participants in the meeting were: Dr. Vincent Bonafede, Director of Craig Colony School and Hospital for the Epileptic, who noted that there were more people suffering from epilepsy than there were from diabetes and tuberculosis, with one half of one per cent of the population involved. He stated that $\frac{3}{4}$ of the patients were retarded, or had deteriorated from a higher level.

Although many people in "normal" life situations are subject to epileptic seizures, only about 20% of the cases have to be institutionalized because they will not respond to modern drugs.

Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of the State Association, led off a panel discussion by pointing out the necessity for the community to recognize the needs of the mentally retarded. He stressed vocational rehabilitation and sheltered workshops, as well as small residential facilities for the adults.

Perhaps the highlight of the meeting was the statement by Mrs. Edward West, the parent of a retarded child and Executive Director of the Chautauqua County Chapter of the Association. She spoke on the "Aims and Purposes of the Organization" — to help the children by helping the families. She related the mental struggles of the parents to accept that their child is retarded and needs help which they cannot give. She stated that the ultimate criterion was whether or not the child benefited any longer from the love and care that the parents were giving him. Mrs. West's statement was greeted with prolonged applause by the professionals and parents present and was a suitable windup to a stimulating program for which all of us are thankful to our Erie County Chapter.

\$125,000 DAMAGES IN BABY MILK FORMULA SUIT

A \$125,000 settlement was reached recently in a half million dollar suit charging that a vitamin deficient baby milk formula caused a child to become mentally retarded.

Brooklyn Supreme Court Justice Benjamin Brenner announced his approval of the settlement offer made earlier this month by American Home Products Corporation.

The baby formula involved was known as Liquid S-M-A, which was produced and distributed by Wyeth Laboratories, a subsidiary of American Home Products.

The formula was withdrawn from the market in 1953 after the Food and Drug Administration reported that it was deficient in vitamin B-6.

A Brooklyn couple, Frank and Mildred Cervo, brought the suit, claiming their daughter Jo-Ann, now 10 became mentally retarded after being fed the milk formula.

The child now attends a school for mentally retarded children.

AN INVESTMENT IN THE FUTURE

Over the last few years promising high school seniors have been brought to research centers to work side by side with some of the nation's outstanding scientists.



Entertaining the patients in recreation program

For the first time such a program was set up in the field of mental retardation last summer. Under Grant Foundation funds, 10 Rockland County students spent 8 weeks at Letchworth Village. The five day a week program covered psychology, biology, genetics, research, and governmental responsibility in the field.

SOCIAL SECURITY RULING MENTALLY RETARDED CHILD OVER 18 YEARS OF AGE

The following ruling by Social Security should be of interest to the members of this Association. (20 CFR 404.331 (b); 404.725)

A woman, age 58, performed the following services for her mentally retarded daughter, age 27, and entitled to child's insurance benefits: She exercised constant supervision over the daughter's meals, clothing, manners, and activities. Held, the woman had her daughter "in her care" as required for entitlement to wife's insurance benefits where a claimant is under age 62.

A worker, age 65, was entitled to old-age insurance benefits; his daughter, age 27 and mentally deficient since birth, became entitled to child's insurance benefits on the worker's earnings record. The question was whether the worker's wife, age 58, was entitled to wife's insurance benefits on his earnings record.

To be entitled to wife's insurance benefits under section 202(b) of the Act, a woman must either have attained age 62 or have in her care (individually, or jointly with her husband) a child entitled to a child's insurance benefit on her husband's earning record.

Since the wife was under age 62, she can be entitled to wife's benefits only if she has the child in her care, individually or jointly with her husband.

It was decided because of the child's peculiar preferences in food, the wife must supervise her eating to assure she gets adequate nourishment. The wife must also select the clothing for the child appropriate for the season or the occasion. Her behavior and manners similarly need and receive supervision.

Upon all these facts, it was determined that the child requires supervision and care because of a mental retardation and therefore, the wife, although she has not attained the age of 62, is entitled to wife's insurance benefits.

NIAGARA FALLS HOTEL

OCTOBER 3, 4, 5, 6

NARC ANNOUNCES \$25,000 SCIENCE GRANTS

HONORS DR. GROVER F. POWERS

The National Association for Retarded Children announces the availability of a sustaining grant of \$25,000 annually in honor of Dr. Grover F. Powers, Emeritus Professor of Pediatrics of Yale University and first chairman of the Scientific Research Advisory Board of the N.A.R.C. The initial award will be for five years with the possibility of renewal.

The award is to be made in support of the activities of a senior member of a clinical department of a medical college who, "in the image of Dr. Powers", has proved himself an outstanding clinician, teacher, and scholar with a deep interest in the problems of mentally retarded children and their families."

It is expected that the recipient of the award will merit designation within his faculty as the Grover F. Powers Distinguished Scholar or Professor of the N.A.R.C. and will be given the opportunity to maintain and expand his interest in the field of mental retardation.

Nominations from deans of medical schools should be sent to Dr. Gunnar Dybwad, Executive Director, National Association for Retarded Children, Inc., 386 Park Avenue South, New York, N. Y. to arrive by May 1, 1963.

The award will be made by the Board of Directors of the N.A.R.C. on the recommendation of its Scientific Research Advisory Board.

JAMESTOWN STUDENTS PROPOSE P.K.U. BILL

A bill, sponsored by a Jamestown High School student at the Youth and Government program in Albany in December, will be the only measure for which New York State YMCA's will lobby this year.

Harold Andersen of Alpha Hi-Y sponsored the bill which, if enacted, will affect all newborn infants in the State of New York. It is a bill to: "Mandate a screening test for Phenylketonuria in all newborn of New York State."

The bill was passed on the final Assembly floor by a vote of 153 to 2, then was voted the best bill of more than 60 that were submitted.

Assisting Andersen in drafting the bill were John Rood, faculty advisor; Sherwood Cadwell, attorney; and Mrs. Edward West, executive director of the Chautauqua County Chapter of the State Association for Retarded Children.

The Jamestown Hi-Y has been interested in the field of mental retardation this year, and besides presenting this bill, the group has sponsored a car wash and a dance for the benefit of the Chautauqua County Association which resulted in a presentation of a \$100 check during their recent fund drive.

The Association for Retarded Children is extremely hopeful that this year will see a bill mandating testing for P.K.U. for newborn infants.

ANOTHER POSSIBLE CAUSE OF MENTAL RETARDATION

Two University of Wisconsin researchers have reported that they have detected a possible cause of mental retardation.

Drs. Harry Waisman and Theo Gerritsen of the Department of Pediatrics, working under a \$225,000 Kennedy Foundation grant, announced they have isolated a sulfur containing amino acid called homocystine in the urine of a mentally retarded child.

They said the amino acid reflects a metabolic difficulty which probably results from a genetic error.

"These excess or unusual chemicals probably interfere with the normal functioning of brain tissues which control electric responses between nerves," Waisman said.

NEW FACTS ON PKU

TESTING INDICATES INCIDENCE MAY BE MUCH GREATER

In a letter to the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Pediatrics, Dr. Robert A. MacCready, director, diagnostic laboratory of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health reveals that in the first 8,000 babies tested by the diagnostic laboratories of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, using the "bacterial inhabitation assay" method (the Guthrie method) three cases were found.

"The great value in detecting these three cases seemed to us," writes Dr. MacCready, "a very ample reward for the work involved. They are quite beyond the number we expected to find in less than 10,000 bloods, and together with the Niagara Falls, New York, case detected in the first 850 bloods tested suggest that Phenylketonuria may be more frequent than one in 20,000 estimated usually quoted."

Although more hospitals in New York State are now cooperating in the testing of infants for PKU, at this point less than one third of all the infants born in New York State are being so tested.

The Department of Mental Hygiene has since 1959 administered the State's program to provide a special diet to children whose families who could otherwise not afford it. There are about 100 children under 5 now in the program which is administered by Dr. George Jervis, director of research at Letchworth Village.

Legislation, as has been reported previously, is about to be reported out in the Legislature making testing for PKU mandatory.

FURTHER PARTICIPATION IN PKU TESTING

Hospitals around the State are slowly joining in the program of testing all new born infants for Phenylketonuria (PKU).

Latest reports are that Littauer Hospital in Gloversville, New York will take part in a state-sponsored pilot program for the detection of PKU in newborn infants.

The House of the Good Samaritan in Watertown has also signed an agreement to provide a free screening program for the children born there, according to Carlton B. Shannon, hospital administrator.

Mercy Hospital in Watertown does not plan to undertake the program at the present time.

All hospitals with a maternity department in Syracuse are cooperating in the program. They are Community, Crouse-Irving, St. Joseph's, St. Mary's, Syracuse General and Syracuse Memorial.

The testing is being done by the City Laboratory with technicians that have been trained by Dr. Guthrie.

Pediatricians throughout the Syracuse area are expected to continue routinely giving the diaper test to babies in their care, and the well-baby clinics of the Syracuse City Health Department will also include the diaper test in their routine care from now on.

As has been previously noted, in spite of this participation, less than 1/4 of the babies born in New York State are going to receive this test before leaving the hospital. The slowness of the voluntary program has hastened legislation of mandatory testing.

ANOTHER CAUSE (Continued)

Gerritsen said the discovery was a "very important contribution" to the study of mental retardation. He added there may be a dozen other different causes yet to be discovered.

"We're always afraid that a thing like this will make people happy that their child can be helped," he said. "But it is only one new disease we have found here. This will be one important step towards the solution of the total problem".

"THESE ARE NOT CHILDREN"

NEW HALF HOUR DRAMA ON RETARDED ADULTS

A new half-hour drama, "These Are Not Children", has been produced by PLAYS FOR LIVING, on order from Miss Mary E. Switzer, U. S. Commissioner of Vocational Rehabilitation.

Scripts are now available for productions without charge from the Vocational Rehabilitation Administration, Washington 25, D. C.

At a special performance, where Miss Switzer was the guest of Katharine Cornell, Honorary Chairman of PLAYS FOR LIVING, she said, "This play gets the ideas about the capabilities of retarded youth over to the public more efficiently than speeches and leaflets. I hope this wonderful play will be performed all over the country for it will stimulate,

(1) Families to encourage their young people to enlist in workshops for the mentally retarded;

(2) Communities to understand and get back of vocational rehabilitation work;

(3) Employers to hire trained retarded workers."

PLAYS FOR LIVING®

A division of the Family Service Association of America



One look-see copy or a Production Kit of 5 copies for your actors may be obtained by writing to the Vocational Rehabilitation Administration in Washington. Each script contains staging directions (practically no props are called for) and a Discussion Guide written by Miss Adaline Johnesse, Psychiatric Social Work Consultant to the Vocational Rehabilitation Administration. Dr. Salvatore DiMichael, Regional Representative of the Vocational Rehabilitation Administration was Chairman of the Panel advising the author, Jerome Alden, in writing this play.

William T. Fraenkel, Executive Director of the New York City Chapter, launched the play in New York at its preview.

Inside the 50 mile area of New York City, Equity casts must perform the play (\$85). They do a terrific job of it and will travel further afield if requested. Otherwise local professional and amateur player groups may perform THESE ARE NOT CHILDREN.

On May 10th, 1963 there will be a performance of this play in Washington before the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped. Mr. Bernard Rosenberg, member of the Board of the State Association and President's Committee on the Employment of the Handicapped, was extremely influential in getting this play written and produced.

PLAYS FOR LIVING is a project of the Family Service Association of America, 44 East 23rd Street, New York 10, New York.

GOOD BUSINESS TO EMPLOY THE RETARDED

Two dramatic instances of how well the mentally retarded are doing in competitive employment have recently been reported.

The first is in Washington, D. C. There the Arlington Custodial Services, office-cleaning firm across the river from Washington, would advertise if it needed help. — "Help Wanted — Retarded Preferred." So far, Mario P. Russo, President, has hired 20. But he can't keep them; many go on to higher-level jobs.

Presently, 8 of a crew of 15 are mentally retarded — including the foreman of an entire crew, a young man who during his first 6 months at work, was too shy to speak to anyone.

Another with an I. Q. in the 40's has turned teacher. He recently conducted a one-day seminar for instructors at Washington's Occupational Training Center, telling them how he thought they should teach office-cleaning to other retardates.

One client, main office of an airline, used to call for sealed bids for clean-up work, but no longer. It asks for Russo's crew.

The other instance of employment of the mentally retarded is reported by Remco Industries of Newark, N. J., one of the nation's largest toy makers.

They state that over-all planned efficiency is 92%. Efficiency of retarded workers (who make up about one-quarter of the work force) is 87%. But add 3% to the retardate's rate for above-average attendance and punctuality. Add at least 2 more for the fact that once they're on the job, they stay; they don't job-hop. The upshot: They hold their own with the best of the non-retarded.

Remco's tips to other employers: (a) Pick the job for simplicity; (b) Set it up carefully, making sure there are no loopholes; (c) Establish the routine securely so that it can't be changed accidentally; (d) Pick the retarded worker for his particular talent (handling big items, using fingers deftly, etc.); (e) Train him carefully and completely, because if you do it right the first time, it sticks.

The latter instance of employment of the retarded has been reported in the Newsletter "Tips and Trends in the Employment of the Mentally Handicapped" put out by the President's Committee.

SPECIAL FEATURE ON REHABILITATION OF THE MENTALLY RETARDED

The November-December 1962 issue of the Journal of Rehabilitation contains a special 28-page feature on rehabilitation of the mentally retarded. This section begins with a statement by the President, John F. Kennedy and follows with the "History and Development" by Salvatore G. DiMichael; "Present Status" by William A. Fraenkel; "Major Issues — A Plan of Action" by F. Ray Power; "Medical Aspects" by George A. Jervis; "Gaps and Trends" by Morton A. Seidenfeld; "Report of the President's Panel on Mental Retardation" by Leonard W. Mayo; "Implementing Panel Recommendations: Problems and Procedures" by Gunnar Dwbwad; "Organizations and Publications" by William Sloan.

It is not the purpose of this article to review various articles in this feature. The fact that such a feature exists is sufficient evidence of the growing importance of the vocational rehabilitation of the mentally retarded on all levels.

All are urged to read this section for the valuable factual information and other features it contains.

Copies may be obtained from the National Rehabilitation Association 1029 Vermont Avenue, Washington 5, D. C.

FIRST OR SECOND (or third) HONEYMOON — NIAGARA FALLS

PICTURES (WE CAN'T RESIST



Twisting at Schenectady Day Training Center

AWARD TO EMPLOYERS OF RETARDED

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, on the proposal of the Sub-Committee on Employment of the Mentally Retarded, have agreed to make an award to the employer who contributed most in the field of hiring retardates. Our Bernard Rosenberg was extremely influential in getting this proposal accepted.

A bulletin has gone out to our chapters and vocational rehabilitation facilities for the retarded asking them to submit names of employers who they feel are qualified for an award. Along with the name should be a description of why the award should be given to the particular employer.

"It is our plan," writes Mr. Rosenberg, "that the award will be given out by the President of the United States at the national meeting of the President's Committee."

All chapters and others are urged to send in their nominations.

STATE ARC CO-SPONSORS CAMP INSTITUTE

160 PARTICIPANTS FROM FOUR STATES

Leadership in the camp community was again indicated when the New York State Association for Retarded Children and the New York City Chapter co-sponsored the First Annual Camp Institute on January 11, 1963 at the Educational Alliance in New York City.

Designed as an opportunity to share information regarding new trends in camp programs and to stimulate community agencies to develop additional camp programs, the institute attracted 160 participants from all parts of New York State, Conn., Pa., and New Jersey.

As part of the program, and acknowledging new and important programs, recognition in the form of plaques were given to: The Educational Alliance for pioneering integrated camp services for adolescents; Bronx House for pioneering in integrated day camp services for children; Lakeside Bible Conference for consistently taking in the most severely retarded children and providing camp experiences; and Five Points House for the development of low cost camp programs for the severely retarded child.

In the afternoon there were four workshops on the following topics: "Day Camping for the Mentally Retarded, within a normal camp community"; "Resident Camping for the Mentally Retarded: within a normal camp community"; "Day Camping for the Mentally Retarded: the segregated setting"; and "Resident Camping for the Mentally Retarded: the segregated setting."

Representatives of the various Chapters of the New York State Association met Friday evening to discuss their individual problems.

IN SERVICE TRAINING IN MENTAL RETARDATION FOR D.V.R. COUNSELERS

The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation of the State of New York has begun a series of in-service training sessions, "Aspects of counseling with the mentally retarded" in the various offices throughout the State.

The first such session was held in the New York City office on November 14, 1962. It continued through the next day. Mr. Owen Bernstein led the session.

A number of persons connected with the State Association and the New York City Chapter as well as members of various committees of the State Association were involved in the training session. Mr. Weingold spoke on "New Concepts, Developments and Legislation on Mental Retardation"; Dr. Arthur Maisel on "Nature and Characteristics of Mental Retardation"; Dr. Merrill Hollinshead "Expectations for the Retarded"; Dr. Max Dubrow "Empirical Methods of Evaluation of the Mentally Retarded"; Mr. Jerry Nitzberg on "Communication Problems of the Mentally Retarded"; and Meyer Schreiber on "Community Resources".

Others who participated were Ann Bass of the New York City Department of Education, "The School Placement Program"; Ann Altman, "The Placement Program in a Public Agency"; A. Katz "The Effective Use of the Retarded in Industry"; and R. Strunsky, "The Union as a Placement Source". The session was summarized by Sol Richman of the State Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.

It is contemplated that these in-service training sessions will be repeated in other offices of the state. The Association for Retarded Children greets this development with a deal of satisfaction. It has been the feeling of persons working in the field of mental retardation that much more has to be learned by the professionals on a state level who are dealing on a day to day basis with the vocational rehabilitation of the mentally retarded in the public agencies. This is an important first step in that direction.

SOCIAL WORK AND REHABILITATION WITH THE MENTALLY RETARDED

THREE DAY INSTITUTE MADE POSSIBLE

BY V. R. A. GRANT

In partnership with the New York University School of Social Work, the New York City Chapter of the Association conducted a three day institute for professionals in the fields of social work and rehabilitation on April 2, 3 and 4, 1963, at New York University. The program was made possible through a grant from the United States Vocational Rehabilitation Administration (formerly, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation).

The keynote speaker was Dr. Stella Chess of Flower Fifth Avenue Hospital. Subsequent speakers were Dr. Joseph Parnicky of the Johnstone Training School in New Jersey and Dr. Salvatore DiMichael, Regional Director of the VRA. Discussion leaders included Dr. Max Dubrow, the Director of the AHRC Training Center and Workshop, New York City, Mr. Meyer Schreiber, Director of Recreation and Camping for the City Chapter, and Jerome Nitzberg, Assistant Director of the Workshop. Miss Virginia Capeller of Jacobi Hospital and Dr. Patricia Livingston of New York University completed the list of discussion leaders. Dr. William Fraenkel, Executive Director of the New York City Chapter, was the closing speaker.

The institute was open to a select group of leaders in social work and rehabilitation and attempted to deal with the many problems involved in working together on behalf of the retardate and his family in vocational rehabilitation settings.

STATE CONVENTION — OCTOBER 3, 4, 5, 6 — NIAGARA FALLS

PRESIDENT'S PLANS (Continued from page 1)

2. **Community Services.** To stimulate public awareness and the development of comprehensive plans, he recommends Legislation to establish a program of special project grants to the states for financing state reviews of needs and programs in the field of mental retardation, with an appropriation of \$2. million.

To assist the states and local communities to construct the facilities surveys justify and plan, he recommends that Congress authorize matching grants for construction of public and other non-profit facilities, including centers for the comprehensive treatment, and care of the mentally retarded.

The mental retardation facilities construction act to be introduced is to provide federal grants to help construct, expand, remodel and replace facilities for the mentally retarded, including sheltered workshops.

In the field of vocational training and rehabilitation, the President recommends legislation to permit rehabilitation services to be provided to a mentally retarded person for up to 18 months, to determine whether he has sufficient potential to be rehabilitated vocationally. "Currently," said the President, "rehabilitation services can only be provided to disabled individuals for whom, at the outset, a vocational potential can be definitely established. This requirement frequently excludes the mentally retarded from the vocational rehabilitation program."

He also recommends legislation establishing a new program to help public and private non-profit organizations to construct, equip and staff rehabilitation facilities and workshops, making particular provisions for the mentally retarded.

He further recommends the appropriation of project grants to state institutions for the mentally retarded, with an initial appropriation of \$5 million to be increased in subsequent years to the level of at least \$11 million, to up-grade the quality of residential services for demonstration, research, and pilot projects.

3. **RESEARCH.** "Our single greatest challenge in this area is still the discovery of the causes and treatment of mental retardation." This is the opening statement of the portion of the message on research. The President recommends legislation to authorize the establishment of centers for research in human development, including the training of scientific personnel. Funds for three such centers are included for 1964; ultimately 10 centers for clinical, laboratory, behavioral, and social science research should be established.

In commenting on this message of the President, Mr. Peter C. Keischgens, President of the New York State Association for Retarded Children, said, "This gives New York State unparalleled opportunity to remain in the forefront of services for the mentally retarded. At present, New York State probably has the most complete complex of such services, but it is evident to all who work in this field, that much more, perhaps triple or quadruple, must be done in order to begin to meet the real needs of the mentally retarded."

(Continued Next Column)

KENNEDY PICKS ASSISTANT ON RETARDATION

President Kennedy recently announced appointment of Dr. Stafford L. Warren as his special assistant to develop and coordinate programs to combat mental retardation.

Dr. Warren was the vice chancellor, health sciences, of the University of California at Los Angeles and professor of biophysics and nuclear medicine at U.C.L.A. School of Medicine. He is a member of, or consultant to, several government committees and agencies.

Specifically, Warren will attempt to develop governmental and private support for the establishment of research institutes at universities; work with state agencies to plan modern community services such as workshops, day care centers for the retarded, and maternal health clinics and set up training programs for specialists in rehabilitation.

Warren's appointment follows from the recommendations of the distinguished scientists, physicians, and other leaders in the field of mental retardation who were members of the President's panel on mental retardation. Their report last October 16th called for a national attack on the problem.

PRESIDENT'S PANEL REPORT NOW AVAILABLE

The report to the President of the President's Panel on Retardation is now available in printed form from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office Washington 25, D. C. The price is 65 cents.

The 201 page document entitled, "A Proposed Program For National Action To Combat Mental Retardation," consists of 9 sections. These cover research and scientific manpower; prevention; clinical and social services; education, vocational rehabilitation, and training; residential care; the law and the mentally retarded; public awareness; and organization of services — planning and coordination.

PRESIDENT (Continued)

New York State is the first state in the United States and probably in the world to have established a Research Institute for Mental Retardation. Five million dollars has been appropriated by the State Legislature and the plans have already been completed for the erection of this facility.

New York State has the machinery for beginning the planning called for by the President's legislature. In the Inter-departmental Health and Hospital Council, the Governor's Council on Rehabilitation, and the Department of Mental Hygiene, we have the nucleus for such coordinated thinking. In addition, Governor Rockefeller has stated more than a year ago that he will, under recommendation of the State Association for Retarded Children, appoint a Citizens Committee for Mental Retardation who will act in an advisory capacity to the Governor on over-all planning and implementation of services.

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