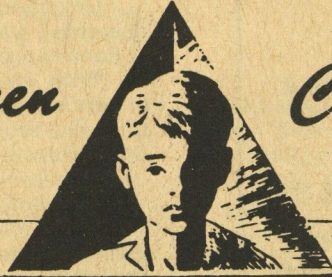


OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE

Retarded Children

Can Be Helped!



VOL. XVII ISSUE NO. 3

DECEMBER, 1964

CONVENTION ADOPTS BROAD LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS ON MENTAL RETARDATION

The following is a talk made by President Johnson on the occasion of the distribution of three pamphlets on mental retardation developed by the Joseph P. Kennedy Foundation.

"Thirty years, or even three years ago, if anyone had asked what was being done about mental retardation, the answer would have been a shrug of the shoulder. Your presence here this afternoon indicates how our answer and our attitude is changing. We are answering with our hearts and heads, not with shrugs and silence.



President Lyndon Johnson receives new Kennedy Foundation publications on mental retardation from Mrs. Eunice Kennedy Shriver at a meeting at the White House on June 15. Dr. Stafford Warren (left), special assistant to the President, and Dr. Luther Terry, Surgeon General, look on.

"All Americans can be proud and grateful for the results. Mental retardation afflicts nearly 6 million Americans. It effects 10 times more persons than diabetes; 20 times more than tuberculosis; 600 times more than polio. A retarded child is born every five minutes, 126,000 every year.

"Yet, until recently, our knowledge or interest in this crippler was little greater in the 20th century than it had been in the 1st Century. Today we can say objectively that more has been done in the government in the past two years than in the previous 200 years to meet the challenge of mental retardation.

VETOED BILLS TO BE REINTRODUCED

INSTITUTION OVERCROWDING DENOUNCED

Chapter delegates at the State Convention of the Association in Utica October 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th, 1964 translated the results of their four workshops, in executive sessions, into a broad program of legislative action.

"Legislation lies at the very heart of implementation of programs," said Ruth Gross, president, accepting the presidency for the second year. "Without the protection of the law, mentally retarded are at a distinct disadvantage in our society," she said.

In addition to the Legislative program, resolutions were adopted calling to the attention of the State deficiencies in program development for the mentally retarded, urging further growth. Some of the resolutions are as follows:

"RESOLVED, by the New York State Association for Retarded Children that the Governor and the Department of Mental Hygiene be urged to take immediate steps to solve overcrowding of State Schools for the mentally retarded. The Association deplores half measures in this respect such as stopping intake and calls for the drawing and implementation of full plans for a broad attack on such overcrowding.

"RESOLVED, that the Association deplores with alarm and distress the loss of over \$2,000,000 in Federal funds for vocational rehabilitation because of the State's failure to provide matching funds.

"WHEREAS, some disturbed or delinquent retardates are committed to State Schools, and

"WHEREAS, their presence has resulted in tragic accidents, including a recent murder.

"NOW, THEREFORE, be it

"RESOLVED, that the State of New York take all necessary steps to prevent recurrence of such incidents and immediately implement plans for construction of a 600 bed facility for disturbed retarded individuals as authorized more than six years ago.

"RESOLVED, that the New York State Association for Retarded Children urge the State Department of Education, in order that all New York State teachers have a better understanding of the needs of retarded children, to require that all students in teacher training colleges have at least one course in the field of exceptional children with emphasis upon mental retardation, and that such a course be offered in the early years of each student's preparation.

"RESOLVED, that proper State Departments and agencies dealing with public health nurses be urged to include educational and in-service training programs for public health nurses in the field of home training and management of the retarded child.

"RESOLVED, that this Association urge the activation of a program to establish "half-way" houses by the Department of Mental Hygiene to provide facilities for the social supervision of retarded adults to speed their return to the community and to prevent institutionalization of adults who can remain in the community with social supervision.

"RESOLVED, that the New York State Association for Retarded Children views with concern the rising rate of reimbursement in State Schools for the mentally retarded and that the parents of the mentally retarded are not receiving equal treatment with the parents of physically handicapped; that such fees represent double taxation and should be eliminated or modified.

"WHEREAS, the new formula for disbursing State aid to public schools in accordance with the Diefendorf Committee recommendation has been enacted into law, and

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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: RUTH GROSS

Executive Director and Editor: JOSEPH T. WEINGOLD

DOES IT TAKE A MURDER?

Elsewhere in this issue, appears the very fine statement of Dr. Jack Hammond, new Director of Willowbrook State School.

We sympathize with Dr. Hammond, whose troubles are all inherited from previous years.

The remedies that Dr. Hammond has suggested and which has been so quickly adopted by the Department of Mental Hygiene, are those that had been pushed by the Board of Visitors of Willowbrook State School for years, the staff of the State Association, and the parents meeting year after year with Dr. Hoch and his staff in Albany, but to no avail.

There can be no doubt that the tragic murder of one patient by another in an overcrowded cottage with inadequate attendants in August of this year triggered this long past due action.

What kind of a world do we live in? Does it take a murder to bring about a minimum of action?

And yet we proceed with plans to build new institutions for thousands of children rather than small rehabilitation oriented units. We pay no attention to what is happening in other states, some of those very near to us, such as Connecticut. Apparently the literature concerning Illinois, California, Colorado, Arizona, and many other states does not reach the desks of our authorities; or are ignored as not applicable to this great State.

We have the potential here in New York State for the finest and greatest program for the mentally retarded in the nation. We were the first to have colony system in institutions, successfully demonstrated the half-way house in a vocational training program with our sheltered workshop in Westchester. Syracuse State School showed the value of bringing the girls out to the community into small residences. The Children's units at Willowbrook are the finest in the country. But all of this seems to be happening haphazardly and without plan, certainly with no regard to break the stereotype of congregate institutionalization.

The time has come for action with vision. We must forget the past, and those who dwell in it must be relegated to it.

CONFUSION? OR WHAT?

Efforts to submerge the field of mental retardation in the general subject of mental health have by no means ceased in this State.

This is extremely evident in the lines that State planning are taking on a regional and even on a state level. Continually, overtly or covertly, mental retardation is labeled as a sub-section of mental health (we assume they mean mental illness).

All statements of authorities, including the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, that mental retardation and mental illness are two distinct entities, essentially separate from each other, do not affect powers that be at all.

The statement that mental retardation is "one of the illnesses that must be sub-sumed under mental illness" pops up over and over again.

(Continued Next Column)

GOVERNOR PROCLAIMS RETARDED CHILDREN'S WEEK

Governor Rockefeller has proclaimed Nov. 8-15th as "Retarded Children's Week" in recognition of the problems of handicapped children.

With dual emphasis on the improvement and expansion of services for the mentally retarded in the community and in State schools, the Governor said, "New York State is in the forefront of those taking progressive steps toward a comprehensive progress for the retarded."

The Governor's proclamation follows in full:

"New York State continues in its deep concern for the mentally retarded and in its purpose of developing each retarded individual to the fullest extent of his capacity.

"With dual emphasis on the improvement and expansion of services for the mentally retarded in the community and in State schools, New York State is in the forefront of those taking progressive steps toward a comprehensive program for the retarded.

"The number of resident patients in the State schools has been increasing at the rate of 500 to 600 patients annually, resulting in a need for an active building program. The decrease in turnover and the continued increase in resident patients are due primarily to the growing proportion of the more severely retarded, who, with modern medical care, are living longer. The state is making significant progress toward meeting this need.

"The new State school at West Seneca, opened in 1962, is providing much needed service to the western part of the State. It is expected that the Suffolk State School, now under construction, will be ready to receive patients by the end of 1965. Plans for the State school to be built at Wilton, Saratoga County, are undergoing final review.

"Emphasis is increasing on the development of community services for retarded children, including special classes, training centers, day occupational centers, and sheltered workshops. During the past year, for example, the number of day training centers for the retarded actually doubled.

"In all these endeavors, the State welcomes the support and cooperation of community groups and the New York State Association for Retarded Children. We recognize their contributions and steadfast devotion to the cause of the mentally retarded.

"While we can take pride in the progress made this year, we must look toward to ever further development of coordinated State, local, and private efforts on behalf of the retarded in the years ahead. For this reason, it is fitting that we set aside this time to give due recognition to the problems of the retarded and efforts to meet their needs.

"NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nelson A. Rockefeller, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim November 8-15, 1964, as

RETARDED CHILDREN'S WEEK

Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State at the Capitol in the City of Albany this twenty-first day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and sixty-four.
(signed) NELSON A. ROCKEFELLER."

CONFUSION (Continued)

We would like to ascribe this to confusion on the part of those who do it.

It is so evident, however, that mental retardation has within its boundary not only persons who may be emotionally disturbed or mentally ill, but also those who have cancer, rheumatism, diabetes, and many other of the ailments that afflict the human race, and we wonder if this is really confusion.

Sometimes we have a sneaking suspicion that this is deliberate and to call it what it really is, a power push to what end we just can't imagine, except personal satisfaction and ego building.

OUR STEFFIE IS GETTING MARRIED

Stephanie Davison, secretary for many years to Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of the State Association, will be getting married on December 6th, 1964 to Mr. David Hollander of Youngstown, Ohio.



Stephanie Brotheim

I am sure everyone who knows "Our Steffie" wishes her lots of happiness on her forthcoming marriage.

If Bulletins are slow for the next few weeks, you'll know the reason why — so bear with us till we get a replacement.

A most wonderful honeymoon in the Carribean to a most dedicated and good worker for all the children who are mentally retarded in New York State, and all over the world!

ASSOCIATION VOTES AWARDS FOR COMING YEAR

INSTITUTIONAL PERSONNEL, HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS TO BE HONORED

On the recommendation of the Scholarship and Awards Committee of the Association, George G. Hirsch, chairman, the Board of Governors has voted to make awards in two categories this coming year. These will be presented at the State Convention in Saratoga in October, 1965.

The first award is to the employee in each State institution for the mentally retarded selected by the director for outstanding service during the year. All are eligible with the exception of the directors, assistant directors, and business managers. This award will consist of a \$50.00 cash award and a plaque to the institution on which will be placed name plaques of the current and subsequent winners.

The second category is for High School Seniors throughout the State. This will be in a form of an essay contest, the subject to be selected by the Awards Committee, probably along the lines of "What mental retardation means to me" or "What the local community is doing for the mentally retarded." These awards will consist of \$100.00 as first prize and \$50.00 as second prize.

Regional screening committees will be set up to facilitate the work of the Awards Committee in making the selections.

The State Department of Education is cooperating with the Association in this endeavor as is the Department of Mental Hygiene by distribution of informational material to the institutions and to the various high school districts.

ADVERTISING COUNCIL SELECTS MENTAL RETARDATION AS NATIONAL HEALTH CAMPAIGN

A nation-wide campaign on mental retardation has been launched by the Advertising Council.

The campaign will consist of four major elements: advertising in newspapers and magazines; posters and billboards; announcements over radio and television; literature and information aids.

The Advertising Council is a private, non-profit communications organization supported by advertising and American business. Its sole function is to create and conduct National advertising campaigns of a public service nature. Forest fire prevention (Smokey the Bear) and sales of U. S. Savings Bonds are examples of the Advertising Council's campaigns.

The purpose of the retardation campaign is to promote public understanding and action to communications media and by National organizations and community groups. It is jointly sponsored by the Joseph P. Kennedy Jr. Foundation and the U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

NARC will pay the cost of printing pamphlets distributed in conjunction with the campaign; the Office of the Special Assistant to the President on Mental Retardation will handle the distribution.

The Council does not purchase advertising of any kind. The campaign subjects are given extraordinary exposure by donations of vast amounts of advertising time and space by thousands of cooperating stations and networks, magazines, newspapers, poster and card car companies.

Newspaper ads will be distributed to 1,500 dailies and 3,500 weeklies.

Recorded radio and T.V. messages will be distributed to over 4,500 stations and will include recordings with a message on one side from Dr. Benjamin Spock and on the other one, messages from celebrities who have retarded children, including for example, Dorothy Dandridge, Walter Abel, Peter Rieser, Dell Crandell, Pearl Buck and Joey Giardello.

The T.V. package will be distributed to all networks and to 650 local TV stations. The package includes a one-minute filmed spot of Mrs. Rose Kennedy describing her own problems in raising her daughter Rose-Marie, as contrasted with the hopes for the mentally retarded that exists today.

The Advertising Council has secured space for 2,300 — 24 sheet size outdoor billboard posters for use during the month of January.

Local units should contact all weekly and daily newspapers in their area requesting them to run the ads supplied by the Advertising Council. Included in the materials sent to the publicity chairman is an order form indicating size and style of mats available. The order form should be used to order mats directly from the Advertising Council, the address is:

Mr. David W. Heart, The Advertising Council
25 West 45th Street
New York, New York, 10036.

Outdoor advertising agencies should also be contacted by local chapters for the 24 sheets billboard posters. The posters are free to the advertising companies. Orders should be sent to Kennedy Foundation, Director of Information, The Joseph P. Kennedy Jr. Foundation, 1411 Kay Street, N. W. Washington, D. C., 20005.

Through strong cooperation on all levels this campaign can reach a saturation level for information to the public on mental retardation.

EARL W. BRYDGES, JR. ON BOARD OF NIAGARA CHAPTER

Earl W. Brydges, Jr. has been named to the Board of directors of the Niagara County Chapter of the Association, it was recently announced.

Mr. Brydges, a lawyer, will fill a vacancy on the board until the annual elections in May 1965.

The new director is a graduate of Syracuse University and of St. John's Law School, Brooklyn.

He is associated with the firm of Orr, Brydges, Orr and Dowd. He is the son of Earl W. Brydges, Senator from Niagara, who was the first chairman of the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental Retardation and one of the architects of the total State plan for the retarded.

"It is most gratifying," said Mr. Weingold, Executive Director of the Association, "to have Earl Brydges' son sit on the board of our Niagara County Chapter. It seems to me almost a poetic justice and this is most encouraging to the parents and their friends working for the mentally retarded in New York State."

CONKLIN HONORED BY CONVENTION

Principal speaker at the Saturday night Banquet of the State Convention was Senator William T. Conklin, Chairman of the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental Retardation and Physical Handicap.



Senator Conklin receives Award from Ruth Gross, as Bob Cassin, Toastmaster (left), and Mrs. Conklin applaud.

Senator Conklin was the recipient of the main award of the Convention honoring him for his years of devoted services to cause of the mentally retarded and his extraordinary efforts on their behalf in and out of the Legislature.

The message he brought to the convention was one of hope, in spite of setbacks, and a renewed dedication to the work ahead.

Mrs. Conklin and her retarded son, Billy, were enthusiastic applauders at Senator Conklin's remarks.

NEW CHAPTERS IN FORMATION

At least three new Chapters are in the process of formation at this time.

They are Otsego County, where meetings have been held in Cooperstown, Tioga County which has already organized with the election of officers, Glenn Young formerly of Broome County Chapter being elected President, and Columbia County, where meetings are being held in Hudson, New York.

On hand for these meetings has been John W. Bertrand, Assistant to the Executive Director, who has guided the parents and friends in organizational problems, as well as program development.

THREE NEW CHAPTERS ADMITTED BY BOARD AT ANNUAL MEETING

New Chapters in Tompkins County, Wayne County, and Steuben County have been admitted as Chapters of the State Association and have become members of the National Association as well.

With these three new chapters the roster now has risen to 43 Chapters covering more and more of the State's population.

"It is extremely gratifying to find this awakening interest on the part of groups throughout the State," said Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director. "To us it is a sound indication of the educational job that is being done on a local, State and National level."



Presentation of American Legion check for Tompkins County (L to R) E. J. "Pat" Corcoran, President Tompkins County Chapter, Mrs. John Gross, New York State Association for Retarded Children, President, and Max W. Schachter, Treasurer.

STATE MEMBERSHIP EXPANDS RAPIDLY

Membership in the State Association as of October 1st, as compared to a similar period in 1963 was up 14%. State membership then stood at 14,300 (we expect to go over 15,000 before the end of the year), reports Anne Kraus, Chairman Membership Development.

The gross budgets of the New York State Association's Chapters in 1959 equaled \$1,245,116.00. In 1963, the budgets equaled \$2,193,827.00. Although it is true that not all of this increase is due to additional services, significant strides came about in the past five years.

We feel that New York State Associations stand in the forefront of the country in membership and services for the mentally retarded, which after all is our major concern.

NEW YORK CITY CHAPTER ISSUES NEW DIRECTORY OF SERVICES

The New York City Chapter of the Association has issued a new publication, "Directory of Diagnostic Evaluation and Treatment Resources for the Mentally Retarded in New York City."

The Directory has 85 pages and contains the following information:

Specialized Clinics for Retardation; Public Diagnostic and Treatment Centers; Private Diagnostic and Treatment Centers; In-patient Diagnostic Centers; General Health Supervision and Phenylketonuria (PKU testing); Diagnostic and Treatment Centers for the Multiply Handicapped — (brain-injured, Cerebral Palsy, Cleft Palate, Emotionally Disturbed, Epilepsy, Eye Care, Orthopedic-Handicapped); Nursing and Homemaker Service; Oral Hygiene and Dental Care; Speech Therapy; Sterilization; and Transportation. This valuable publication is available by sending \$1.00 to the New York City Chapter of the State Association for Retarded Children, at 200 Park Avenue South, New York 3, New York.

FIRST SATELLITE WORKSHOP OPENED

MADE POSSIBLE BY FEDERAL GRANT

Implementing a Federal grant to the New York City Chapter of the Association, the first of two satellite workshops was opened in Brooklyn on October 20th, 1964.



L. to R. John Newton, Editor Journal American, Abe Stark, Boro President, Sen. Wm. T. Conklin, Chairman Joint Leg. Committee on M. R. and Max W. Schachter Pres. N. Y. C. Chapter of the Assn. at ribbon cutting.

Using the A.H.R.C. Training Center and Workshop in Manhattan as a central point for in-take and evaluation, satellite workshops will be a place of work for those who have received their training. This will be nearer their homes and provide work on an on-going basis.

The theory of the satellite workshop is that when a trainee has received full training and is ready for work, it will be less expensive to provide a work facility nearer the trainee's home, other than a central facility with professional staff no longer as deeply concerned as in the evaluation and training process.

John W. Newton, editor of the Brooklyn section of The New York Journal-American was the guest of honor at the ribbon-cutting ceremony. It was attended by State Senator William T. Conklin, chairman of the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental Retardation and Physical Handicap, Stanley Steingut, Vice-chairman, Borough President Abe Stark, and Max W. Schachter, President of the Chapter.

WORKSHOP GRANT TO FULTON COUNTY

The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation has announced an Expansion and Improvement grant for the establishment of a training center and sheltered workshop for the mentally retarded in Gloversville, New York.

The grant, amounting to approximately \$29,000, will include staffing for the first year, making ready of the premises, purchase of supplies and equipment, as well as some operating expenses.

The Chapter has been operating a program for young adults in their school building purchased a few years ago from the Board of Education.

Mr. Charles J. MacVean, a specialist in education of the mentally retarded, has been appointed director of the Lexington Training Center, as the workshop will be known.

Officially starting operation October 6, 1964, there is a nucleus of eleven retardates, mostly in the seriously retarded category. According to Mr. MacVean, of these, three might be placed in industry one day after careful appraisal and training. The trainees range in age 17 to 32 years of age.

It is the first workshop for the mentally retarded in that area of New York State and is a breakthrough for the more sparsely populated regions.

THREE ASSOCIATION WORKSHOPS SHARE REHABILITATION FUND

Under a law passed by the 1963 Legislature enabling the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation to help sheltered workshops through "Staffing of Sheltered Workshops for the Severely Handicapped," the Department had distributed some \$200,000 to 12 sheltered workshops throughout the state.

This program of State aid for sheltered workshops is the first of its kind in the Country.

The size of individual grants, up to \$30,000, depends upon the capacity of the workshop. Funds are earmarked for salaries of professional personnel.

The Association workshops that received grants are Westchester Chapter Workshop, \$21,800; Monroe County Workshop, \$14,421; and the Utica Workshop, \$6,000.

It was estimated by the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation that the total cost of this program would be about \$1,250,000 per year. \$600,000 was requested in last year's Budget, but only \$200,000 was appropriated.

The purpose of the legislation is to enable sheltered workshops who more and more are called upon to deal with the severely handicapped who remain in the workshops to meet their deficits as well as to expand and improve their services to aid more handicapped.

The department is considering new grants for this coming year and all the sheltered workshops of the Association will probably be making applications.

WIRTZ NOTES JOB POTENTIAL OF RETARDED

The great majority of the nation's mentally retarded can support themselves at jobs demanding "low-level" skills, the Department of Labor believes.

More than 85 per cent of the 3.3 million mentally retarded persons between 16 and 64 have intelligence quotients between 50 and 70 and thus are capable of being trained for these jobs, the Department reports.

Wirtz Stresses Hope

Secretary of Labor W. Willard Wirtz stressed the hope offered by this report:

"The results of this study," he said, show that the mentally retarded can develop fuller and more meaningful lives.

"It is highly encouraging that of the 125,000 retarded children born each year, some 110,000 are capable of performing useful and rewarding work and of becoming self-supporting."

The report said that present training programs are inadequate but that progress is being made. Through the federal-state vocational rehabilitation system, 5,900 retarded were rehabilitated in fiscal 1963. For fiscal 1964, the number is expected to be 7,500.

Earnings of the retarded rise rapidly after rehabilitation. Some 92 per cent of those rehabilitated in 1963 had no income at the time of acceptance and less than one per cent had earnings of 40 dollars or more per week. After rehabilitation, only 7 per cent had no earnings and about 44 per cent earned \$40 or more a week.

The Civil Service Commission has found, the report said, that the retarded show high motivation, willingness to work, and reliability in attendance.

Occupations for which the mentally retarded can be trained draw heavily upon traits other than intelligence, the report said, and are found mainly in the unskilled, semi-skilled and service categories. Employment in service industries is expected to increase rapidly and job opportunities for the mentally retarded should expand greatly.

As training programs for the mentally retarded are developed, more and more of them will be able to support themselves, the report said, with gains to the individual and to society as a whole, through savings in public and private assistance costs and a decrease in anti-social behavior.

GOVERNMENT FINDS JOBS FOR RETARDED

The Federal Government, which never knowingly hired mentally retarded persons before January, has since placed more than 200 in 24 agencies through a highly successful program initiated by the late President Kennedy.

Reports from superiors of the first 125 hired were overwhelmingly enthusiastic. Only two placements failed to work out.

The Civil Service has found that there are many simple tasks in Government offices for which mentally retarded persons are better suited than persons of normal intelligence.

"They are not bored and dissatisfied in routine jobs. They produce well and have a lower turnover than non-handicapped persons in the same work," said Dr. Melvin T. Johnson, medical director of the CSC.

Persons with an IQ range of 50 to 75 have been hired in about 30 job categories (The intelligence quotient is only one of the measures of retardation). They now work as money examiners in the Treasury Department, checking for counterfeit. They are mail and file clerks, messengers, press cleaners, elevator operators, clerks, laborers and sales store workers.

Almost all are in GS-1 and GS-2 levels, earning \$3385 to \$3680 a year.

Jobs have been reorganized to create opportunities for retarded persons in some instances. For example, one retarded young woman is doing well as a copying machine operator at a GS-1 salary. She has freed several GS-6 secretaries for more demanding duties.

The program has meant a long-awaited breakthrough for rehabilitation workers who were constantly facing closed doors in trying to find work for retarded persons they had trained.

"It has been a particular boon in this area," said Sister Joseph Mary, director of the Kennedy Institute, a school at 801 Buchanan St. NE. "Most of the jobs here are connected with Government. We could train people for manual or office tasks — we could teach them to do them well, but they couldn't get the jobs because of the Civil Service tests."

Under the new program, mentally retarded persons do not take the test. Instead, they must be certified by the state vocational rehabilitation agency as able to perform the duties for which they are to be hired.

Of the 212 employed until the end of September, 129 have been placed in the Washington area.

A letter from President Kennedy to heads of departments and agencies launched the program.

"The biggest thing we had to get across was that we were talking about educable people with no identifying marks. We were not talking about mongoloids," said Carl Murr, the Commission's vocational rehabilitation officer in charge of program for the handicapped. (Any reaction readers?)

The first person hired was a shy young woman who had been working until then for room, board and carfare on a housekeeping job. She became a nurse's assistant at \$1.40 an hour in a large Government agency and did so well that she is now on her way to becoming a clerk-typist.

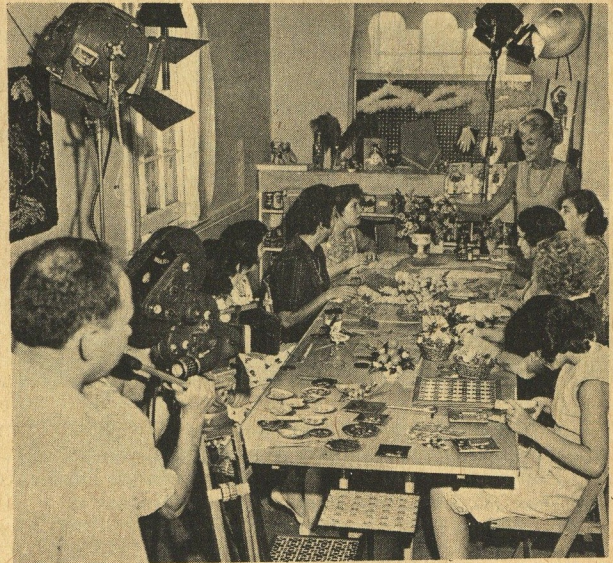
Others employed had been on public assistance, had worked in sheltered workshops or had been supported by their families. Most were between 18 and 20 years old.

Grateful letters began to pour in from parents. Had it not been for the Government's help, wrote one mother, her son — who is epileptic as well as retarded — would have had to continue on a hazardous construction job. He is doing well as clerk.

Secretary of Labor W. Willard Wirtz said recently that more than 85 per cent of the 3.3 million mentally retarded persons in this country have IQs between 50 and 70 and can be trained for jobs.

PICS PICK BOUTIQUE

Nassau County Chapter has been singled out by President Johnson's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped for a special Department of Labor documentary film which is being produced for television viewing throughout the United States to demonstrate what can be done for and by the handicapped.



Mrs. Antzis is pictured, upper right, during the filming under the direction of Charles Glazier of Tacoma Park, Maryland and cameraman A. Millstead of Washington, D. C.

The Boutique Workshop, under the direction of Mrs. Eli Antzis, which operates at the AHRC Educational Center in Brookville, Long Island, trains the young retardates to make useful, saleable gift items. The program was previously cited by the President's Committee as an outstanding one in the nation, and exhibited at the Annual meeting of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, Washington, D. C. last spring.

"CAN YOU USE RELIABLE STEADY WORKERS?"

This is the heading of a jobs wanted bulletin put out periodically by the AHRC Training Center and Workshop in New York City.

On the cover appears the information:

"Mature adults, intensively trained in work skills and work habits. Trained with real work, thirty hours a week, for which they are paid. Ready for employment."

Under that is listed the kind of jobs that the workers can do. These are, messengers, factory workers, freight handlers, office cleaners, wrappers and packers, cafeteria and restaurant workers, and porters.

In addition to this blurb are descriptions of each of the persons to be ready to be placed under the different categories. As for example,

"M.F. Age 18: Particularly versatile young man. Can do a variety of jobs including bench and floor work. Can be a messenger or office worker. Operates an electric mimeograph machine. Particularly well-spoken, personable, well-mannered, conscientious young man. Nice appearance."

This is regularly distributed to prospective employers in the Metropolitan area.

"CONTRACTOR OPINIONS OF SHELTERED WORKSHOPS"

Under the above heading, an article recently appeared by Mr. Michael Dolnick, regional representative for the National Society for Crippled Children and Adults.

As a part of a project, "Contract procurement problems of sheltered workshops," interviews were held with representatives of industrial firms subcontracting work to 35 sheltered workshops.

Contractors who had given significant volume of work to the sheltered workshops were selected for interview. Generally, these were the workshops' largest customers in terms of dollar volume; however, the were not always large companies. Forty-eight contractors employed less than 50 persons; 48 employed between 50 and 500; and 36 contractors employed more than 500.

When contractors were asked how they first became aware of the workshop services, 21% stated that they first learned of the workshop through a call of a salesman, a work representative; 20% had personal knowledge or interest through their own activities with the agency; 17% first heard of the workshop through recommendation or referral of a business associate. 21% had no idea of how the workshop originally came to the attention of their company. Newspaper publicity was mentioned only three times, radio and TV, once, and direct mail advertising, once.

The most frequently stated reason (29% of the contractors) for first purchasing services from the workshops was the need for extra labor and the contractors' inadequate work force to meet emergency or peak load situations.

Sympathy for the workshop and a desire to assist the handicapped was the next most frequently mentioned reason (27%) for first purchasing workshop services. But sympathy continues only as long as services and quality remain at a high level.

Lower costs were cited by 21% of the contractors as a reason for first purchasing workshop services. However, costs were not the only factor in these cases.

Thirteen per cent of the contractors said the nature of the contract job was outside their normal line of work.

Need for a new source was given as the reason by 9% of the contractors.

Other reasons cited for first purchasing services were inadequate space, lack of facilities, and a too-low skill level of the job for the contractor's regular highly-paid employees.

As to the contractors' reactions to the presentation, only 36 contractors had been directly approached with a sales presentation. Of these, 27 stated that the presentation was a businesslike explanation of the job the workshops could do; 4 said it was a straight appeal for sympathy, and 5 said the sales presentation was a combination of these two approaches.

Most appealing seemed to be the straight businesslike approach. In discussing how the workshop and the contractor determine to negotiate a price for the work done, 65% of the cases said that they requested a quotation, the workshop bid, and the price was accepted. 17% of those interviewed said they told the workshop the price they would pay. Only 4 contractors said they gave the work out and accepted the workshop's price at a later date after they had the experience of a trial run.

Although most of the comments about visits to the workshops were favorable, unfavorable comments were such items as: an industrial staff who could not talk our language; the workshop didn't look like a factory; that there was no equipment; that they accepted work beyond their capacity; or that the workers were too slow.

It is interesting to note that the interviewers found that rehabilitation was generally the subject of limited interest to the contractor.

The following statement is typical of several which were made:

(Continued Next Column)

HONORED BY PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE



Admiring the Arts and Crafts Exhibit are, left to right: Mrs. Alyce Antzis, teacher, Association for the Help of Retarded Children, Nassau County Chapter; Mrs. Leo L. Pollak, a member of the President's Committee, whose outstanding assistance contributed to the success of the exhibit; Miss Katharine Cornell and Miss Ethel Barrymore Colt who are with "Plays for Living" and participated in the introduction of "The Handicapped Housewife" on Friday morning; and Miss Sylvia Spencer, Public Relations Counsel and a member of the Executive Committee of the President's Committee.

FIRST EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR AWARD

W. T. Grant Company was named the first recipient of the Employer of the Year Award given by the National Association for Retarded Children at its annual convention held in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, in October.

A handsome bronze plaque was presented to Louis C. Lustenberger, Grant Company President by Harold Russell, Chairman of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, at a luncheon at the Grand Ballroom of the Hotel Skirven, on Thursday, October 8th.

In accepting the award, Mr. Lustenberger paid special tribute to H. Sheridan Byrne, manager of the Company's big unit in Wilmington, Delaware, whose record of successful employment of trained mentally retarded young adults won nomination of the Grant Company for the award.

"Our experience has proved that it's mighty good business to hire these young people," Mr. Lustenberger stated. "Not only can the retarded be helped; given the opportunity, they can be very helpful and take their place in society as productive workers, eager and able to make their own way. We in business must recognize this fact and make available to them the jobs for which they can qualify through effective rehabilitation training," he concluded.

Prominent in promoting the Employer of the Year Award was Mr. Bernard Rosenberg, former President of the Westchester Chapter of the Association and a member of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped.

The Grant Company operates 1,086 stores in 45 States and employs 50,000 people.

CONTRACTOR (Continued)

"If you are willing to spend a great deal of money on rehabilitation facilities and personnel, then you can also shell out money to hire a good man at the business end. You don't need an industrial engineer — just a man who knows good business policy and procedure."

CALIFORNIA TO EMPHASIZE SMALLER RETARDATION INSTITUTIONS

California is through building mammoth, isolated institutions to handle the mentally retarded, Governor Brown pledged at the fourth annual Mental Health-Retardation banquet.

The emphasis instead will be on small treatment facilities as much in the mainstream of community life as possible, the governor said in a speech prepared for the awards dinner.

"We do not plan to build any more isolated, 3,000 to 4,000-patient institutions." Instead, he commented, future state facilities will be limited to 500 patients, with some in the heart of major population areas.

"If we plan and act with wisdom now, public mental hospitals will disappear in 25 years. We are making progress . . . but so long as there are still some state hospital wards with 80 to 100 patients and only one or two technicians to give them nursing care and attention, we have not won."

Limitation of the size of institutions for the mentally retarded has long been part of the policy of the New York State Association for Retarded Children.

INTERDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCES FOR STATE SCHOOLS PERSONNEL

Two Interdisciplinary Conferences for all personnel in state schools — one upstate and one downstate — have recently been held by the Department of Mental Hygiene.

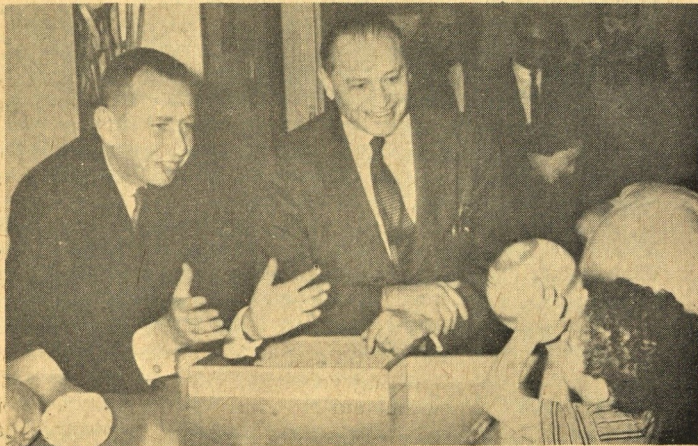
The disciplines involved are Medicine, Psychology, Social Work, Recreation, Nursing, Education, and Occupational Therapy.

The upstate meeting was held this year at the new West Seneca State School and the keynote speaker was Mr. Thomas Clark who is Chief of Activity Therapy Services, Illinois State Department of Mental Health.

The downstate conference was held at Willowbrook State School. Participants were Mr. James A. Forde, Principal Administrative Analyst, Office of Planning and Procedures, Dr. George L. Wadsworth, Associate Commissioner, Division of Mental Retardation who spoke on "A State Plan for the Mentally Retarded," and Mr. George Gray, Director of Mental Hygiene Facilities Planning, who spoke on "Planning of Facilities for the Mentally Retarded."

These conferences represent an effort on the part of the Department of Mental Hygiene to further the professional development of personnel in the State Schools.

TINKERS TO EVERS TO CHANCE



Another winning combination is Lieutenant Governor Malcolm Wilson, Dr. Frank Glasser, then acting director of Willowbrook State School, and a toddler with the ball.

SARGENT SHRIVER HELPS WATERTOWN TAGDAY



Sargent Shriver, Jr., head of the Peace Corp. buys a tag from Rosemary Sinclair during Jefferson County Chapter tag day. No secret that he gave her \$10, and autographed it.

STATE NURSES ASSOCIATION MEETING DISCUSSES MENTAL RETARDATION

Noted authorities in fields of mental retardation and environmental health addressed some 200 registered professional nurses attending a two-day conference September 29th and 30th at the Georgian Motel at Lake George.

Keynote speaker for the program on mental retardation was Chris DeProspero, Ed.D., professor of Education at City College of New York.

Other speakers on mental retardation included John K. Miller, M.D., assistant director for clinical research in the N.Y. State Dept. of Health Laboratory; William A. Peterson, M.D., director of the Birth Defects Clinic at the Albany Medical Center; Mary L. Lorch, R. N., assistant director of education at Buffalo's Children's Hospital; Mary A. Kelly, R.N., principal of the School of Nursing at the Willowbrook State School, Staten Island, and Ita McDermott, R. N., administrative assistant in physical therapy of the Visiting Nurse Association of Brooklyn.

WILLOWBROOK GRADUATES 19 NURSES

The School for Practical Nursing at Willowbrook State School graduated 19 at the commencement exercises in September.

This is an annual program for Willowbrook State School to which come trainees from the other State Schools in New York State.

Awards were presented to the graduates by Dr. Jack Hammond, director of the School.

Although eight of the 19 graduates are Staten Island residents, the others may find their talents used around the State for the benefit of the mentally retarded.

CONDITIONS "DEPLORABLE" STATES NEW DIRECTOR AT WILLOWBROOK

PRESENTS A PROGRAM TO IMPROVE CONDITIONS

Dr. Jack Hammond, director of Willowbrook State School, early this summer, reacting most vigorously to the conditions at Willowbrook State School, presented a program for the improvement of situation which he called "deplorable".

In an address to the staff on September 23rd, he said that he wishes to "continue to work together on something that resembles more a hospital than 'snake-pits'".

His move to better conditions was accelerated greatly by the fact that one of the patients at Willowbrook on August 11th murdered by another, in a ward that was approximately 100% overcrowded, "in a dormitory where it was almost impossible for the attendants to get in between the beds, and at a time when the attendants on duty happened to be occupied with the care of two different patients, just a bit off the ward, and the ward was left without direct employee observation for perhaps ten or fifteen minutes."

The following are excerpts from Dr. Hammond's address: — "When I arrived here approximately ten weeks ago, I found the most deplorable conditions that could be imagined in a state institution of this type, in certain areas. I also found that the staff, and I'll say the total staff, was working under extremely difficult and unsatisfactory conditions, faced with an impossible situation that was beyond tolerance. The conditions in some buildings, especially the overcrowding, made patient care almost impossible.

"There were other defects and, as you will remember, we started out the first week with a campaign for alleviating the littering on our grounds and the over-flowing, stinking garbage pails. These matters have been corrected. Another matter, I just bring it in to mention it for the record, is that we have been able to institute seven-day-a-week laundry collection from all buildings with wetters and soilers, hoping at least to make the atmosphere a little more bearable. But to get back to the point of this meeting.

"As you all know, in the early morning hours of the 11th of August, one of our patients was murdered by another one. This happened in a ward that was approximately 100% over-crowded, in a dormitory where it was almost impossible for the attendants to get in between the beds, and at a time when the two attendants on duty happened to be occupied with the care of two different patients, just a bit off the ward, and the ward was left without direct employee observation for perhaps ten or fifteen minutes. These matters of record; it all came out in the investigation."

Dr. Hammond went on to say that the key to the situation was overcrowding. "One cannot give adequate care in buildings where there is not room enough for an employee to turn around," said Dr. Hammond, "in a day-room between patients, or to walk in a dormitory where one can't get in between the beds."

In order to remedy this situation, Dr. Hammond presented an interim six point program, which includes the following:

1. That in-take at Willowbrook as of October 15th be suspended at least 90 days except for children under 5.
2. That when admissions are reopened, admissions will be regulated on a one for one basis.
3. That there be established an evaluation, diagnostic and counselling service for the pre-admission screening of applicants for admission to Willowbrook State School.
4. That there be initiated a reception service for newly admitted patients to give them a proper evaluation for good placement.
5. Additional items be allowed by Budget for ward personnel to bring the staffing of the buildings for the disturbed, overactive and untidy patients up to the maximum possible.
6. The present practice of disciplining patients who require correction by placing brighter patients on wards with low-grade, disturbed patients should be discontinued.

(Continued Next Column)

THE STRUGGLE AGAINST OVERCROWDING

Stating that Rome State School is "the most overcrowded," Dr. Charles Greenberg, senior director of the Rome State School, highlighted the problem for the whole State. Latest figures (July) indicate that there are 4,372 patients in Rome State School in spite of the certified capacity of 3,058.

"We don't have them sleeping in the halls, yet," Dr. Greenberg said. The chances of continued over-crowding has been lessened however by a \$500,000 modernization program that will remodel some old buildings pending completion of the other facilities.

The State institutions for the mentally retarded are bursting at the seams to such an extent that the State Mental Hygiene Department's Facilities and Improvement Funds pumped \$35 million into new buildings into expanded facilities for the 1963-64 fiscal year and has already scheduled \$60 million more for the 1964-65 fiscal year without any appreciable effect on the population.

A Department of Mental Hygiene's spokesman said that the total cost for 1962-63 for institutional care came to \$60,598,799. This included patient care, research, staff salaries, general administration of the program, education and training.

This broke down to about \$52 million for treatment; \$6 million for fringe benefits for employees; \$950,000 for family care, \$235,000 for convalescent care outside of New York City; \$55,000 for convalescent care in New York; \$119,000 for private care for children under 5 years of age; \$631,000 for administration; \$407,000 for research and \$65,880, for education and training.

In contrast to this, the money expended for community services through the Community Mental Health Services Act, is less than \$300,000.

BOARDS OF VISITORS ELECT

At the annual meeting of the Association of the Boards of Visitors of the Mental Hygiene Institutions of New York State, Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of the New York State Association for Retarded Children, a member of the Board of Visitors of Willowbrook State School, was elected to the Executive Committee.

Other members of the Association serving on the Boards of Visitors are Peter C. Keischgens for West Seneca, and Joseph Abissi, Regional Vice-President of the Association, for Rome State School.

DEPLORABLE (Continued)

All of these measures have been agreed to by Commissioner Hoch and are being implemented. The item for increased staff is being presented to the Budget in as graphic a matter as possible.

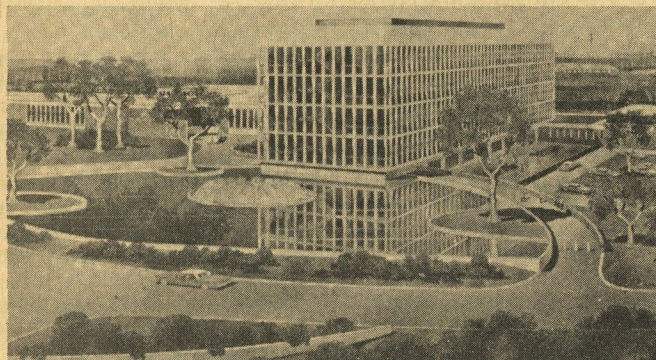
Dr. Hammond concluded his remarks to the staff as follows:

"I wanted you to know these things, I want you to know what is going on and I want you to have some idea what I have been doing and where I have been for the past two months, since many of you have hardly seen me, and you may have been wondering whether I was out playing golf or off swimming or away on vacation or reading books. I have, in fact, been knocking my head against the wall with your problems and have been most depressed and distressed and unable to sleep because of the conditions under which you are working, and the conditions under which our patients are living. This is the result of my first few weeks here.

"I hope you will continue to cooperate with me, as you have been doing, and that you can look forward to a better day for the institution and that we can continue to work together in something that resembles more a hospital than 'a snakepit'. If you have any suggestions or ideas about improving patient care and so on, please feel free to come to me and tell me about them, or call up, or drop me a note and let me know what's going on and what you think we might be able to do to help things along."

NEW YORK STATE RESEARCH INSTITUTE TO BE COMPLETED BY JUNE, 1966

The New York State Research Institute for Mental Retardation, first conceived in 1956, will soon become a reality, according to Commissioner of Mental Hygiene, Dr. Paul H. Hoch.



The \$7.5 million institute will be adjacent to Willowbrook State School. Contracts are expected to be let shortly for the facility and completion date is set for 1966.

As noted elsewhere in this issue, the New York State Association for Retarded Children has called on the Legislature to name the facility the Brydges-Steingut Research Institute for Mental Retardation, in honor of the two men whose efforts steered this measure through the Legislature. It is hoped that such legislation will be introduced at the 1965 session.

The five story building, to be constructed of steel and prestressed concrete, will include eight planned laboratories designed for flexibility of space and equipment. The wards, with a total capacity of 40 beds, will be solely for patients under observation.

In addition, provisions have been made for rooms for public meetings and consultations and for ancillary services such as photographic laboratories and a maintenance shop.

Believed to be the first institute of its kind in the world, the mental retardation research institute, with a staff of 250 persons, will conduct research in biochemistry, genetics, microbiology, pathology, biophysics, physiology, biometrics and psychology.

INCREASED FUNDS FROM MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH

Under the Maternal and Child Health and Mental Retardation Planning Amendments of 1963 (P. L. 88-156), increased Federal funds are being made available to the States for expansion of the maternal and child health and crippled children's programs.

The law authorizes increases from \$25 million to \$50 million for each of these two programs by steps over a 7-year period. These funds are allotted to the States on the basis of formulas that take account of the number of live births in the State and the State's per capita income.

On September 19th, 1964, President Johnson signed into law the fiscal year 1965 appropriation for the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. Included in it were:

1. \$35 million for maternal and child health services of which \$3.5 million is to be used only for special projects for mentally retarded children.

2. \$35 million for crippled children's services of which \$2.5 million is to be used only for special projects for crippled children who are mentally retarded.

With the additional money, State Health Departments may advance programs to increase the services available to the retarded; enlarge existing clinical services by adding clinic staff; extend screening programs for PKU and other conditions; develop genetic service laboratories; and increase professional training opportunities in the area of child health and growth and development.

ASSOCIATION URGES LEGISLATURE TO NAME RETARDATION INSTITUTE AFTER LEGISLATORS

The New York State Association for Retarded Children at its Convention in Utica called on the Legislature and the Governor to name the planned Research Institute for Mental Retardation, "The Brydges-Steingut Research Institute for Mental Retardation."

More than 200 delegates from the 43 Chapters of the Association heard Mrs. John Gross, president, state "The naming of the Institute in honor of Senator Brydges and Assemblyman Steingut is the most fitting act the State can make to indicate its appreciation of the efforts of these two men on behalf of this project. This will be the first and perhaps the largest research center for mental retardation in the world."

It is the result of more than eight years of work and planning, first conceived by the Joint Legislative committee on Mental Retardation, whose chairman was then Senator Earl W. Brydges, Republican of Niagara, and Assemblyman Stanley Steingut, Democrat of Kings, vice-chairman. It received legislative approval in 1956.

OTHER STATES FOLLOW N.Y. LEAD ON PKU

Since the passage of the bill mandating testing of newborn infants for PKU, the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental Retardation and Physical Handicap and the State Association have received requests for information from numerous states with regard to this measure.

At the meeting of the National Association for Retarded Children in Oklahoma, the Rehabilitation Services Committee of the State Legislative Council held a session specifically on this point.

From New York State appeared Dr. Robert Guthrie, the originator of the Guthrie blood test, and Jerry Weingold, Executive Director of the Association, pinch-hitting for Senator William T. Conklin, chairman of the Joint Legislative Committee, who could not be there.

Dr. Robert A. MacCready, director of diagnostic laboratories of the Massachusetts Department of Health, and a member of the NARC Board, said that the tests cost about 50 cents each. Testing has been mandatory in Massachusetts for two years.

Dr. MacCready reminded the legislators that the special diet is expensive and that funding for the treatment of the test-uncovered cases must be available.

Mr. Weingold cautioned that the institutionalization of every patient with PKU is extremely high. Though the victims have severe brain damage, frequently accompanied with lack of muscular coordination, their life span is traditionally long, usually in the range of 50 years.

"In our state it costs \$20,000 to build a hospital bed. Upkeep amounts to \$2,800 a year. The amount of money it costs to mass test is an investment, not an expenditure."

Dr. Edith Hershey, Dallas, regional medical director of U.S. Children's Bureau, warned that "if you wait to educate rather than legislate, you will be filling up your institutions with children who could be spared."

\$300,000 AWARD FOR RETARDATION

A 10-year-old boy has been awarded \$300,000 from a hospital and two doctors because of a tonsillectomy which his parents say left him mentally retarded and nearly blind. The award to Alan Mitchell Grimes-Graeme, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Grimes-Graeme of Port Washington was reached in conference with Supreme Court Justice Paul J. Wildlitz in Mineola, N. Y. A jury had been hearing the parents' suit for \$1.5 million damages.

The suit charged that Alan's heart stopped for three minutes in a recovery room after his tonsils were removed in June 1958. It said a passing surgeon saved the boy's life by massaging his heart, but his brain had been permanently damaged by lack of oxygen.

BROOKLYN JEWISH HOSPITAL

GRANTED \$360,000

MENTAL RETARDATION PROGRAM TO BE EXPANDED

The new National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, established on the recommendation of President Kennedy, has awarded the Jewish Hospital of Brooklyn a grant of \$360,000 for the creation of a Developmental Research Center.

The grant is for a five-year period and is renewable thereafter. The developmental research will be conducted in the hospital's Division of Pediatric Psychiatry under the direction of Dr. Joseph Wortis, who is also the director of the Morris J. Solomon Clinic for Retarded Children.

Initially, Dr. Wortis noted, studies will be concentrated on the standardization of developmental tests conceived by Else Haeussermann, a child development specialist in the Division. These tests involve methods of determining the true capacity for development on the part of severely or multiply-handicapped children. The tests will now be standardized and also will be extended to the infant age group.

Physicians, psychologists and research assistants also will be involved in the work of the Center.

Already underway, is a large scale statistical study—using computer techniques — of the population of the Morris J. Solomon Clinic for Retarded Children.

In addition to this significant grant, the Division of Pediatric Psychiatry has received other grants this year totaling \$140,000 from the National Institutes of Health and other agencies, for its service, research and training programs.

This includes an increased allotment from the New York City Community Mental Health Board, a grant from the National Institute of Mental Health for the training of pediatricians in psychiatry, and grants from the New York City Chapter of the Association for the Help of Retarded Children, and the Morris J. Solomon Sunshine League.

The Division was first established through a grant of \$10,000 from the Morris J. Solomon Sunshine League of Brooklyn, through the New York City Chapter of the Association.

U. S. & NEW YORK CITY BACK RESEARCH CENTER FOR RETARDED

A new center for the study of mental retardation and related problems will be built at Yeshiva University's Albert Einstein College of Medicine, in the Bronx, Dr. Samuel Belkin, president of the university, recently announced.

The 10-story Center for Research in Maternal and Child Health and Human Development will rise on land provided by the City of New York within the Bronx Municipal Hospital Center. The National Institutes of Health of the United States Public Health Service is providing a building grant of \$3.75 million.

The project here and a similar one at the University of Washington in Seattle are outgrowths of recommendations made by a special Panel on Mental Retardation appointed in 1961 by President Kennedy.

The center here will have a staff of more than 200 scientists under the direction of Dr. Harry H. Gordon, Grover F. Powers Professor of Pediatrics.

The center will include an enlarged developmental evaluation clinic, equipped to gauge sensory and motor capabilities as well as psychological and emotional factors of the child; a division with special equipment to measure brain waves from infancy for earliest diagnosis of abnormal development of the nervous system; and a special facility for studying the differences in responses of the development of vital organs to different drugs.

HIGH RISK MATERNITY CASES

In mid July, the Children's Bureau announced the initial grants made under the increased appropriation for new programs authorized by the Maternal and Child Health and Mental Retardation Planning Amendments to the Social Security Act.

Seven grants were made under the new 5-year program to aid mothers and infants regarded medically as high risks.

The recipients which must shoulder at least 25 per cent of the cost were: The New York City Health Department; Richmond County Health Department in Georgia for that county and 10 surrounding counties; and a number of others.

Their projects will seek to increase the number of prenatal and post-partum clinics; pay for hospital inpatient care in voluntary hospitals; expand the medical, nursing, social work, and nutrition staffs of hospitals; expand public health nursing staffs; provide care to mothers of low-income families for travel to and from clinics; provide homemakers to teach these mothers good child care practices; and use trained nurse-midwives to provide direct service to patients. They will focus especially on building up services in areas with high rates of prematurity, infant mortality, and lack of prenatal care.

Under the increased authorization of \$5 million each for the regular Federal-State maternal and child health and crippled children's programs, the Bureau made grants to State health departments and crippled children's agencies to expand services for the mentally retarded and multiply handicapped children and to 19 institutions of high learning for special projects to focus on the training of personnel for these and related services.

Recipient States are Idaho, Minnesota, New Mexico, Maryland, New York, Tennessee, Iowa, Texas, Georgia, and Pennsylvania.

In addition, the Medical School of the State University of New York at Buffalo received a grant for a new genetics laboratory to provide facilities for detection, diagnosis, and study of inborn and other errors of metabolism and chromosomal abnormalities. Genetic counseling will be a consultative service to the pediatrics department.

CAT-CRY INFANTS HEREDITY VICTIMS

A newly-noted and poignant quirk of nature — the production of abnormal babies whose cries resemble "the plaintive mewing of a cat" — was recently described to a group of scientists considering medical genetics.

The cat-cry infants, who are probably doomed to early death, are victims of an inborn derangement of their heredity-carrying-chromosomes — a disorder of unknown cause — that has been named "cri-du-chat syndrome" which is French for "cry of the cat."

But Dr. Margery W. Shaw of the University of Michigan, who described this strange disorder at a scientific meeting, declared that while the cat-like crying of the infant is the most bizarre characteristic of the ailment, the infant also has these symptoms:

Severe mental retardation; an unusually small head; downward slant to the eyes; low-set ears; depression of the bridge of the nose; and a small lower jaw.

Dr. Shaw addressed scientists attending a special course in medical genetics staged by the Jackson Memorial Laboratory for Hereditary Research and the Johns Hopkins University.

The malady was first recognized by a French scientist, Dr. Jerome Lejeune of Paris, only last year, but that since that time, approximately 25 cases have been noted in the United States alone—indicating it may be relatively common throughout the world.

Dr. Lejeune is the scientist who, in 1959, discovered that victims of mongolism have an extra chromosome in all their cells.

CONVENTION (Continued from Page 1)

"WHEREAS, under this law, special funds for maintenance of classes for the handicapped are no longer provided, be it

"RESOLVED, that the New York State Association for Retarded Children urge that the State Legislature at its next session amend this provision of law to provide for the excess cost of such classes either by weighting or some other means.

"RESOLVED, that the Association views with great concern the practice of the Department of Mental Hygiene in placing mentally ill and the mentally retarded in the same residential facilities, even though in separate buildings. This practice tends to confuse the public and may inhibit the creation of suitable services for rehabilitation of the mentally retarded.

"RESOLVED, that the State Education Department be urged to discontinue the use of I.Q. as a criterion for admission of children to trainable and special classes for the mentally retarded and establish more professionally accepted definitions and standards."

The delegates unanimously adopted a Legislative program consisting of 19 items including six that the Governor had previously vetoed. Among those that are receiving high priority are the establishment of a Regional Sheltered Workshop and Residential Center on a demonstration basis, passed by the two previous legislatures and vetoed twice by Governor Rockefeller; to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure to treat all mentally retarded as youthful offenders and to eliminate the responsibility for reimbursement for patients in State Schools by parents and other liable relatives.

The Convention was unanimous once more in opposing the Department of Mental Hygiene's efforts to change the name of State Schools to "Schools and Hospitals".

The Legislative program adopted follows:

1965 LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM**A. BILLS PASSED BUT VETOED IN 1964:****1. VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION****a. Regional Sheltered Workshop and Residential Center.**

That a Regional Sheltered Workshop and Residential Center for the mentally retarded be established in Westchester. This bill has the approval of the Department of Education (Division of Vocational Rehabilitation) and Mental Hygiene.

2. CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE**a. To Treat All Mentally Retarded as Youthful Offenders.**

To amend the Code of Criminal Procedure to permit judges to treat as youthful offenders the mentally retarded accused of crimes. This measure passed the Senate in limited form in 1963 and was reported out in the Assembly, but was withdrawn for further study by the Commission on the Revision of the Penal Law and Criminal Code. It was passed in 1964 and vetoed.

3. EDUCATION**a. Testing of Under-Achievers or Pupils Who Fail in Any Two Consecutive Years.**

CONVENTION (Continued Next Column)

CONVENTION (Continued)

Adequate testing of all children in public schools who fall in any consecutive two years of school to be provided by the public school to determine whether or not they are mentally retarded and in need of special education. Such a bill was passed in 1962 and vetoed by the Governor with the understanding that the State Department of Education would try with the Association to draft a bill that would meet the objections of the Governor. Although we held two meetings with the Department of Education no such bill was introduced in 1963. The bill passed in 1964, but was vetoed. We recommend this legislation again with the omission of parental consent.

b. Mandating School Districts To Accept Contracts From Other School Districts For Education of The Mentally Retarded.

Although the Education Law provides that a school district if it does not set up its own classes for mentally retarded children, must contract with another school district, etc., there is nothing in the law which requires the second school district which may have a class to accept the children from the school district required to contract. This creates situations where a mentally retarded child may fall between the two school districts and not receive any education.

4. MENTAL HYGIENE**a. Parents On Boards of Visitors.**

That one member of every Board of Visitors of State Schools for the mentally retarded be the parent of a retarded child, not necessarily in that school.

b. Finger Printing and Photographing Patients.

Making finger printing and photographing permissive rather than mandatory for persons 16 and over admitted to state institutions in the Department of Mental Hygiene.

In addition, the following bills which failed to pass the Legislature were recommended for reintroduction.

B. BILLS THAT FAILED TO PASS THE LEGISLATURE:**1. MENTAL HYGIENE****a. Mandating Education in State Schools for the Mentally Retarded.**

Mandate education for children in the state schools for the mentally retarded from the ages of 5 to 21 as in the community and under the same provisions as under the Education Law but under the supervision of the Department of Mental Hygiene. Although the Mental Hygiene Law amended three years ago making it a duty of the Department of Mental Hygiene to provide training and education, as well as care and treatment, this still does not preserve to the mentally retarded their right to free public education when they are institutionalized. Children who might receive such education if they had remained in the community might well (and some are) deprived of this when they are placed in state schools.

b. Enlarging Powers of Boards of Visitors.

To enlarge the powers of Boards of Visitors of state schools to enable them to investigate charges against any employee (now limited to charges against the director only): requiring directors of state schools to report to the Board of Visitors all cases of alleged brutality and requiring the Board at the request of any two members to investigate such charges.

c. Mandating Day Training Centers.

That day training centers for the mentally retarded be mandated in the Community Mental Health Services Act: that voluntary agencies refused contracts for this purpose by local boards shall be given the right to appeal to the Commissioner of Mental Hygiene who shall have the right to overrule adverse decisions of local boards in this respect.

(Continued Next Page)

SEEN AT THE CONVENTION



At Friday Evening Session. Is that Barry Goldwater in front?



Bob Knorr and Don Frost at the Registration table.

(Continued Next Column)



Elliot Aronin, President, Nassau County Chapter, holding forth to Bernice Sobel, Dot Gannin, Arthur Petty, Mrs. Wright and Mrs. Petty.



Planning? J. T. Weingold, Bernie Fineson and Clara Pape.

SEEN AT THE CONVENTION



At the Cocktail Party, Sat. P. M., Seymour Rubin, New York City, is still standing.



Congratulations! Mrs. Ruth Gross and Jonathan Weingold.

CONVENTION (Continued)

d. Directors of State Schools.

That the Commissioner of Mental Hygiene should be permitted to choose a director of a state school who is a psychologist, educator, social worker or physician. The present law is that a physician only is eligible. This makes more sense now that the law has been amended at the request of the Department of Mental Hygiene to eliminate the requirement that assistant commissioners of Mental Hygiene must be physicians.



Boy, What a Meeting! Ruth Gross, after the Presidents' meeting.

e. Reimbursement in State Schools.

That all reimbursements on the part of parents and relatives of the mentally retarded patients in state schools be eliminated or modified.

f. Power of Commissioner of Mental Hygiene To Charge More Than The Reimbursement Rate.

A bill seeking to eliminate the powers of the Commissioner of Mental Hygiene to charge more than the reimbursement rate for patients in state institutions. This bill passed in 1963 but was vetoed.

g. WE OPPOSE The Department's Efforts To Change The Name Of "State Schools" to "Schools and Hospitals".

2. EDUCATION

a. To Provide A 10% Salary Differential For Teachers Of The Handicapped.

3. INSURANCE

(Continued Next Column)



Bob Cassin, Toastmaster, brings off a quip. (left to right) Mrs. Gross, Senator Conklin, Mrs. Conklin, Bernie Fineson, Pete Kelschgens and Bob Wagner.



Herman Resnick, Benevolent Society, and Jim Reville, Welfare League, being told by Ruth Gross, President.

CONVENTION (Continued)

- a. To provide that any person who is unable to be employed because of physical disability or mental illness or mental retardation, should be considered a dependent under any hospital indemnity plan, regardless of age.

4. PUBLIC HEALTH LAW

- a. To Insure Services for Doubly Handicapped, Mentally Retarded and Physically Handicapped.

That the measure passed and signed last year (A. I. 3332 Amann) broadening the definition of the physically handicapped child to include chronic diseases, etc., should be amended to include the clause "No child shall be deprived of a service under this act solely because of the degree of mental retardation."

5. STATE AID FOR SPECIAL CLASSES FOR THE MENTALLY RETARDED AND PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

The Committee also recommends that the Joint Legislative Committee give immediate and even priority attention to the effects of the so-called Diefendorf Law with regard to reimbursement on the development of classes for the mentally retarded. Reports indicate that the development of such classes has considerably slackened off in the past two years. Furthermore, it is the opinion of many persons familiar with this situation that such slackening off is a result of the change in the reimbursement formula which eliminates special state aid for the classes for the handicapped. It is urged, therefore, that some legislation be introduced to provide for this special reimbursement either in a direct form or in the form of weighing the pupils in such classes in a manner to provide for the excess cost of their education.

6. AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE VII, SECTION 8 OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION

Under this Section, the State may now provide money for "the education and support of the blind, the deaf, the dumb, the physically handicapped and juvenile delinquents". The proposed change would include the mentally retarded and the mentally ill. This would remove the constitutional block against the State's direct aid for such community services.

7. POWER OF BOARDS OF COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES TO BUILD

The Association will further support legislation to permit New York State Boards of Cooperative Educational Services to erect and maintain buildings to provide facilities for the education and training of all school age children including the mentally and physically handicapped.

8. APPROPRIATIONS

1. VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

We further urge that the Legislature appropriate sufficient money to receive full matching vocational rehabilitation funds from the Federal government. We have lost some \$2,000,000 of such funds last year and some \$750,000 for the blind.

2. MENTAL HYGIENE

We urge sufficient appropriations to increase the attendant ratio in all state schools to avoid situations where a building, over 100% overcrowded, with 200 patients, has only 2 attendants.

Ruth Gross of Nassau County was reelected President.

The Convention site for 1965 is Saratoga Springs and the time is the middle of October, after the National Convention in New York City.

AMERICAN LEGION, AUXILIARY RECEIVE AWARDS AT STATE CONVENTION

Bronze plaques and certificates of commendation were presented to Mrs. Charles L. Wright, former Department Commander of the American Legion Auxiliary and J. Arthur Petty, past Department Commander of the American Legion for the work they have done for the mentally retarded in New York State.

The American Legion Auxiliary women have been instrumental in raising more than \$20,000 for the use of the Chapters of the Association. The Legion through its many members has worked directly with Chapters throughout the State, aiding them in their building projects and in their transportation problems by presentation of station wagons.



Mrs. Wright receives award for American Legion Auxiliary from Mrs. Gross, President. L. to R. Senator Conklin, Bob Cassin, Mrs. Conklin, Bernie Fineson and Pete Keischgens.



Arthur Petty receiving Award for American Legion.

"On behalf of our 225,000 Legionnaires," wrote J. Arthur Petty, to Mrs. Gross, "I am especially grateful for the very beautiful plaque given to the American Legion. This is now placed on the wall of our New York office and I'm hopeful it will continually serve as a reminder to render assistance to your organization at all times."

P. O. JOBS GIVEN TO 25 MENTALLY RETARDED IN NEW YORK

The Post Office Department announced recently the hiring of 25 mentally retarded men, the first such group in its history.

At a starting annual salary of \$3,945, they will be assigned to custodial and janitorial duties pending possible promotion.

Twenty will work in the General Post Office and five in the main Brooklyn Post Office.

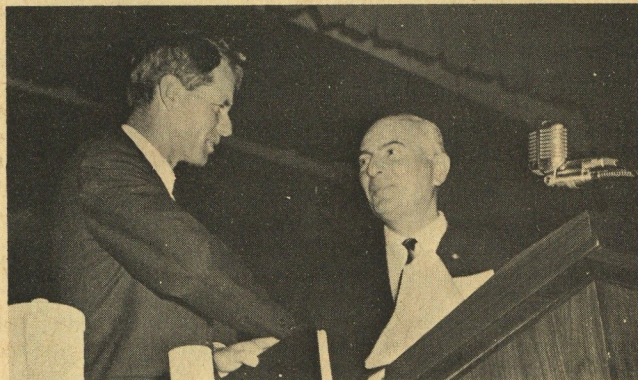
Sean P. Keating, the Postal Department's New York regional director, disclosed that 12 deaf mutes had been working in the Brooklyn Post Office since February 1963.

This program of hiring the mentally retarded is part of the Civil Service program initiated by Presidential order. It is hoped that it will be extended to other areas including State, County and City Civil Service Departments.

TWO THOUSAND ATTEND QUEENSBORO CONFERENCE ON MENTAL RETARDATION

ROBERT F. KENNEDY PRINCIPAL SPEAKER

Robert F. Kennedy, Senator-elect from the State of New York, opened an all day Institute on Mental Retardation at Queens College, New York City, to pledge "To do my best to make sure that the plans you developed for facilities here in Queens receive the sympathetic attention of both the State and Federal Governments."



Emil Levin, Pres. Queensboro Council greeting Robert F. Kennedy, principal speaker at the institute on Mental Retardation.

More than 2,000 parents, educators and health and welfare workers met at the Colder Auditorium to hear Mr. Kennedy and other speakers describe mental retardation "as one of the most critical health problems."

The Institute was organized by the Queensboro Council of Social Welfare at the request of Borough President Mario J. Cariello to discuss means of getting help for the Borough's 60,000 retarded children and adults.

State Senator William T. Conklin, chairman of the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental Retardation and Physical Handicap, said his committee will urge "better custodial care for retardates and proper transportation and adequate reimbursement to the Schools where they are being trained."

In a speech at the closing session, Dr. Stanley P. Davies, Deputy Director of Mental Retardation Planning, said "The mentally retarded are by far the largest group of handicapped persons," and they "still remain the most seriously neglected of all the handicapped."

The Institute was co-sponsored by the New York City Chapter of the Association for Retarded Children and United Cerebral Palsy of Queens, as well as the Board of Education's Bureau for Children with Retarded Mental Development.

The recommendations included the following:

1. That there be an evaluation of existing services.
2. That State, City and County Civil Service adopt the National policy of hiring the mentally retarded without written examination.
3. The Community Mental Health Board support programs for the mentally retarded such as workshops by grants in aid.
4. That the Borough President urge the Board of Estimate of the City of New York to bring about support by the Mental Health Board of day training programs and other permitted services operated by the voluntary agencies.
5. That we explore the possibility of permanent residential center for mentally retarded adults to enable them to remain in the community as contributing members of the society when their families cannot give them the supervision or homes they need.
6. That provision be made for community residences, either through family care or other, to enable the mentally retarded now in institutions who would live in the community to leave the institution and return to the community.

\$140,000 MENTAL HEALTH BOARD CONTRACT FOR ERIE COUNTY CHAPTER

A proposal for the establishment of a comprehensive rehabilitation program for Erie County's mentally retarded received the endorsement of the County Community Mental Health Board of Erie County in October.

The proposal was submitted by the Erie County Chapter of the Association.

The chapter proposes to expand its staff from a total of seven, including one part-time worker, to 27, including 13 part-time. With such a staff increase, it estimates, it could quadruple the 75 families it serves.

The estimated net budget for the program, which it proposes to start in 1965, is \$140,000.

The Chapter is eligible for approximately 50% of this amount from state funds. The Chapter's budget for the year ending Oct. 31st is \$67,467.00. The United Fund has approved, and is including in its campaign goal, a budget of \$130,000 for the year beginning Nov. 1st, including expected state reimbursement.

The program calls for expansion in eight areas. They are:

A social service department to serve the mentally retarded and their families and provide consultation services to community agencies.

A pre-school nursery, to prepare mentally retarded children 3 to 5 years old for public and private schools and to screen the severely retarded for a more protected school environment.

Day training classes to train school-age mental retardates who are not eligible for existing school programs.

A young adult pre-vocational and activities group.

A recreation and special events program.

A family service program to provide services to severely retarded children in their home.

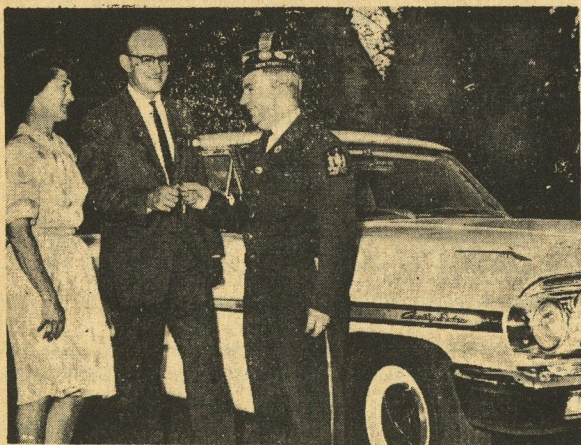
Speech therapy.

Psychiatric and psychological services and other medical specialties.

Dr. Barry L. Levin, associate director of the mental health office, said that the "much needed expansion" will "afford effective help to enable the families of these afflicted people to cope more effectively with one of life's most tragic problems."

The Chapter has purchased a building at 470 Franklin Street, headquarters for the proposed program which will also include a sheltered workshop for which the Chapter has received an Expansion and Improvement grant from the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.

LEGION AWARD TO THE MENTALLY RETARDED



County Vice Comdr. Giambra Presents Station Wagon to Mrs. Delphine Goulding and Robert Hodgson, President Erie County Chapter.

REHABILITATION OF HANDICAPPED CONTINUES GAINS

NEW YORK STATE SECOND IN NATION

For the third year in succession, Miss Mary E. Switzer, Commissioner of the Vocational Rehabilitation Administration, has announced that the number of persons rehabilitated has exceeded 100,000.

Nearly 120,000 persons rehabilitated into employment last year established a national record for the ninth consecutive year. It was a 9 per cent increase over the previous year's 110,136.

Of the total number of physically or mentally handicapped people rehabilitated in 1964, a great majority were poverty-stricken when accepted for rehabilitation services, Miss Switzer said.

On the basis of past experience it was assumed that about 90,000 had no earnings at all before rehabilitation and about 21,000 had previously depended on public assistance payments or were residing in tax supported institutions.

The Federal dollar invested in their rehabilitation will be repaid many times over by their current and future Federal income tax payments alone.

Pennsylvania led the nation in the number of disabled persons rehabilitated with 11,581, an increase of 704 persons over the total for 1963.

Second to Pennsylvania in the number of rehabilitants was New York with 8,103.

Pennsylvania has ranked first in the number of rehabilitants in three of the last five years. New York led in 1960 and 1961.

In number of persons rehabilitated per 100,000 population, West Virginia ranked first with 218. In this ranking, New York with 46 rehabilitants per 100,000 population, ranked 34th. The National average was 63 per 100,000.

In New York State, however, many persons received rehabilitation services from voluntary agencies and from other agencies in the State government.

Two aspects of last year's vocational rehabilitation results are particularly encouraging. One has been an increasing trend among most state vocational rehabilitation agencies to accept persons with severe disabilities.

The second has been the increased number of mentally retarded clients served. As compared to only 106 such persons rehabilitated in 1945, the number last year was 7,500.

About 90 per cent of this group was not earning wages before receiving rehabilitation services. Following such services less than 10 per cent were nonwage earners.

The 7,500 mentally retarded persons rehabilitated in fiscal year 1964 is an increase of 1,500 over 1963. Much of this increase results from the 65 research and demonstration projects supported by the Vocational Rehabilitation Administration and from the increased sheltered workshops operated and supported by local Chapters of the Association for Retarded Children.

The program of financial aid to the State is through matching State funds for Federal allotments. It is interesting to note that of the 50 States only 7 voted sufficient money to take up all the Federal funds allotted for the fiscal year.

The allotment to New York State for fiscal year 1965 is \$9,143,330. It is estimated that of this amount \$2,468,950 will be unused unless the legislature appropriates a similar amount to match these Federal funds. If this is not done, the handicapped will lose about \$5 million for services in New York State.

In commenting on the appropriation for fiscal 1965, Senator Hubert H. Humphrey, before he became a candidate for Vice-President, stated that the appropriation would permit the rehabilitation of 133,000 disabled persons but this was still far short of the National goal of rehabilitating 200,000 each year.

He also noted that the Nation had a backlog of 2.5 million disabled persons needing vocational rehabilitation services.

Chapter News

We are extremely pleased to have the first news item from one of our newest Chapters, WAYNE COUNTY CHAPTER . . . reports that it has increased their membership from 13 to 18 . . . and in a rummage sale held in Lyons, Oct 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, netted over \$800. . . Congratulations to our new Chapter . . . to its members . . . and we were extremely pleased to receive news from MONTGOMERY COUNTY CHAPTER . . . reports that several retarded Catholic children received their first holy communion and confirmation at St. Mary's Church . . . and the children also enjoyed a trip to a wild game farm . . . thanks to Foxes Wild Game Farm for special attention given to the children . . . sponsored by Private Frank J. Sarchia Amvet Post No. 32 . . . and says Joan Alberten, secretary, members are feverishly seeking out prospective members . . . ROME STATE SCHOOL CHAPTER reports annual dinner a smashing success . . . membership at a new high . . . 221 . . . still a long way to go but getting there . . . ROME STATE SCHOOL Newsletter with interesting report of special activities cottage by cottage . . . other Chapters servicing institutions might look into this as extremely interesting to its members and others . . . BENEVOLENT SOCIETY WILLOWBROOK STATE SCHOOL CHAPTER busy with its Luncheon plans . . . note that a group of youngsters were taken to Madison Square Garden to see a basketball game in October, . . . how is it we never get to go . . . changes at Willowbrook all go well for the Doctor as well as for the youngsters there . . . SUFFOLK COUNTY continues to report the fabulous success of the recreation program including summer day camps sponsored by the townships . . . more in



Spaghetli makers (cookers?) at Warren-Washington Camp.

our next issue . . . CHAUTAUQUA too is full of news of summer programs . . . still working on day training center grant from Mental Health Board . . . let's all get busy on this . . . CHENANGO COUNTY CHAPTER, too, says that the children had the benefit of day camping experience at three locations . . . ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER also busy with applications for Mental Health Board grant for day training center . . . reports that school program for students between 16 and 18 mentally retarded is planned at WARWICK VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL and will provide on the job training . . . 16 employers in WARWICK and Florida have agreed to hire the retarded through this program . . . program part of plan to combat drop out rate of retarded children who generally leave school at 16 because of lack of incentive . . . and here we go again in CAYUGA COUNTY CHAPTER . . . report that the picnic-barbeque was again an outstanding success . . . 4,400 half broilers served in one evening and 3,900 complete dinners . . . some of them sent out . . . largest to Aurora Rotary Club that ordered 88 complete dinners . . . congratulations to Grades, chairman of the barbeque . . . BROOME COUN-

(Continued Next Col.)



The first trainees and staff in Satellite

TY CHAPTER reports that it has begun working on a permanent play ground site for retarded children in cooperation with the Binghamton and Johnson City Junior Chamber of Commerce . . . gradually beginning to get into commercial activities in the young adult program . . . reports that they "even have a contract to make pocket handkerchief advertisements" . . . a long way to go towards a sheltered workshop but definite progress . . . membership at all time high with 364 . . . has just issued a new Manual of Services for the Mentally Retarded at BROOME COUNTY . . . bringing up to date the one previously issued . . . one dollar to all who are interested . . . write to Mrs. Harold Bechtol, 128 Carroll Ave., Vestal, New York . . . United Commercial Travelers extremely active in support of Chapter . . . experimental summer day camp for 31 children successful . . . services now being provided for 85 children and adults as compared to last year's 32 . . . thank you Gene Langan for complete report . . . and we would be remiss to fail to note the excellent articles and pictures in the Binghamton Sun Bulletin of October 15th . . . CATTARAUGUS COUNTY CHAPTER reports that for the second time in two years the Olean Common Council made provisions for mentally retarded children to take advantage of recreational facilities that it offers . . . \$500 appropriated . . . 28 youngsters sponsored to Camp Cornplanter at cost of \$1,968.00 . . . looking for a building for a day training center . . . cannot begin the center as it wishes due to lack of funds . . . how about the County Board of Supervisors? . . . thought that after the Institute on Retardation everything in the County would be the Chapter's . . . use of two classrooms at School No. 11 rent free was voted by the Board of Education to the Chapter . . . have a group of campfire girls, 8 girls . . . writes Louise Simon, "people in CATTARAUGUS COUNTY are really getting to know about our problem, our publicity is great. It's getting so you can hardly pick up a paper without reading something about retardation." . . . COMMUNITY LEAGUE - WASSAIC CHAPTER reports success of its Vaudeville Show at the school . . . reports a busload of entertainers to the school entertained 2,000 girls and women for over an hour and then repeated the entertainment to equal number of boys and men . . . CAPITAL DISTRICT CHAPTER . . . soon to confine itself almost entirely to Albany County . . . got substantial gift from Albany Variety Club No. 9 . . . to be used for new nursery program . . . initiated in November and about which we learned through the newspapers . . . center enrolls children ages 3 to 5 . . . a real milestone and a development of services by CAPITAL DISTRICT CHAPTER . . . and of course the S.P.E.B. S.Q.S.A. (The barbershop group) by helping . . . have directed the Elk Sign Company to place a sign on the front of the Chapter's

Madison Avenue building . . . Jaycee's busy in LOCKPORT

. . . Benefit Night to help Sunshine School for Retarded Children operated by the Chapter . . . Vice-Presidential Nominee William E. Miller . . . honorary chairman of the event . . . lots of publicity attending the event, pictures of the children at the School . . . haven't heard how successful it was . . . but sure it will be . . . NIAGARA FALLS

(Continued Next Page)

developing a training program for young adults . . . ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY CHAPTER, reports Al Hogan is going "good here." . . . training center is growing fast . . . now making assembled high chairs and childrens training chairs . . . sales are going to be good too . . . Chapter membership now up to 153, "a far cry from the lonely 9 members who were crying in the wilderness last April," writes Al . . .



Ribbon cutting at new Day Training Center, St. Lawrence County, L. to R. Mrs. Stanley Johnson, Pres. of the Chapter, Mrs. John Groulx, V. P.; John A. Bertrand, State Assn. Staff, Tony White, Alfred Hogan, Director of the Center, Elmer Lalonde, Robert LaFaver, and Lowell Groulx.

aid coming from organizations such as Ladies Auxiliary to Post 2936 VFW . . . business-professional women's clubs . . . and many others . . . SCHENECTADY COUNTY CHAPTER in process of establishing a sheltered workshop . . . first step, we hope, towards regional workshop . . . previously reported in OCV . . . gave certificates of appreciation to teenagers who served for six weeks past summer as counsellors at the camp for retarded children at the Chapter's Little School House . . . received aid from Rev. Otto Spurghat, Pastor of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church . . . in form of a check to the Association . . . money is amount over expenses of the churches vacation bible school held this summer . . . during the summer the Little Red School House was the recipient of a generous donation from the nursery, "Dibble's Garden" of Brunt Hills . . . donation consisted of two large red maples, assorted plants, flowering shrubs and evergreens with peat moss and fertilizer. A crab apple tree was added for a touch of color . . . many thanks to Dick Thomas, owner of Dibble's Garden . . . ULSTER COUNTY CHAPTER reports second annual barbeque and party for the friendless men and women of Wassaic State School . . . those who have no family or who do not receive visitation often . . . ELLENVILLE SUB-CHAPTER joined in the event . . . glad to see a newsletter from ULSTER COUNTY . . . wish all Chapters would put them out regularly . . . County Fair in August was tremendous success . . . ARC booth well attended with volunteers . . . United Commercial Travelers also active in this area . . . having a dinner . . . rummage sale . . . what would we do without wonderful friends? . . . must not forget V. F. W. Post 8645 . . . put out an urgent call for volunteer drivers . . . the problems of a rural community . . . County Chapter won a gift certificate for the best decorated convertible at recent KIWANIS KIDS PARADE prior to Kingston High School's opening football game . . . award offered by uptown business men association . . . well, what next? . . . reports that the cosmetic kits (obtained through the N. Y. City Chapter . . . all Chapters note) was a huge success over \$1,000 raised thus far . . . Interfaith Youth Groups of KINGSTON as well as local groups sponsored teenage dance on Halloween night . . . expect a thousand teenagers for the benefit of the Chapter . . . the new format of ONONDAGA COUNTY CHAPTER Newsletter . . . said ARC stands for "action, research and conquest" . . . great explanation of the program by Bob Daley in November issue . . . stops just short of sheltered workshop . . . come on in, the water's fine . . . activities are most encouraging . . . for the November issue of the ARC from ONONDAGA COUNTY CHAPTER, write 282 James Street, Syracuse, New York . . . like the name

of the affair sponsored by Kappa Alpha Beta Alumni of Syracuse, "Flaming Festival" . . . ONTARIO COUNTY CHAPTER reports that Geneva City Recreational Department operated a special playground program for retarded during the summer . . . had a picnic at the Seneca Lake summer cottage of Assemblyman Fred Wader . . . the Third Order of St. Francis now has three religious instruction classes on the second and fourth Sundays of each month . . . and the Co-op Board has taken over the operation of two of the three trainable classes . . . 114 persons attended the Chapter's Annual picnic in June . . . special recognition to



All aboard was the cry as the American Legion Locomotive the "40 & 8" stopped at the special playground in Geneva.

Winnels Post American Legion house-to-house fund drive to Finger Lakes Women's Bowling Association for instructions . . . we like the PUTNAM COUNTY CHAPTER enlistment volunteers . . . for example, the Mahopac Volunteer Fire Department received a certificate of appreciation for their many years of cooperation with the Chapter . . . the Carmel Police Benevolent Association held their annual picnic for the children at the Carmel High School . . . we like it . . . ROCKLAND COUNTY CHAPTER deep in its fund drive as are most other Chapters we assume . . . glad to see their development of auxiliary program . . . and would like to hear more about programming in the County . . . MONROE COUNTY CHAPTER reports the Rotary there operates fine camp for mentally retarded and other handicapped children . . . had the first annual Rotary Horse Show this summer and attempt by the Suburban Rotary Clubs of Monroe County to help meet the \$17,000 annual budget . . . Louis Montgomery, track coach Cornell University, was camp director for the first time last summer, assisted by college students studying physiotherapy . . . says retarded and others from the County outside Rochester can benefit from the program . . . the only Rotary Camp in the State with programs for mentally retarded children . . . note that LETCHWORTH VILLAGE has a comprehensive day camp program including arts, crafts, swimming, picnicking and all forms of athletics . . . the day camp is five days a week from Monday to Friday . . . and all capable of participating are included . . . WESTCHESTER reports new auxiliary in Larchmont-Mamaroneck, to be known as Westchester Shore League for Retarded Children . . . have outgrown the cafeteria for thanksgiving dinner so this year's dinner for 150 trainees and alumni will be held away from the shop, program and all . . . holding a special drive in Scarsdale, . . . says the Newsletter, "Scarsdale Residents have been 'singled out for special W.A.R.C. attention this month. We are going to ask them for money.'" . . . two day camps by the Chapter this past summer, one at the ARC's school and day training center in Pelham, and the other at the White Plains High School for school aged children . . . reports that the sheltered workshop reached a new record the end of October with a total of 120 trainees . . . Chapter is co-operating with six school systems in Westchester in work-study programs . . . programs being extended to Northern Westchester and elsewhere . . . hope next year we will be able to report success of the regional workshop and residence center for WESTCHESTER . . . where will all the money come from? . . . and we think this is a good place to end the Chapter News . . . thank you all!

PKU INCIDENCE DOUBLE RATE FIRST EXPECTED

REPORT OF CHILDREN'S BUREAU STUDY DISCLOSES

Phenylketonuria, an inherited disease causing mental retardation, is twice as common as previously indicated. So says Dr. Robert Guthrie, scientist at the University at Buffalo's Medical School, in a report released Saturday by the Children's Bureau of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

This major finding is important because, if phenylketonuria (PKU) can be caught in time, it can be treated through proper therapeutic measures. And a child can be saved from a life of severe mental retardation.

But since it affects only one one-hundredth of one per cent of newborn infants, an almost foolproof method of early detection is needed. Dr. Guthrie has developed such a screening method and first used it at Buffalo.

This newly released study, "Phenylketonuria, detection in the newborn as a routine hospital procedure," has proved the method's effectiveness. It was conducted during 1962-63 in 505 hospitals and used on 400,000 newborn infants. Data thus collected was then sent to Dr. Guthrie and his UB associate, Stewart Whitney, for analysis. Results show that 39 cases of PKU were detected.

In announcing these results, Dr. Guthrie says:

"The most important results of this trial problem are that the inhibition assay appears to be a very convenient sensitive and reliable screening method for early detection of PKU in the newborn infant, before discharge from the hospital nursery."

FACTS ABOUT PKU

What are the facts about PKU and its detection?

Researchers have discovered that it is due to an inborn error in metabolism. An infant inherits a defective gene from his parent and his cells cannot function properly in making use of phenylalanine, a substance found in most protein foods. With his first feeding of milk, and each subsequent one, he takes in phenylalanine which he cannot use.

Gradually, its concentration builds up in body fluids and reaches a level where it interferes with brain development. Irreversible damage and severe retardation or death is the final result. Some one per cent of the persons in institutions in the U. S. today have PKU.

But if PKU is detected in the first few days of life, it can be prevented from causing brain damage by a diet low in phenylalanine. There are commercial preparations, prepared by leading drug houses, which have been widely tested and used in clinics.

Here is how Dr. Guthrie's detection method works: Three days after birth, the baby's heel is punctured and a few drops of blood soaked up on blotting paper. The impregnated paper is placed on a gelatine culture of bacteria mixed with an inhibitor that normally stops their growth. If the baby's blood counteracts the inhibitor and the bacteria grow into a halo around the paper disc, the test is positive.

The greatest advantages to the "Guthrie test" are:

Simplicity — This "inhibition assay" as it is called in a standard operating procedure in labs.

Speed — The results can be read the next morning and PKU detected by the fourth day of life. Thus, confirmatory tests and subsequent diet treatment can begin almost immediately.

MANY TESTS CAN BE RUN

Mass screening — many tests can be run at the same time. Discs from 100 patients, in addition to 7 control discs, are usually placed on the same agar surface.

Replacement — The old method was the ferric chloride diaper test. A chemical which appeared in the urine of PKU infants was tested for this reaction to occur and within that time some brain damage might have already begun.

Because Dr. Guthrie's method is simple, fast and so effective for mass screening, the Children's Bureau is now encouraging states to use it on a routine basis. Governor

(Continued Next Column)

FEDERATION OF THE HANDICAPPED HELPS MENTALLY RETARDED YOUNG PEOPLE

NEW VENTURE FOR THIS AGENCY

Mentally retarded young people between the ages of 17 and 25 are now being accepted for free rehabilitation services by the Federation of the Handicapped in New York City.

In cooperation with the local office of the New York State Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and the Federal Vocational Rehabilitation Administration, a training and placement program for retarded adolescents and young adults with a history of school drop-outs will be carried on in the Federation's own building on West 14th Street and in the workshop on the same street.

This marks the first time the Federation of the Handicapped, a private rehabilitation agency, has included the mentally retarded among the disabled it has been aiding since 1935, according to Milton Cohen, executive director.

The title of the new project is "The Effectiveness of a Placement-Oriented Special Work Adjustment Program for Mentally Retarded Adolescents and Young Adults with a History of School Drop-Out."

"Involvement of other rehabilitation agencies in the community in work with the mentally retarded is most encouraging," quotes Mr. Max W. Schachter, President of the New York City Chapter of the Association. "One of our major efforts is to involve all community agencies in this work. Hundreds of young adults are on waiting lists and without such involvement, it would take years for us to be able to service them."

Nathan Slater, the first director of the AHRC Training Center under an OVR grant, is director of the project.

COMPUTER UNIT USED TO TEACH READING

Teachers need not worry, — a sophisticated computer system has taught a group of children in Freeport, New York, how to read without formal human instruction.

In a report made public this past summer, John Henry Martin, superintendent of Freeport public schools, said the children who learned reading from the computer in 30 hours "could read significantly better" than others who were taught by traditional methods.

Called the Edison Responsive Environment System, the computer talks, listens, presents pictorial and graphic material and even comments and explains.

Here is how it works:

A child goes into a booth where he is alone with a "talking typewriter." He touches a letter key on the multi-colored keyboard and the computer responds by pronouncing and typing the letter.

He soon discovers how letters, symbols and numerals look and sound, later expanding them into words, sentences and stories — all within 30 hours of "instrumented instruction."

The Freeport experiment started a couple of months ago when the Responsive Environment Corp. of the Thomas A. Edison Laboratory in New York invited the Freeport public schools to conduct an experiment to determine the instrument's validity.

The experiment with 20 kindergarten and mentally retarded children showed that intelligence and sex made no difference.

PKU (Continued)

Nelson Rockefeller signed a bill last April mandating that all newborn infants in New York be tested for PKU. The law takes effect Jan. 1, 1965.

Here is what Rockefeller said when he signed that bill:

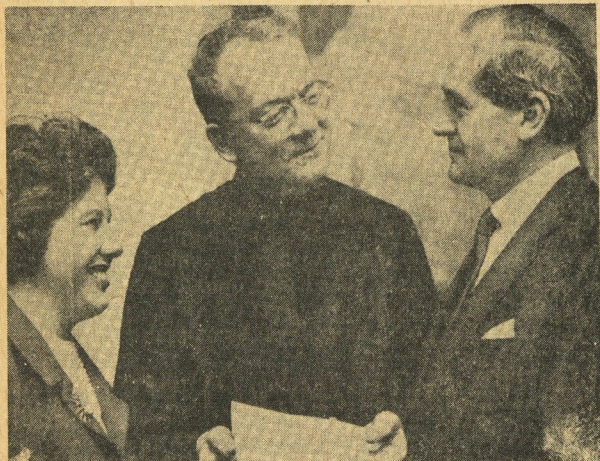
"It is an important step forward in the state's effort to prevent mental retardation and it holds the promise of further break through.

"Since it may help relieve heartbreaking anguish and burdens of many children and parents, it is with great pleasure that I enact it into law."

HEARST GIFT TO TRAIN TEACHERS OF RETARDED

The Hearst Foundation has contributed \$5,000 to Fordham University to further the University's program of preparing teachers who will teach mentally retarded children.

A check for the amount was presented to Rev. Vincent T. O'Keefe S. J., president of Fordham University, by Kingsbury Smith, publisher of the New York Journal-American, and a trustee of The Hearst Foundation.



ACCEPTS GIFT — Rev. Vincent T. O'Keefe, S.J., president of Fordham University, receives Hearst Foundation grant of \$5,000 from Kingsbury Smith, Publisher of the N. Y. Journal-American. Dr. Barbara Lake, of the University, looks on.

In presenting the check, Mr. Smith said:

"This contribution represents The Hearst Foundation's recognition of the great humanitarian effort which Fordham University is making to help educate for a useful, happy life those children who are handicapped by some form of mental retardation.

"We hope that our contribution will encourage other Foundations to contribute to this worthy cause."

Dr. Barbara Lake, assistant professor of the Fordham School of Education, said that the Graduate Department is now in its eighth year at Fordham's Downtown Division. At present, 32 teachers are being specially trained there to teach mentally retarded students in public and parochial schools, both in the Metropolitan Area and elsewhere in the nation.

Dr. Lake said:

"There are now 10,000 mentally retarded children getting special help in schools in the city. But this represents only 25 per cent of the total number who need help."

SURPLUS FOOD PROGRAM OPENED FOR RETARDED

The Occupation Day Center in New York City, as well as the Sheltered Workshop, has been approved by the Bureau of Surplus Foods to receive surplus commodities.

The State office is also in receipt of advice from various Chapters that they, too, have qualified.

The Occupation Day Center has received shipments of food in May and September consisting of beef roasts, ground beef, rice, dried milk, cheese and butter.

"We have found the surplus foods to be of excellent quality," writes Mr. Jack Gorelick, Director of the Occupation Day Center, "and of great value to use in our food preparation program."

All Chapters are urged to take advantage of this valuable resource. Further information, if you need it, can be obtained from the State Office.

STATE ASSOCIATION PROTESTS FEDERAL ALLOCATION OF FUNDS TO NEW YORK

LETTER INSERTED IN CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

The State Association through its executive director, Joseph T. Weingold, has protested to all members of the Congressional delegation from New York State and its Senators the unfair distribution of Federal funds to New York State under Public Law 88-164, The Mental Retardation Facilities Act.

Under this law, a voluntary agency such as the Association in New York State that wishes to build a facility can only receive about 37% matching funds from the Federal funds allocated to the State whereas a voluntary agency in Mississippi may receive as much as 66-2/3% of Federal funds.

In addition, Mr. Weingold protested the use of the Hill-Burton formula which, in his opinion, and that of the Association, does not take into consideration the fact that although New York State is richer than any other state, it also has assumed many more projects and responsibilities for services to children.

The letter was inserted into the Congressional Record of July 30th by the Honorable Thaddeus J. Dulski. The letter follows:

"Dear Congressman Dulski: I must call your attention to a most grave injustice being done by the Federal Government to the State of New York.

"I refer to the regulations issued by the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare with regard to Public Law 88-164, Title I, Mental Retardation Facilities Construction Act.

"Under these regulations the Federal matching share of mental retardation facilities construction funds for New York is 37.67 per cent, based, no doubt, on the Hill-Burton formula. The State or voluntary agencies must put up 62.33 per cent of each facility plus the cost of the land.

"We protest this as most unfair and ask that you as a Member of Congress from this State protest this to the Secretary.

"The law does not (Pt. C of Title I) set the Federal share for construction of facilities, although it does set an upper limit of 75 per cent for Federal participation for research centers and university affiliated facilities for the mentally retarded.

"The concept of allocation of Federal funds to States on the basis of population and income is threadbare, at best, and is viciously discriminating when the matching funds will come from voluntary agencies such as this association.

"Voluntary agencies are no richer in New York than in Texas — and get their money with, perhaps, more difficulty. Yet Texas gets 56.96 per cent in matching funds.

"We refrain to comment on Mississippi that receives 66% per cent Federal matching.

"There may be some justification for these differences where the State is putting up the matching money, but we submit that where the matching money comes from voluntary parents organizations such as members of the National Association for Retarded Children, the Federal share should be the same in all States.

"The act becomes a mockery if this is not corrected and places a terrible burden on the parents in the State as compared to others.

"We appeal to you, therefore, to lodge a formal protest on our behalf and on behalf of the State of New York, too long treated as a stepchild in these matters.

"This letter is being written to all the New York Members of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

Sincerely yours,
JOSEPH T. WEINGOLD
Executive Director."

NEW GOVERNMENT PAMPHLET ON RESEARCH ON MENTAL RETARDATION

A new government pamphlet, "Mental Retardation, Its Biological Factors, Hope through Research," has been prepared by the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness and discusses those factors which cause some physical or chemical damage to the brain or nervous system.

The NIH booklet reviews research findings on brain damage, including the prevention of kernicterus, a disease resulting from an incompatibility of the blood types between a pregnant woman and her unborn child. Transfusions given to the infant at birth wash away blood dangerous to its brain and prevent retardation.

Scientists studying mongolism (Down's Syndrome) hope that present and new information may help lead to its prevention. They have found, for example, that mongoloid children have one extra chromosome, either separate or attached to a normal chromosome. Chromosome analyses of the parents of a mongoloid child may predict the outlook for later pregnancies. Similar studies of potential parents may eventually identify the carriers of the harmful genetic factor.

Because retardation results frequently from brain injuries incurred just before and after birth, NINDB has been conducting and supporting a long-term Perinatal Research Study. Fifteen medical centers, collaborating with NINDB, have been collecting and analyzing information relating to 50,000 expectant mothers and their babies. More than 45,000 mothers have been enrolled in the Study and 37,000 babies have been delivered.

What can the individual do to prevent mental retardation? The brochure offers several suggestions. Most important is good prenatal, delivery, and child care. Blood tests reveal the presence of certain factors causing retardation. Persons with a family history of the disability should take available precautions against hereditary diseases producing it.

A section of the pamphlet is devoted to recommendations about caring for the retarded person. Every discovery of this condition is essential to prevent physical complications often associated with retardation. Improved methods of training suited to a retarded child's abilities, can, in many cases, make him a more active participant in society.

"Mental Retardation, Its Biological Factors, Hope through Research," is Public Health Service Publication No. 1152. Copies are for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, 25, D. C. for 15 cents or \$11.25 per 100 copies.

REQUIRED READING

FOR THOSE BEGINNING WORKSHOPS FOR THE RETARDED

The Training Center and Workshop of the New York City Chapter of the Association has just issued a brochure, "The Shop: A Working Community for the Training and Treatment of Mentally Retarded Adolescents and Adults," by Gerda Corvin and Jerome Nitzberg.

This valuable document goes into the history of the shop from the professional aspects of the program in considerable detail.

Such factors as training conditions; evaluation process — is not enough — other training programs; staff; after they leave; and funds, contain material that everyone who is operating a sheltered workshop or who is thinking of beginning one should be familiar with.

Written in simple language, the document is really a running narrative of the life of the workshop and what it is trying to do.

If you haven't got a copy of this now, we urge you immediately to ask for it by writing to the Training Center and Workshop, New York City Chapter of the New York State Association for Retarded Children, 380 Second Ave., New York, New York.

ESTHER A. STUCKART AWARD TO DR. GREENBERG

The Esther A. Stuckart Memorial Award, given each year by the Endicott Agency, Inc. to the State official or employee who has distinguished himself in the field of Mental Retardation, was granted this year to Dr. Charles Greenberg, Director of Rome State School.



L. to R. Joseph Abissi, Regional V. P. State Assn., Clara Pape, Oneida Herkimer County, Dr. Jack Hammond, now Director of Willowbrook, Filofy Rugola, outgoing Pres. Rome State School Chapter, and Dr. Charles Greenberg, Director Rome State School, recipient of the award.

Dr. Greenberg was selected for the award based on his outstanding administration of the heavily overcrowded School. His cordial relationship with the parents was also cited in the presentation.

The award is in honor of Esther A. Stuckart, deceased wife of Joseph Stuckart of the Broome County and Rome State School Chapters. Joe Stuckart has been a member of the Board for many years and a pioneer in the field of mental retardation in this State.

Previous recipients of the Esther A. Stuckart Memorial Award are: George Jervis, M.D. 1960; Arthur Pense, M.D. 1961; and Charles Becker, 1962.

"GOOD" NEIGHBORS PROTEST SWIMMING POOL USED BY RETARDED TEMPORARY INJUNCTION DENIED

A request for a temporary injunction to halt the use of the Weeks Estate swimming pool in Orange County until a trial can be held has been denied by Supreme Court Justice Clare J. Hoyt.

Similarly, a motion to dismiss the complaint, requested by the defendants, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar K. Conrad, was also denied. Justice Hoyt said the plaintiffs failed to show they would be "irreparably injured" if the temporary injunction was denied.

The plaintiffs contended that certain clauses in lot deeds restrict homeowners from undertaking projects such as the swimming pool, without first submitting plans for approval to a committee elected by a majority of the lot owners.

The Conrads had obtained more than 50 signatures from neighbors stating they were not opposed to the pool.

Following its construction in July, the pool was used by children of the Orange County Chapter of the Association who are not usually permitted to use public pools. Members of local Girl Scout troops acted as tutors for the children.

The plaintiffs are Mr. and Mrs. Henry Keats, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer H. Lemon, Mrs. Lillian Ewing, Mr. and Mrs. John Lenahan, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Gibson and Mrs. Francis Peck.

FIRMS NOT HIRING RETARDED, SAYS MIDDLETOWN

Two things, a fear that retarded children tend to suffer accident, and a scarcity of jobs, are thwarting the employment program of Middletown High School's special class.

For about a year, the class instructor, Mrs. John R. Vuolo, has been unsuccessful in persuading city employers to hire her students on a part-time basis.

She said she has been told there were no openings or that hiring a retarded child under 18, would increase insurance rates.

Some employers feel, according to an insurance broker, that retarded children are less alert and tend to have accidents.

These accidents would bring up their compensation insurance rates, he said.

The special group has 14 students between the ages of 15 and 18. They are described as the class of children closest to normal. Most of them could not easily be picked out as retarded.

During their three years at Middletown High School, Mrs. Vuolo prepares them for community life and for employment. She said she emphasizes safety in her program for the protection of themselves and others.

Mrs. Vuolo and other school officials say the generalization that retarded children tend to have more accidents is untrue.

High School Principal Gordon A. Bruno said a reaction to the children as a group is unjustified. He said there are as many individual differences among them as there are among any group of children.

The high school program to prepare retarded children for employment was begun last year by Mrs. Vuolo and Frank Gerhardt, former principal. Since then, Mrs. Vuolo has visited institutions, factories, gas stations, and bowling alleys, to ask for part-time jobs.

She and her students have met disappointments with two exceptions — two boys work in the Middletown school system. One collects absentee slips in the high school, and another operates a dishwasher in the Truman Moon School.

The school system would like to place the other students in jobs as farm helpers, gas stations attendants, stock boys, orderlies, kitchen help, cabinet workers, and other such jobs.

Bruno said some students can do work requiring strong skills.

Since the high school's part-time work program for students in the retail and vocational fields are successful, school officials discount in some cases the excuse that hiring students under 18 raises the insurance rates.

An insurance broker said neither the compensation law nor the common compensation insurance programs require higher insurance rates for children under 18 or for retarded children.

NARC SETS POLICY ON VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AND ADULT SERVICES

On October 7, 1964 the Board of Directors at the National Association for Retarded Children approved policies on vocational rehabilitation and adult services. These included:

1. It is the responsibility of public educational programs to provide the retarded with opportunities for social adjustment and vocational training which will prepare them for later life.

2. Suitable vocational programs for the mentally retarded should include training courses in appropriate vocational areas; school-work experience; sheltered workshops; on-the-job training; and supportive, placement and other related services.

3. Long term sheltered employment opportunities should be available to the retarded who cannot be placed in competitive employment after a reasonable period of training.

(Continued Next Column)

DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF MENTAL RETARDATION PLANNING NAMED

TASK FORCES APPOINTED

Stanley P. Davies, Ph.D., has received a one-year appointment to the post of deputy director of planning for mental retardation in the Division of Mental Health Resources and Policy Planning of the New York State Department of Mental Hygiene.

Dr. Davies will serve as executive of the State Mental Retardation Planning Committee, developing a comprehensive mental retardation program for New York State.

Dr. Davies served for several years as director of special studies for the New York State Association for Mental Health, during which time he was author of "The Mentally Retarded, a New York State Study (1959)" and "Toward Community Mental Health (1960)," the latter, a review of the first five years of operations under New York State's Community Mental Health Services Act.

A fellow of the American Association on Mental Deficiency, Dr. Davies is a member and past president of the National Association of Social Workers, the Family Service Association of America, and the New York State Association for Mental Health.

Appointment of the 86-member statewide planning committee is now complete.

The committee will concentrate on developing public awareness of the problems of retardation; proposing ways in which planning and evaluation on a continuous basis can be achieved; preparing and submitting reports on the foregoing together with recommendations for action, including new legislation or amendments to existing statutes or local laws.

In addition, task forces have been designated to concentrate on particular aspects of mental retardation planning. These include prevention, Dale Harro, M.D. New York State Department of Health, chairman; clinics and hospitals, Howard Potter, M.D., chairman; education, Charles D. Becker, New York State Education Department, chairman; parents groups, community, civil and volunteer groups, recreation and public education, Jay Schleickorn, U.C.P. of New York State, chairman; social welfare, Winford Oliphant, New York State Department of Social Welfare, chairman; mental retardation and the law, Simon Rosenzweig, New York State Bar Association, chairman; vocational rehabilitation, employment services, workshops, Adrian Levy, New York State Education Department chairman; research and demonstration projects, Ralph W. Colvin, Ph.D., Kennedy Center for Retarded Children, chairman; coordination, continued planning and evaluation, Abraham Halpern, M.D. Onondaga County Department of Mental Health, chairman; construction of facilities, Price Chenault, New York State Department of Correction, chairman; training of professional personnel, Christopher DeProspero, Ed.D. City University of New York, chairman; and financing, Joseph T. Weingold, New York State Association for Retarded Children, chairman.

Representing the Association on the 86-member committee in addition to Mr. Weingold are Ruth Gross, president, Peter C. Keischgens, past president, Robert F. Wagner, past president, Louis E. Rosenzweig, Leo Fixler, and Helen Kaplan of Nassau County.

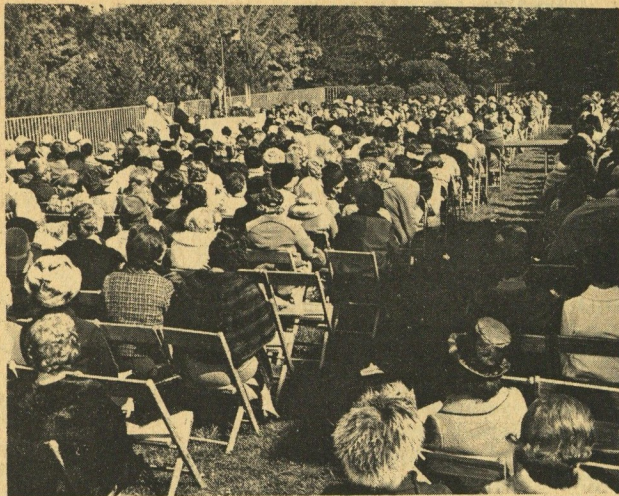
Most of the regional committee reports have begun to come in and these will be reviewed by the task forces all of whom have been having meetings in their special assignments.

POLICY (Continued)

4. Activity programs for independent living are essential for retarded adults who have great difficulty in adapting themselves to work production programs, and/or need assistance in performing the routine tasks of daily living (grooming, travel, manners).

5. Long-term sheltered employment programs and activity programs for independent living should be part of comprehensive community rehabilitation programs for the retarded.

NASSAU MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON



Over one thousand women turned out in October for the annual paid-up membership luncheon and fashion show of the Nassau County Chapter. Some of the ladies are pictured on the terrace of the Nassau County Educational Center in Brookville, Long Island. Mrs. Allen Kaplan, Executive Director, is seen addressing the ladies. Mrs. Karl Ganin, Membership Vice President, was chairman.

SCIENTIFIC BREAKTHROUGH MAY AID RETARDATION STUDIES

Senator William T. Conklin, Chairman of the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental Retardation and Physical Handicap, at a meeting at the Ullmann Research Center of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine was briefed by Dr. I. Herbert Scheinberg on the results of research which he has just completed, which represents another tremendous scientific breakthrough on the problem of retardation.

As a result of this meeting, thousands of individuals throughout the state will probably be saved from the ravages of a chemical factor that up to the present was not discernible to the medical profession. Senator Conklin was informed by Professor Scheinberg that of all conditions that cause retardation, one of the most devastating is Wilson's disease.

This condition, which erupts after years of seemingly normal development, is marked by growing tremors, loss of control of physical movements and increasing mental deterioration. Dr. Scheinberg informed Senator Conklin that Wilson's disease results from a hereditary deficiency of ceruloplasmin in the blood stream. Ceruloplasmin is a necessary factor in the assimilation of copper protein and the lack of ceruloplasmin in the blood stream results in a piling up of the copper protein in the brain cells, the liver and the blood stream, which eventually causes serious damage to the liver and brain tissues.

Through the successful research of Dr. Scheinberg and his staff at the Ullmann Research Center, this condition can be detected by a blood test and controlled by treatment which consists of a low copper diet and a regimen of medication.

Senator Conklin stated, "I will present the findings of Dr. Scheinberg's research to the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental Retardation and Physical Handicap and recommend that legislation be drawn providing for testing of all children similar to the PKU laws, in order to further control and prevent mental retardation in large numbers of children in this state."

(Continued Next Column)



Louise Cooke of Lewis County presents check to Ruth Gross which makes Lewis County member in good standing with NARC.

LETTERS WE LIKE TO SHARE WITH OUR READERS

The following letter, calling attention to the failure of many parents to accept their child's handicap and to deal with it constructively, is one we would like to share with our readers. The letter follows:

"Dear Editor:

"I would like to say a word to parents of mildly retarded children. I feel that I can speak honestly because I am one myself.

"I have been a member of the Livingston — Wyoming Chapter of the Association for Retarded Children for three years and have found my work with the group extremely helpful, not only to me but to my mildly retarded son. I have been surprised that so few parents of mildly retarded children choose to join the Association. As a matter of fact, many of them shy away from it.

"Why do parents prefer to have their child in regular school classes, even though he does very poorly and is upset by it, than to have him in a special class where he receives precisely what he needs and may do very well indeed? I've given this some thought because it bothers me.

"I guess it must be a form of pride. And I think it's too bad, for it seems so much better to enable your child to develop a little pride rather than make him suffer from your own. This is just one woman's opinion and it may be worth very little, but I do wish the Association's membership drive could persuade these parents that pretending does not make it so, that membership in the Association can be a proud thing, too.

"It's a marvelous thing to watch my boy — and others like him — developing far beyond the point we once believed was the boundary of his world."

Mrs. D. E. Wright"

BREAKTHROUGH (Continued)

Dr. I. Herbert Scheinberg, Director of Research on Wilson's disease at the Ullmann Research Center, and his associate, Dr. Irmin Sternlieb, have completed testing on 6,000 individuals, with symptoms of Wilson's disease, in New York, Florida, Tennessee and Washington.

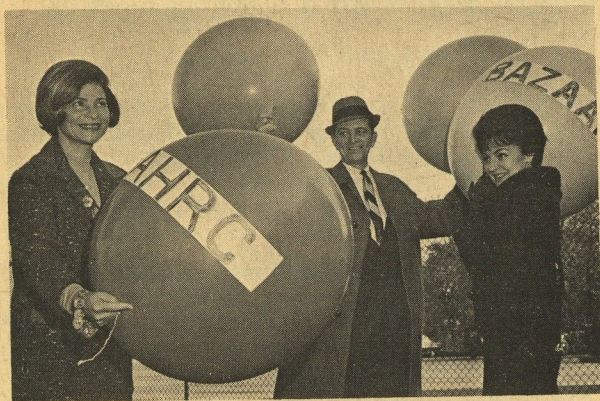
Dr. Scheinberg stated: "This is an illness which is hereditary and is almost exactly similar, in this respect, to phenylketonuria. Each parent of an affected child carries one abnormal gene and the child inherits both of these. The parents, being carriers, remain healthy."

As a result of this inheritance, the child retains too much of the copper that everyone unavoidably eats. An average New York diet contains about 5 milligrams of copper daily. Since there are only 100 milligrams in the entire body of an adult, it is clear that there is enormous excess of copper in our diets — mostly in shellfish, chocolate, liver and nuts — compared to our needs.

Wilson's disease, which was formerly detected only after serious degeneration and the signs of a greenish-brown ring in the cornea of the eye, can now be detected after a simplified blood test costing approximately twenty-five cents.

Dr. Scheinberg stated: "The toxic effects generally appear after the 6th or 7th year — almost never before that."

BALLOON BAZAAR?



Mayor Robert Sweeney of Freeport, L. I., assists in hoisting prize winning balloons heralding the Bazaar sponsored by Nassau County Chapter on November 6, 7, and 8. With the Mayor are Mrs. Robert Jurick (left) of Hewlett Harbor, Bazaar Chairman and Mrs. Emanuel Slomin of Freeport, committee member. They released one dozen helium filled balloons each of which had a card attached which entitled the finder to a special free prize at the Bazaar. Auxiliaries from all over Nassau County participated in the event which proved to be a highly successful fund-raising venture.

SUFFOLK COUNTY STATE SCHOOL MAKING PROGRESS

HOPES TO OPEN DOORS AT THE END OF 1965

Construction of the Suffolk County State School complex marks the end of a bitter fight that began more than six years ago with the announcement that the school would be built in Melville, Long Island. The fight involved state and town officials, the courts, and scores of local residents.

Costing about \$40 million, the school will have its own hospital, police and fire departments and even its own sewage treatment system.

According to Paul H. Hoch, the commissioner, the school will represent modern concepts in the care of the mentally retarded. "Formerly, institutions like this were put away from centers of population," said the commissioner. "Today, the plan is to re-establish these schools in the community, so that the community's resources and facilities can be used. We are trying to reintegrate these patients into the community."

Explaining why the State School was not built on property owned by the State at Pilgrim State Hospital for the mentally ill, Dr. Hoch said "Under new concepts, we don't want to mix the mentally ill with the mentally retarded. Pilgrim State is the largest mental institution in the world. The trend now is toward smaller institutions."

The school, built on a \$2,100,000, 472-acre site, is designed to handle about 3,000 patients. It will open on a limited basis by the end of 1965 and will be handling about 1,500 patients by mid-1956. The school is designed to serve Long Island and parts of New York City.

It will handle about 200 infants, about 750 adults, and about 2,000 children. There are about 50 buildings planned for the site, including cottages for the children, a school, infirmaries, kitchens, and employees' home, special treatment buildings, medical-surgical building and rehabilitation buildings, infant and adult buildings and staff housing. A total of 32 buildings are currently under construction.

The school will employ a maximum of 1,500 persons with an annual payroll of more than \$3 million. It is estimated that it will cost more than \$6 million annually to run the school.

(Continued on Page 24)

INFORMATIONAL PAMPHLETS DEVELOPED BY JOSEPH P. KENNEDY JR. FOUNDATION

Three new pamphlets, informational in nature, have been developed by the Joseph P. Kennedy Jr. Foundation for general distribution.

They are "Expectant Mothers: What You Should Know About Mental Retardation: What You Can Do"; "Education for the Mentally Retarded: What You Should Know: What You Can Do"; and, "Recreation for the Mentally Retarded: What You Should Know: What you Can Do."

The titles are almost self-explanatory.

Although necessarily sketchy in information, they may be a fair jumping off point for those newly coming into the field or becoming aware that they are somehow affected by it.

It is a little disheartening, for example, in the pamphlet on Education for the Mentally Retarded to find under the heading "What You Can Do," parents are urged to "encourage governmental and private services like Goodwill Industries, Jewish Vocational Services and United Catholic Charities to:

Establish workshops to provide training for retardates going into competitive industry, etc., with no mention of the terrific job being done by various Associations of parents and friends of retarded children who have created almost all of the vocational rehabilitation facilities for the mentally retarded that exist in the United States.

Giving probably the most direct advice is the one for Expectant Mothers, which is pretty down to earth.

It would perhaps had been wiser to make the pamphlets a little longer and elaborate on the promise that the headings seem to give; namely, good practical advice about what to do and how to go about doing it.

With these limitations, these pamphlets are a valuable addition to the armamentarium of educating the public.

Free copies may be obtained from the State Office.

NEW DENTAL CLINIC FOR RETARDED IN SMITHTOWN

An in-patient dental clinic for the mentally retarded has been established as a jointly operated service by the Suffolk County Clinic for the Mentally Retarded and by Smithtown General Hospital.

The Suffolk County Clinic for the Mentally Retarded is supported through a Mental Health Board grant with supplemental funds from the Suffolk County Chapter.

The Clinic has its headquarters in Smithtown General where the dental work is being performed in the hospital's operating room on children who have need of general anesthesia.

Heading the program are Dr. Albert Adler, medical director of the Clinic for the Mentally Retarded, and Dr. Joel Holubar, chief of dentistry and oral surgery at the Smithtown Hospital.

According to Michael T. Jordan, administrative director of the Clinic, the program marks the first effort of this kind directly under the supervision of the Clinic for the Mentally Retarded.

Patients accepted are retarded or physically handicapped children whose dental work cannot be handled by a private dentist in his office without general anesthesia or children whose private physicians feel will suffer less emotional set backs by having dental work done under general anesthesia.

A rotating roster of dentists is maintained by the Clinic for the convenience of parents and children.

Fees for dental work and anesthesia are based on a sliding scale rate set up by the Clinic for the Mentally Retarded.

PRESIDENT SPEAKS

(Continued from Page 1)



Don J. Brown, (left), Omaha, Neb., and Dr. Ronald Goldstein, Atlanta, Ga., representing the U. S. Junior Chamber of Commerce, discuss the Jaycees' new mental health and mental retardation program with President Johnson at a White House conference. Aims of the program are improved mental hospitals and community centered chapters conducting the plan will provide time, treatment and rehabilitation facilities Jaycee money and volunteers to overcome a 20-year lag said to exist in these areas of concern. Co-sponsors are the Joseph P. Kennedy Jr. Foundation, Sears-Roebuck and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund.

SUFFOLK (Continued from Page 23)

Although welcoming the needed addition of a State School in Long Island, Mrs. Mirian Weinstein, chairman of the Institutions Committee of the State Association, deplored the fact that this institution is being built for 3,000 patients. "It has become evident and is increasingly the policy of many States that no institution should be built for more than 500 patients. It seems rather strange that in the face of this growing philosophy as to optimum size, the State of New York persists in institutions of the size of the Suffolk County State School. With the steady increase of institutional population in the schools for the mentally retarded, it is evident that since it takes five or six years to build a new institution, it will be overcrowded by the time it is completed," concluded Mrs. Weinstein.

"Announcements which can be made this afternoon reflect the pace of our progress. First, the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development has approved grants which will result in construction of two mental retardation centers, one on the East Coast, the other on the West Coast.

"Second, the Civil Service Commission has successfully begun a pioneering program for employing the mentally retarded, 85 per cent of whom are employable. We are confident industry, like Government, will find these people make capable, devoted workers at many levels.

"Third, the Advertising Council is making the subject of mental retardation their number one effort, a long step forward to awakening public awareness.

"Fourth, the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce is dedicating the energy and enterprise of its fine members to support of the program.

"Fifth, more encouraging of all are the results promised by development of simple, inexpensive and accurate test for detection of the condition which causes mental retardation. The PKU tests, made within the first 72 hours after birth, promise to permit salvaging children from retardation by special diets inaugurated early in their lives.

"Research indicates this: that at a cost of \$420 we could have detected the 840 cases of mental retardation among new-born babies with a saving of \$80 million which is the cost of their institution care for a lifetime.

"We are making spectacular progress on many fronts. The future is exciting and gratifying. The gains achieved and gains to come are due to the compassion and courage of the man who focused our national conscience and capabilities on the problem, John F. Kennedy.

"Seventeen months ago, in his message to Congress on retardation, President Kennedy touched the untouchable, and today, only a short time later, a revolution in the field of retardation is underway. That work is being given the most able direction and leadership of the Joseph Kennedy, Jr. Foundation under the tireless guidance of Mrs. Eunice Kennedy Shriver, to whom the parents of many children yet unborn will someday owe a great debt.

"We have made progress. But our efforts have just begun. We will continue until we fill all the answers we have been seeking, until we find a place for all those who suffer with the problem. I believe we will accomplish more toward overcoming retardation in the next five years than the world has accomplished in the first five-hundred years."

NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION FOR RETARDED
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