

# OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE

*Retarded Children*

*Can Be Helped!*



VOL. XV, — ISSUE NO. 4

DECEMBER, 1962

## Governor Promises Aid To Sheltered Workshops

### Greetings To New York State

Greetings, greetings, greetings of the season  
That gives us good excuse and reason  
To thank all our allies and friends,  
All who've helped us achieve our ends.  
First our children our thanks deserve  
For giving us the chance to serve.  
And to Nelson Rockefeller, great Gov.,  
Our admiration, thanks and love.  
To Bill Ronan (ah, there!) and the executive staff we  
turn

Whom we help teach and from whom we learn.  
Not to forget our friends in Budget, true,  
Norm Hurd, John Lauber, and all the others, too.  
To Earl Brydges, of the Jt. Leg. Comm. Chairman,  
A leader, friend, champion, — rare man,  
Indeed. And Stanley Steigut, Chairman-Vice,  
But of course we mean everything nice.  
And to all its members who round us rally,  
Conklin, Kraf, McCloskey, Amann and Calli;  
To Lee Dowling who pushes and restrains,  
Who guides, exhorts and soothes our pains  
When legislation fails; to Thompson, Warner,  
Counsel, and Jack Dowd, Assistant-in our corner.  
And surely Phil Basciglia and Mary Ellen Flynn,  
Our good allies, we must count in.  
To heads of departments - Mental Hygiene and Ed.,  
Hoch and Allen, to whom all roads have led;  
And to Arthur Pense, Hail! and affection -  
We add Charley Becker to this section.  
To Adrian Levy, of Voc. Rehab. the boss,  
Whose help cuts our workshops' loss.  
To Walter Mahoney and Joe Carlino  
To whom for help we so often go;  
Zaretsky, Travia on the other side we note,  
Who though minority, also vote.  
To all the legislature, our thanks,  
Exalted leaders and the ranks.  
To school directors, public and state,  
Attendants and teachers, high we rate.  
To all who help us in our cause  
At this happy season we pause  
To thank. All who have taken part  
We greet with full and thankful heart.  
Though we haven't mentioned each by name,  
Your support and devotion we proclaim.  
How glad we are to have this reason  
For greetings, greetings, greetings of the season.

J. T. W.

### WILL ASK '63 LEGISLATURE FOR APPROPRIATIONS

On October 22nd, Governor Rockefeller announced plans for a new program of state financial assistance for rehabilitation workshops for the handicapped and retarded.

"The rehabilitation workshops provide a sheltered environment stimulating business and industry wherein handicapped persons receive help in evaluation, adjustment, placement and follow-up in order to train them for employment in a non-sheltered workshop situation," said the Governor.

In addition, stated the Governor, rehabilitation workshops provide long term employment opportunities for the severely handicapped.

The new program is designed to aid the workshops by offering state support for professional staffing. The program does not contemplate support for equipment, buildings or general overhead expenses.

"The handicapped are many," stated the Governor. "Their ranks know no age limit, no financial ceiling, no racial barriers and no social position. There are only types of disability and, within the types, degrees of disability".

The Governor stated that rehabilitation workshops serve a unique role in the State's system of rehabilitation services. He added that he would call upon the Inter-departmental Health and Hospital Council to develop standards for this new program. He would further seek the necessary appropriations to undertake the first phase of this program of State Aid for rehabilitation workshops.

"This new program," concluded the Governor, "will help support sheltered workshops in their efforts to provide the best in professional staffing in behalf of those to whom fate or circumstances have dealt a cruel blow."

Peter C. Keischgens, President of the State Association, commented on the Governor's statement as follows: "We are extremely gratified that the Governor has taken the first step to implement a program for aid for sheltered workshops that this Association has been advancing for the past several years."

"The bill introduced last year by the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental Retardation and Physically Handicapped to aid sheltered workshops was a vindication of the Association's program. Unfortunately, it failed to pass, but we are happy to see that the Governor is taking first steps to implement this. We say first steps, advisedly, because limiting the aid to professional personnel alone will not solve the problem of the workshop that deals with the more severely handicapped must provide long range if not terminal employment marginal producers. To hope to bring this point home to the administration and the legislature before the next session."

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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: **PETER C. KEISCHGENS**

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

## GOVERNOR PROCLAIMS MENTAL RETARDATION WEEK

### PROCLAMATION

Planning for the retarded child to help him to develop to the fullest extent of his capabilities is of deep concern to all the people of the State of New York.

This growing awareness for the problem of mental retardation is mirrored in the progressive goals that have been defined in our Master Plan for Mental Disability, including plans for the relief of overcrowding in the State schools, better care for the severely retarded, strengthened central direction for mental retardation programs, development of community services, as well as increased research.

In line with these goals, major steps already have been taken in New York State. The 1040-bed West Seneca State School in Erie County — the first new State institution to be built since the 1930's — opened its door to its first patients in the middle of October, and the sum of \$2 million has been provided for initial construction of another State school for 1180 patients in Saratoga County.

In order to improve the quality of care in all the State schools, there has been a significant increase in staff — the current budget adding some 550 new positions for the care of severely disabled children over ten years of age.

Research, too, has led to significant discoveries in the field of mental retardation and the development of preventive treatment. Future plans call for an expansion of this vital work at the Institute for Research in Mental Retardation to be built on Staten Island, for which \$5.5 million has already been appropriated.

In one of these functions the State welcomes the support and cooperation of community groups and recognizes their contributions and unfailing devotion to the cause of the mentally retarded.

Certainly 1962 might be called a fruitful year for the expansion of services in the care of the mentally retarded. In the spirit of further encouraging development of coordinated State, local and private facilities throughout New York State, the focus of public attention is called to the problems of the mentally retarded during the coming weeks.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nelson A. Rockefeller, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim November 11-17, 1962 as

### RETARDED CHILDREN'S WEEK

GIVEN under my hand and the  
Privy Seal of the State at the  
Capitol City in the City of Albany  
this thirtieth day of October in  
the year of our Lord one thousand  
nine hundred and sixty-two.

(signed) **NELSON A. ROCKEFELLER**

**William J. Ronan**  
Secretary to the Governor

## ASSOCIATION TESTIFIES ON MENTAL HEALTH FUND INCREASES

### QUESTIONS INCREASES WITHOUT PROGRAMS

Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of the New York State Association, questioned the wisdom of increased funds for community mental health services without a corresponding clarification of programs for the mentally retarded, at a hearing of the Joint Legislative Committee, Health Insurance Plans, New York City, on July 19th, 1962.

The committee under the chairmanship of Senator George Metcalf, was conducting a hearing on whether or not the present ceiling of \$1.40 per capita State Aid for Community Mental Health Boards should be raised or lifted.

Mr. Weingold pointed out that more than \$6 million possible State Aid in the year 1961 was not utilized by local community Mental Health Boards. This was on the basis of \$1.20 per capita. On the basis of the present \$1.40 per capita, he said, this would probably be even higher.

In view of the fact that only New York City and Westchester have reached or exceeded their ceiling, he questioned the wisdom of granting more funds without utilizing the unexpended funds from other areas.

The main point that Mr. Weingold made was that under the Community Mental Health Services Act, although the mentally retarded are included on an equal footing with other disabilities, very little money is being spent on programs for the mentally retarded. As against the \$30,399,303 spent in 1961, only \$320,078 was spent on the mentally retarded for all the clinics and programs in the State.

He also pointed out, of this sum voluntary agencies such as the AHRC contributed \$142,555 or almost 45%, while the counties or cities contributed a mere \$17,484, or as he put it, "A miserly 5%". This was contrasted sharply with the fact that for other services, counties and city contributed 42% of the funds and voluntary agencies only about 7% of the funds.

Mr. Weingold suggested that there be no increased State Aid to Community Mental Health Boards unless and until it is clearly demonstrated 1 — that the money is needed; 2 — that the programs are not almost completely neglecting the mentally retarded; and 3 — that there is more and better State Control of Program and Expenditures.

What the Association wants, as proposed in its Legislative Program, is that services for the mentally retarded be mandated in the Community Mental Health Services Act in light of the fact that so many Community Mental Health Boards, seven years after the Act has been passed, has not contributed one cent for such services.

## ASSOCIATION OPPOSES ADDITIONAL TAX EXEMPTION

In a statesmanlike move, the New York State Association, at its annual Convention in Glens Falls, passed a resolution opposing the proposal that would give a \$600. State Income Tax exemption to parents of physically handicapped, mentally retarded or emotionally disturbed children.

The delegates felt that the ruling of Internal Revenue and the State of New York that the expenses incidental to the treatment and education of the mentally retarded were deductible as medical expenses did not justify a further exemption of \$600. for the parents of such children.

It was the feeling of the delegates that to ask for such a special treatment was not justified under these circumstances.

### GOVERNOR PROMISES (From page one)

"We know that in the long run it is inevitable that the sheltered workshops for handicapped, including the mentally retarded, must be supported so that they can exist and thrive if we are to keep the mentally retarded, certainly, in the community rather than in the institutions."

"We are grateful," he concluded, "for the Governor's understanding and help in this first step."



## ELIMINATE INSTITUTION FEES; AID SHELTERED WORKSHOPS; MANDATE P.K.U. TESTING DELEGATES URGE

A full program of Legislation was once more adopted unanimously by the delegates to the State Convention in Glens Falls.

In accordance with the policy of the Board enunciated last year and re-affirmed again this year, the Association agreed to place major emphasis in its legislative program for 1962, on elimination of all charges for patients in State Schools for the mentally retarded; amendment to the education law to provide State aid on an ongoing basis to help meet the deficits of sheltered workshops; and the implementation of a demonstration program for a regional workshop and residential center in Westchester.

Close behind this was the insistence of the delegates that legislation be considered this year for mandatory testing for P. K. U.

Cognizance was taken by the Convention of the Governor's statement that he proposes to make available state aid for sheltered workshops for professional personnel. The delegates felt that this was a great step forward, but the Rehabilitation Committee resolved that this was too narrow an approach and did not take into consideration the special needs of those workshops working with the more severely handicapped who cannot be placed in competitive industry.

Discussion was especially vigorous on the need for aid in rural and semi-rural areas and the proposal for the demonstration project for a regional workshop and residential center was very strongly urged.

High on the list of priorities was the elimination of fees in the State Schools which for many parents are becoming unbearable and represent, numerous studies have shown, double taxation for parents who would receive these services free of charge if their children have remained in the community.

In all, twenty recommendations for legislation were made and adopted by the Convention. Many of these will be the legislative program of the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental Retardation and other will be introduced by Legislators at the request of the State Association.

The Association's Legislative program for 1962 follows: —

### I. MENTAL HYGIENE LAW:

#### A. Community Mental Health Services

It is recommended that the Mental Hygiene Law with respect to Community Mental Health Services be amended to set forth in more detail the duties of Community Mental Health Boards for support of day training centers for the mentally retarded; to set forth in more detail the duties of Community Mental Health Boards to support rehabilitation and other services for the mentally retarded; and to provide that if a voluntary non-profit agency makes application to a Community Mental Health Board for such services and such application is denied the agency may have the right to appeal to the Commissioner of Mental Hygiene who, in turn, shall have the right to overrule the decision of the Community Mental Health Board with respect to this application.

#### B. Directors of State Schools

To amend the Mental Hygiene law to permit the director of a state school to be selected from educators, psychologists or social workers, as well as physicians. It was also recommended and adopted that public health administrators be added to this group.

#### C. Mandating Special Classes in State Schools.

It is proposed that legislation to mandate education in the state schools be proposed to the Joint Legislative Committee and held in abeyance if the Department of Mental Hygiene will agree to a study of the education program in the state schools by an impartial committee of educators and at least one representative of the State Association; if not, it is the proposal that this legislation be introduced.

The reason is as follows: The program in the state schools does not, on the whole, compare favorably with that in the community, because even the educable are not given formal education beyond the age of 16 (the Education Law calls for education from the age of 5 to 21); classes for the trainable contain considerably more than twelve children in many instances; in a number of instances there is not a full school day and not even school five days a week. This may be due to personnel shortages and lack of space, but the same conditions obtain in the community and there is no reason why the state schools should not be under the same kind of mandate.

#### D. Parent on Boards of Visitors

It is recommended that the Mental Hygiene Law be amended to require that at least one member of the Board of Visitors of a state school shall be the parent of a retarded child.

#### E. Powers of Boards of Visitors

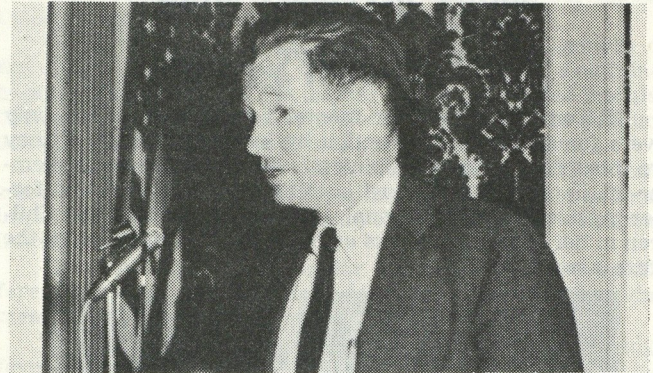
It is recommended that the Mental Hygiene Law be amended to give

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## ANNUAL CONVENTION STRESSES COORDINATION OF SERVICES

### PETER C. KEISCHGENS RE-ELECTED PRESIDENT

Almost 200 delegates from 38 Chapters of the State Association met in convention at the Queensbury Hotel in Glens Falls on October 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th, to plan the program and course of the State Association for the following year.



Alexander Aldrich, Director, Division for Youth,  
New York State, addressing the Convention.

The theme of coordination highlighted a panel discussion on the follow-up recommendations of 1960 White House Conference on Children and Youth with reference to the mentally retarded. Over 100 recommendations came out of that conference, specifically tied in with the mentally retarded. It is the task of the Division for Youth in New York State to coordinate and follow-up on the recommendations of the White House Conferences.



From L. to R., Dr. Dale E. Harro, Dr. Arthur W. Pense, Mr. Alexander Aldrich, Hon. Harry Helm, Mayor of Glens Falls, Pete Keischgens, Charles Becker, Winford Olipant and Price Chenault, participants in the Friday night panel discussion.

Mr. Alexander Aldrich, Director of the Division of Youth, led a panel in discussion of what New York State is doing to follow-up on these recommendations. Participating with Mr. Aldrich were Dr. Arthur W. Pense, Head of Office of Mental Retardation, Department of Mental Hygiene; Dr. Dale E. Harro, Director of the Bureau of Maternal Child & Health, Department of Health; Mr. Charles Becker, Chief of a Division of Mentally Handicapped Children, Department of Education; Mr. Winford Oliphant, Director, Bureau of Child Welfare, State Department of Social Welfare; and Mr. Price Chenault, Director of Education, Department of Correction. Participating also with the panelists was Mr. Sol Richman, Consultant, Rehabilitation of the Mentally Handicapped for the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, State Department of Education.

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# President's Panel Reports On Mental Retardation

## BOGGS DESCRIBES WORK OF PRESIDENT'S PANEL

"Recommendations for mental retardation can be only levers for use in positive action by interested people if they are to succeed", was the opinion of Elizabeth Boggs, a member of the President's Panel on Mental Retardation and former president of the National Association for Retarded Children in her Banquet address at the Annual Convention of the State Association.



From L. to R., Sid Van Dusen, Pres., Warren Washington Chapter, Pete Keischgens, Elizabeth Boggs, Banquet Speaker, and Judge Charles Ringwood.

Dr. Boggs described the work of the President's Panel in attempting to further the work on Mental Retardation throughout the country. She touched on the White House Conference of 1960 noting "It is heartening that the State Government is actively studying the recommendations resulting from that conference."

The speaker revealed the President's Panel, organized last fall, had some nine months in which to make the worldwide study on mental retardation work, prepare individual reports, consolidate these and present a composite report, which will be officially released to the public in January.

She said that the Panel was composed of some people experienced in the mental retardation field, while others came from allied or wholly dissassociated fields, yet all provided blending of knowledge and experience to provide true working cooperation to effect real recommendations.

Four missions went abroad in their search for complete knowledge on the subject, with Elizabeth Boggs' group visiting the Netherlands.

She labeled the work of Holland as "A truly impressive structure", revealing some 2.6% of the school age children in that country are in special classes for the mentally retarded, 32,000 in educable classes and 8,000 in trainable classes of varying levels.

In discussing the work in Holland, she spoke glowingly of their sheltered employment workshops, totaling some 180 in number.

In several instances, a number of communities banded together for one over-all workshop in order to offer the widest possible scope for the mentally retarded children and adults involved.

"Holland also has a very good follow-through on getting handicapped people proper employment situations", she said,

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## REPORT FAVORS RESEARCH AND WIDER REHABILITATION FOR 5 MILLION

The report of the President's Panel on Mental Retardation delivered to President Kennedy in October represented to 15 to 20 million American families in which there is a mentally retarded member, an event ranking in importance with the naval and air "Quarantine" of the shipment of offensive military equipment to Cuba.

The report was compiled after a year of study. Mr. Leonard W. Mayo, executive director of the Association for the Aid of Crippled Children, New York, served as its chairman.

Mrs. R. Sargent Shriver Jr., the President's sister, acted as a consultant.

The size alone of the problem on which these twenty-seven experts have made recommendations is enough to give this country and the world pause.

Of the 5,400,000 persons so afflicted, about 400,000 are so retarded that they require constant care or supervision or are limited in their ability to care for themselves and engage in productive work. The 5,000,000 others are individuals with mild disabilities.

The states and communities spend around \$300,000,000 a year to care for those who are in institutions.

Special education, welfare, rehabilitation and related services for those outside institutions cost \$250,000,000 a year more.

In addition the Federal Government will spend \$178,000,000 for the mentally retarded this year. About 80 per cent of the funds will go for public assistance; the rest will be spent for research, training and for special services.

As the panel pointed out in its report, "Economic costs cannot compare with the misery and frustration and realization that one's child will be incapable of leading a normal life or fully contributing to the well being of himself and to society in later life."

### Major Suggestions Listed

Warning that its recommendation would be costly, the panel made the following major suggestions:

Increasing basic and applied research and eventually establishing ten research centers.

Establishing a national research institute of learning.

Creating new patterns of institutional care emphasizing small residential treatment centers.

Increasing vocational rehabilitation services.

Expanding the Federal maternal and child health grant programs to aid "high risk" pregnancy cases in low-income groups.

Although services are still woefully inadequate, one of the areas in which Americans have made the most rapid progress in serving the mentally retarded in the last few years is in vocational rehabilitation.

From 1954 to 1961, Federal funds for vocational rehabilitation increased by three times, but funds invested in such services for the retarded increased by fifteen times.

During this period, the total number of persons rehabilitated increased 70 per cent, but the number of retarded persons increased by 600 per cent.

In percentages, these figures are impressive and represent steps in the right direction, but they are not so impressive when one considers that the total number of retarded persons rehabilitated in 1961 was 3,562.

It is estimated that about 75,000 retarded youths who have a potential for self-support and independent living

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## STUDY LINKS PREMATURE BIRTHS TO SMOKING DURING PREGNANCY

Preliminary findings show that premature births occur more frequently among mothers who smoke than among nonsmokers.

This was one of the results of a long-range study being coordinated by the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness.

Dr. Richard L. Masland, director of the institute, said that the results "are preliminary findings of continuing research and therefore should be viewed with caution."

He suggested that they may prove to be promising leads for investigation.

The findings link prematurity, still-births and infant brain damage with some previously unsuspected events of pregnancy and delivery. The data had been compiled from tests on more than 23,000 expectant mothers and 17,000 children enrolled at fifteen medical centers, including Columbia University and New York Medical College.

The Public Health Service announcement said that the findings "confirm the results of previous studies which have shown a relationship between cigarette smoking during pregnancy and prematurity."

Birth weight was found to be inversely proportional to the amount of smoking — the greater the smoking, the lower the weight at birth.

The researchers also found that more than 40 per cent of a group of infants diagnosed as abnormal during a psychological examination had suffered from breathing difficulties at birth.

The investigators confirmed the close relationship that exists between fetal deaths and changes in the concentration of blood proteins of expectant mothers. These results may lead to preventive therapy.

Additional evidence was uncovered to show that premature births may be caused by a urinary tract infection that cannot be discerned by routine methods. Scientists have devised a simple, sensitive test, however, for detecting infection.

Investigators have also confirmed that high rates of prematurity and infant deaths were found to be associated with findings suggestive of inflammation of the placenta, fetal membranes and umbilical cord. In some 50 per cent of cases where such inflammation occurred, infection of the vagina, cervix, or both, was also present, a discovery which emphasizes the importance of careful treatment of these infections during pregnancy.

A new pamphlet published by the NIND, describes in detail the purpose and operation of the collaborative project. Entitled "The Fateful Months When Life Begins", it is available from the U. S. Government printing Office, Washington 25, D. C. for 5¢ a copy.

## NEW LEADS ON MENTAL RETARDATION THROUGH LEAD POISONING

Early detection of lead poisoning so as to initiate treatment before lead causes irreversible damage to the brain has become possible with a technique developed under a Public Health Service grant to Dr. Jo Anne Whittaker, William Austin, and Dr. John D. Nelson, Southwestern Medical School, Dallas, Texas.

The test consists of comparing the amount of lead in the urine before and 24 hours after administration of edathamil calcium disodium.

The experiment and test were described in "Pediatrics", March 1962.

## GERMAN MEASLES VIRUS DISCOVERED

Scientists at the National Institutes of Health have isolated and grown in tissue culture the virus that causes rubella, or German measles.

The achievement opens the way to the development of vaccines against that disease, which, though normally innocuous, threatens unborn babies with deformity or death. Work on vaccines is already under way.

The accomplishment, long sought by scientists all over the world, was announced in Washington by the United States Public Health Service. The work was done by Drs. John L. Sever and Gilbert M. Schiff under Dr. Richard L. Masland, director of the National Institute for Neurological Diseases and Blindness in Bethesda, Md.

In effect, the mere isolation and laboratory growth of the rubella virus amounts to the development of a vaccine, because the mildness of the disease would permit the inoculation of the unattenuated, or full-strength, virus to produce active immunity to subsequent, accidental infection.

Thus, a victim of such deliberate infection could at least select the time and place of his affliction. This would be most important for women, who could make certain of acquiring immunity prior to pregnancy.

German measles and regular measles are caused by different viruses. The former, sometimes called three-day measles, differs in its severity and duration.

Regular measles generally lasts two weeks, causing high fever and occasionally blindness. A regular measles vaccine, made of both killed and live viruses, has been developed within the last year. The vaccine is now being tested.

The importance of rubella infection as a source of birth defects can be seen from figures indicating that the incidence of such afflictions in this part of the world is roughly 40 per cent, if the infection strikes during the first month, and rounds out to 18 per cent over infection contracted during the first three months of pregnancy.

One study in Australia showed that 80 per cent of pregnant women with rubella bore abnormal infants or aborted.

## A CHILD IS WAITING — SOON TO BE RELEASED



Jean Hansen (Judy Garland), just hired as a teacher at Crowthorn Training School, is given a tour of the classes by Mrs. McDonald (June Walker, left) and Mattie (Gloria McGehee) where she meets Reuben (Bruce Ritchey) one of the institution's more intractable young patients. The scene is from Stanley Kramer's compelling new film drama "A Child Is Waiting" in which Burt Lancaster stars with Miss Garland and which John Cassavetes directed for United Artists release.

## DID YOU KNOW THAT . . .

Of the 12,000 foundations in the United States, only six are making any significant contributions to Mental Retardation.



## ANOTHER VIRUS DEFINITELY LINKED TO MENTAL RETARDATION

A virus — actually a group of closely related viruses, like the polio viruses — has been associated with the cause of a form of mental retardation and cerebral palsy.

These viruses were first isolated by Dr. Thomas H. Weller in 1955 and, at the same time and independently, by workers at Bethesda and St. Louis.

The present discovery came out of work done at the Harvard School of Public Health by Dr. Weller and Dr. James B. Hanshaw, now at the University of Rochester.

Dr. Weller shared the Nobel Prize in Medicine in 1954 for isolating the polio virus.

Dr. Weller and Dr. Hanshaw reported on their five-year study with 17 children in the New England Journal of Medicine. The agents discovered are called cytomegaloviruses. The effect they produce is called cytomegalovirus inclusion disease or CID. Of the 17 children under study, one died during the study. Of the other 16, only two were free of any damage from the infection. Thirteen suffered mental retardation and 12 had some kind of motor disability. Common result of the disease was a failure of the infants' heads to grow at a normal rate. Other symptoms noted after birth included enlargement of the liver and spleen, jaundice, pinpoint hemorrhages into the skin and blindness.

The significance of the discovery, according to Dr. Hanshaw, is that this is a first step toward a more complete understanding of the disease.

According to Dr. Hanshaw, this is "an age of discovery" of viruses, during which scientists are lining up viruses with diseases and "accounting for a lot of things we never understood before."

## FALLS TEST NIPS RETARDATION

### GUTHRIE METHOD FINDS AILING CHILD

A St. Mary's Hospital technician in Niagara Falls has used the detection method devised by Dr. Robert Guthrie of the University of Buffalo to diagnose a case of phenylketonuria in a baby there.

Children's and Kenmore Mercy Hospitals in Buffalo, as a matter of routine, give all babies the blood test on the day of discharge. Buffalo General Hospital plans to follow suit.

The Children's Bureau of the U. S. Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare is sponsoring a pilot program of Guthrie tests on 400,000 children in hospitals throughout the U. S. this year. That represents 8 to 9 per cent of all newborn babies in the country.

The remarkable part of the test administered by the St. Mary's Hospital technician five days after the child was born, is that it broke the law of averages for discovery of PKU. Health records indicate a case of PKU occurs only once in 10,000 births. The technician who discovered the case at St. Mary's had tested only about 850 babies since she learned the method from Dr. Guthrie.

Caught as early as it was, the child's deficiency probably will not affect its brain in any way.

### BOGGS REPORTS (Continued from Page 4)

noting that social service people maintain a protective influence continuously for such people.

"The Dutch believe the mentally retarded should be allowed to work as far as possible", she added. She also commended the facilities for residential care, noting the quality of the institution and the physical care as being truly outstanding.

She was introduced in the evening Banquet by Warren County Children's Court, Judge Charles S. Ringwood, an old friend of the Association.

## PHYSICIANS OF UPSTATE NEW YORK ALERTED TO PKU TESTINGS

Under the joint sponsorship of the State Medical Society and the State Health Department, a letter has been sent to all physicians in upstate New York describing PKU testing procedures and urging all physicians to make routine use of the test for the detection of abnormal metabolites in the urine.

"This is another indication of our concern in promoting screening procedures for PKU", declared Dr. Edward R. Schlesinger, Assistant Commissioner for Special Health Services.

He also added that plans are well advanced for large-scale participation of New York State in the nationwide survey using the Guthrie technique.

### PRESIDENT'S PANEL (Continued from Page 4)

leave school each year. With effective counseling and placement services, about 75 per cent of this group could be placed in competitive work.

Although the vocational rehabilitation program is limited in the number of retarded persons it serves currently, it has demonstrated the economic values of such services.

A study of 1,578 mentally retarded persons rehabilitated in 1958 showed their total annual earnings rose from \$70,000 before rehabilitation to \$2,500,000 after rehabilitation.

Only 3 per cent had been self-supporting from earnings before rehabilitation. The average one-time cost for their rehabilitation was \$1,500.

The number of mentally retarded rehabilitated could be increased, the panel concluded by these things:

Federal grants to the states to initiate and expand services for this particular group.

Federal grants to the states to provide financial support for the construction, equipping and initial staffing of workshops and other rehabilitation facilities.

Activity centers for the severely handicapped to assess rehabilitation potentials.

More effective coordination of educational, vocational rehabilitation and job placement services.

### First Such Survey

The report and recommendations of the President's Panel on Mental Retardation is the first such comprehensive survey and study.

Thoughtful and careful consideration has been given to the full spectrum of problems associated with the mental retardation.

These include research, prevention, clinical and social services, education, vocational rehabilitation and training, residential care, legal rights, organization of services and public awareness.

Not all the panel's recommendations can be immediately implemented.

Research and service can be expanded substantially only after expanded training programs produce more trained personnel.

The program will also be expensive. The costs, however, could be considered an investment that would pay rich social and economic dividends.

This program could represent a comprehensive blueprint of what the United States should be doing in mental retardation.

It must be pointed out, however, that many of these recommendations if not, indeed, most of them that deal with services for the mentally retarded will not be implemented unless there is a very strong and active voluntary group such as the Chapters of the National Association for Retarded Children to bear the brunt of demonstration and continuing service for many years to come.



# NARC RESEARCH FUND GRANTS, 1961-1962

The following grants have been announced by the National Association for Retarded Children for the year 1961-1962:

## NARC DISTINGUISHED SCHOLARS:

These grants provide major support for selected scientists who have already made distinguished contributions to their field, and who are expected to be highly productive if provided with the freedom, time, facilities, and assistance to originate and pursue new leads.

**Barton Childs, M.D., Johns Hopkins University** (Human Genetics) (\$50,000 over 2½ years) Grover F. Powers, Distinguished Scholar of NARC Study of geographical origin and distribution of certain blood abnormalities; studies of effects of additional or missing genes associated with X-chromosomes. This grant was determined when Dr. Childs received a Research Career Award from the National Institutes of Health, a type of continuing support not available when NARC initiated its "Support of Men."

**Edith L. Potter, M.D., University of Chicago** (Fetal Pathology) (\$66,000 over 5 years) NARC Distinguished Scholar Investigations into the causes of stillbirths and of handicapping conditions originating before birth. The grant also supports her assistant, Dr. Uwe Freese, in research on the placenta and on the blood circulation of the unborn child.

## NARC SCHOLARS (SENIOR INVESTIGATORS)

The title "NARC Scholar" is given to the recipients of NARC grants under the "support of men" program, who, while not as well established in their respective fields as the Distinguished Scholars, have, nevertheless, clearly demonstrated their ability to originate and carry through significant investigations.

**University of Buffalo, Robert Guthrie, M.D., Ph.D.** (Microbial Genetics) (\$45,000 over 7 years) Development and application of a new rapid method for screening specimens of body fluids to detect abnormal substances. This technique is useful in studying phenylketonuria.

**Sinai Hospital of Baltimore, Harold M. Nitowsky, M.D.** (Cytology) (\$25,000 over 5 years) Studies of metabolic characteristics of human cells, including a study to determine how cells taken from children with mongolism thrive in the presence of certain types of nourishment, compared with cells from normal children. (Jointly sponsored by the Association for the Aid of Crippled Children.)

**University of Wisconsin, Rick Heber, Ph.D.** (Educational Psychology) (\$36,000 over 3 years) Psychological research on basic learning problems and the motivation of the retarded child; effects of environmental deprivation.

**Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Herbert G. Birch, Ph.D.** (Psychology) (\$37,500 over 5 years) Work on the improvement of the evaluation and treatment of the "disorganized" child and the child with cerebral damage. (Jointly sponsored by the Association for the Aid of Crippled Children.)

**University of Cincinnati, Harold Kalter, Ph.D.** (Teratology) (\$84,720 over 5 years) Investigations of genetic and other aspects of congenital malformations of the central nervous system, including experimental production of such abnormalities in animals. Preparation of a monograph reviewing all available data on congenital malformations of the nervous system which are related to mental retardation.

## SPECIAL GRANTS (RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT)

**Biological Laboratories of the Long Island Biological Ass'n, Edwin Umbarger, Ph.D.,** (Bacteriology) (\$32,500 over 5 years) This grant enables this independent research organization to stabilize its staff and to extend and strengthen its work in the area of cellular bio-chemistry. (Jointly sponsored by the Association for the Aid of Crippled Children.)

**University of Boston, Louis Orsack, Ph.D.** (Sociology) (\$9,950 over 2 years) Study of the development and sociological change in a new growing institution for the severely retarded with emphasis on how organizational structure affects treatment programs for the severely retarded.

**Yerkes Laboratories of Primate Biology, Gershon Berkson, Ph.D.,** (Psychology) (\$10,340.27 — 1 year) Investigations of the stereotyped movements in severely retarded children to determine the patterns of learning that may break the persistence of rhythmic movements and substitute alternate activities.

**Lafayette Clinic, John A. Churchill, M.D.** (Child Neurology) (\$950) Purchase of equipment needed to analyze statistical data on neurological findings in relation to the physical development of the mentally retarded child.

**Social Psychiatry Research Unit, Maudsley Hospital, London, Wolf Wolfensberger, Ph.D.** (Psychology) (\$1,000) Interim support to facilitate a research assignment overseas until funds were received on a Post-Doctoral Fellowship Grant from the National Institutes of Health.

## STUDENTSHIPS (\$4000 for this year)

The NARC Research Fund has adopted a policy of subsidizing a few summer research student-ships for third year medical students in selected settings in order to give them an opportunity to become more familiar with the field of mental retardation, and to bring new talent into this research field.

**University of Missouri, Solomon Garb, M.D.,** Director of Program (2 grants). NARC support has enabled Dr. Garb to pioneer with a new pattern of summer work for third year medical students, stressing a broad approach to mental retardation research.

**Albany Medical College of Union University, Paul Patterson, M.D.,** Director (2 grants). This is the third year that NARC has supported research training of third year medical students at this medical school.

**Southbury Training School, Herman Yannet, M.D.,** Director, (1 grant) This is the second year of NARC summer medical student support in this research department.

# CLINICS FOR THE MENTALLY RETARDED DESCRIBED

## SPECIALIZED CLINICS NEEDED STATES DR. PENSE

In an article in the Mental Hygiene News of September 1962, reprinted from New York State General Practice News, Arthur W. Pense, M.D., Assistant Commissioner, Office of Mental Retardation in the New York State Department of Mental Hygiene, described the notable developments in the expansion of clinics for mentally retarded in New York State.

Whereas prior to 1955 there were three clinics in existence, states Dr. Pense, on April 1, 1962 there were 12 functioning.

He describes the increased interest in the mentally retarded mainly to the stimulation by organizations of parents of the retarded such as the Association for the Help of Retarded Children.

The new clinics, continues Dr. Pense, are staffed by pediatricians, psychiatrists, psychologists and psychiatric social workers. Supplementing the team for the evaluation of the possible future capabilities of the patient and to help the child in the clinic as well as to show the mother how to care for the child in the home are teachers, physio-therapist, occupational therapist and speech therapist.

"Generally speaking", says Dr. Pense, "clinics other than those specializing in the mentally retarded are not staffed sufficiently to provide the comprehensive study and extensive counseling services which are a feature of the specialized mental retardation clinics."

Mental retardation clinics are eligible for state financial aid under the provisions of the New York State Community Services Act which is administered by the Department of Mental Hygiene through local community mental health boards.

Information on clinics services in the state may be obtained from the Office of Mental Retardation, New York State Department of Mental Hygiene, 240 State Street, Albany, N. Y.

## I. Q. NO INDICATION OF PERSONS ABILITY TO WORK

The newsletter of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped for November 1962, cites two Pennsylvania studies, in Philadelphia and Erie, indicating that I.Q. isn't the only way to measure a person's ability to work.

Pennsylvania's Department of Employment Security gave a battery of aptitude tests to retarded men and women in Philadelphia and Erie and came up with the following results:

In Philadelphia, of 135 retardates studied, 11 scored 90 or better in all aptitudes except general intelligence; 70 scored 100 or better in clerical proficiency.

In Erie, of 109 cases, 92 scored 90 or above in all aptitudes except general intelligence, and 44 of the 92 had aptitudes of over 110.

## SOLVING THE CLASSROOM SHORTAGE

Something very new has been added to the educational facilities in Saratoga Springs.

A trailer has been used for a class for retarded children as an adjunct to the school. In this, parked alongside the school, Miss Helen Hogan, a teacher in the Saratoga Public School System, teaches the severely retarded in this novel classroom. Interestingly enough, Miss Hogan is a registered nurse and believes that a nursing degree is almost a necessity to enter the field of teaching the trainable retarded children.



# MENTAL RETARDATION MUST BE DISTINGUISHED FROM MENTAL ILLNESS

## NATIONAL CONVENTION DEPLORES CONFUSION

The delegates to the National Convention in Chicago on October 20th, 1962, deplored the confusion that exists between mental retardation and mental illness urged that "separate, adequate and appropriate emphasis to the problem of mental retardation" be given.

This discussion, the result of the continuing psychiatric emphasis being given to mental retardation, was brought to a head by resolution adopted by the Governor's Conference in Hershey, Pa. on July 2nd, 1962.

This resolution calls for the prevention and early treatment for persons with conditions related to mental illness, (emphasis is ours) and then goes on to say "such as mental retardation, alcoholism, drug addiction, delinquency, and deterioration in old age."

It was the opinion of the delegates to the National Convention that this dangerous resolution would result in utter confusion, a domination of mental retardation by the psychiatric approach, and, finally, that a consideration of mental retardation along with delinquency, drug addiction and alcoholism as a subsidiary problem to mental illness is wholly unjustified by our present state of scientific knowledge and wholly inappropriate considering the many aspects of mental retardation.

The Resolution of the National Convention follows:—

"WHEREAS at the 54th Annual Meeting of the Governor's Conference in Hershey, Pennsylvania on July 2, 1962 a resolution was adopted calling for the development in each state of a comprehensive master plan for coping with mental disability and promoting mental health; and

"WHEREAS this resolution lists mental retardation merely as a "condition related to mental illness" alongside of alcoholism, drug addiction, and delinquency; and

"WHEREAS such choice of words harks back to the days when, in terms of patient care, food, clothing, and personnel, institutions for the mentally retarded received less attention and lower budgets as compared with institutions for the mentally ill; and

"WHEREAS the President of the United States has, in several statements, pointed to mental retardation as a major national problem which far too long has been neglected;

"NOW, THEREFORE, the National Association for Retarded Children, assembled at Chicago, Illinois this 20th day of October, 1962, strongly urges the Governors of the several states to give separate, adequate and appropriate emphasis to the problem of mental retardation alongside of but not subsidiary to the problem of mental illness."

## \$12,000 GRANT TO PLAN PRE - SCHOOL PROGRAM

The Children's Bureau has announced a \$12,000 Grant to the New York City Chapter of the State Association to develop a plan for a pre-school program for mentally retarded children.

Aims of the project, under the direction of Jack Tobias, Chief Psychologist of the New York City Chapter are:

To prepare for admission to classes in the public school system those retarded children whose prognosis at ages 4 to 7 makes their eligibility questionable; to investigate the relevance of Dr. Samuel Kirk's findings with pre-school educable children to a more severely retarded population; the utility of rating scales developed at Columbia University to a more severely retarded population; to assist parents; and the relevance of previously developed curricula to the identified psychological needs of these children.

Jack Tobias has worked actively on the research program at the AHRC Training Center and Workshop as well as the Occupation Day Center.

## LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM (Continued from Page3)

Boards of Visitors the right and the duty to investigate not only directors of state schools, but also all other personnel of the state schools and that such investigation shall be made at the request of any individual member of the Board. It is further recommended that each individual member of the Board of Visitors of a state school shall have the right to request information from the director and it shall be the duty of the director to give such information to the individual member as well as to the Board.

### F. Notice of Petition to Commit

It is recommended that legislation to provide a notice of a petition of commitment made by one parent should be reintroduced. This legislation passed last year and was vetoed by the Governor.

### G. Elimination of Reimbursement

It was recommended that legislation be introduced to eliminate reimbursement (fees) liability on the part of parents and relatives for patients in the state schools.

## II. EDUCATION LAW:

### Change of Definition Not Necessary

It is recommended that the bill to change the definition of a mentally retarded child to remove the requirement of "ability to profit" should not be introduced. This bill passed, it will be recalled, and was vetoed at one time. The purpose of the bill is to remove what has been in the past a deterrent to the expansion of services in public schools beyond the age of 17. It is felt that with the ruling of the Department of Education that special classes are mandatory for educable and trainable retarded children in public schools from the age of 5 to the end of the term when the child reaches the age of 21 this bill is not needed at the present time.

### A. Differential of Salary

It was recommended that a bill be introduced to provide for a differential in salary for teachers of handicapped in the sum of \$750 instead of the \$450 the Association had previously recommended.

### B. Testing After 2 Years Failure in School

It was recommended that bill be introduced to require testing of any child who fails during any two consecutive years of school. A similar bill was passed last year but vetoed by the Governor. The State Department of Education wishes, in accordance with the suggestion made in the Governor's veto, to work with the Association on a bill that will be acceptable.

### No Transportation Bill Necessary

There is no need for legislation on transportation as the bill to remedy the defect concerning transportation over twenty miles was passed last year and signed.

### C. Instruction in Private Institutions

It is recommended that the bill introduced for the past few years to include the mentally retarded with the physically handicapped in the provision that school districts may contract for instruction of such children in institutions located in or outside the state if there are no adequate public school facilities be reintroduced.

### D. Educational Services Ordered by Family Court

It is recommended that the Association once more support the Joint Legislative Committee proposal to provide for state aid for education services ordered by the Family Court.

### E. School Districts Contracting with Other Districts

It is recommended that the problem of providing special classes for the mentally retarded in school districts where there are small populations be presented to the Joint Legislative Committee once more. Although the law states now that a school district having such a child must contract with another school district, etc., there is no corresponding duty imposed on the school district which has a class to accept a child.

## III. PUBLIC HEALTH LAW:

### A. Mandatory Testing for PKU

It is unanimously recommended that the bill be introduced to make testing for PKU mandatory at the earliest possible age that would give promise of results.

### B. Health Services Ordered by Family Court

It is recommended that the Joint Legislative Committee proposal to provide state aid for health services for the mentally retarded ordered by the Family Court be supported.

### C. Change of Definition of Crippled Child

It is unanimously decided to support the bill introduced last year which in effect changed the definition of a crippled child to include the mentally retarded with physical handicap and chronic diseases such as cystic fibrosis.

## IV. TAX LAW:

### A. No Further Tax Legislation Needed

In view of the ruling of the Department of Internal Revenue that any amount paid by the state for the mentally retarded in state schools where such schools are performing educational services for the retarded in determining whether the child is receiving more than one-half of his support from the taxpayer in determining his dependency shall be excluded; and in view of the decision of the Department of Mental Hygiene directing the directors of state schools to state that such institutions are educational in nature there is no need for further legislation.

### B. Additional Exemption to Parents of Handicapped Children Opposed

The Association opposes the effort to obtain an additional \$600 exemption for parents of handicapped children. It sees no justification. If the parents incur expenses, they are deductible as medical expenses under Federal and State regulations regardless of the age of the handicapped child who is a dependent. We should not be in the position of asking for hand-outs. These tax monies could go to support our positive programs.

### V. AID TO SHELTERED WORKSHOPS:

A. It is unanimously agreed that the bill to provide financial assistance to sheltered workshops on a matching basis by the State to help meet their deficits be vigorously supported once more.

### VI. DEMONSTRATION PROJECT FOR A REGIONAL REHABILITATION CENTER WITH A RESIDENCE IN WESTCHESTER:

A. It is unanimously agreed that a bill to this effect should be reintroduced. This project was supported last year by the Department of Education and the Department of Mental Hygiene who drew the bill.

### VII. CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE:

It is unanimously agreed that a bill be introduced to provide that a mentally retarded person accused of a crime be treated as a youthful offender and the definition of a mentally retarded person shall be as defined in the Mental Hygiene Law.

### VIII. PRIORITIES:

In accordance with last year's decision, it is felt that priority should be given to some of this legislation in order not to scatter our efforts too much. Last year, it will be recalled, that the major emphasis of the Association was placed on the following items: a) the reimbursement feature, b) aid to sheltered workshops and c) the demonstration project for a regional workshop and residential center.

The Association urges the same priorities this year.



# SEEN AT THE CONVENTION

ANNUAL CONVENTION (Continued From Page 3)

The discussions of the presentations left it very clear to the delegates that much more has to be done in this State, although a great deal has been accomplished, if we are to implement the recommendations of the 1960 White House Conference for Children and Youth.

The convention delegates honored the outstanding job that has been done by Peter C. Keischgens as President for the years 1961-1962 by unanimously electing him to the presidency for another year.

The feature of the Banquet on Saturday night was a talk by Dr. Elizabeth Boggs, former President of the National Association for Retarded Children, and a member of the President's Panel for Mental Retardation, on the work of the President's Panel and especially on programs that they had seen in Holland and the Netherlands.

The material results of the convention were embodied in a series of major resolutions adopted by the convention.



Community Services Display, Office of Mental Retardation, Dept. of Mental Hygiene.

The following officers and members of the Board were elected: —

Peter C. Keischgens, President, Erie County; Paul W. Hermon, Fulton County, 1st Vice-Pres.; Mrs. John Gross, Nassau Co., 2nd Vice-Pres.; Joseph Abissi, Broome Co., 3rd Vice-Pres.; Mrs. Fritz Hennig, Cattaraugus, 4th Vice-Pres.; Mr. Irving Silverman, Benevolent Society, Willowbrook Chapter, Sec'y; Mr. Max W. Schachter, New York City Chapter, Treasurer.

Members for two years: —

Elliot L. Aronin, (Nassau); Clyde E. Bay, (Cayuga); Sam Brown, (Chautauqua); Deborah C. Cherey, (Putnam); Louise G. Cooke, (Lewis); Michael Falk, (Welfare League); Leo Fixler, (Community League); David Forbes, (Nassau); Dorothy Ganin, (Nassau); John Hughes, (Allegany); Mrs. Stanley Johnson, (St. Lawrence); Mrs. Angeline Kwiatkowski, (Montgomery); Edward License, (Nassau); Harold Lucia, (Warren-Washington); James D. Maroon, (Rockland); Sylvia Moed, (Nassau); William Patten, (Saratoga); Sheldon Porte, (Nassau); Joseph Qualtere, (Ulster); Richard Rogers, (Nassau); Jack Rosen, (Nassau); Bernard Rosenberg, (Westchester); Seymour Rubin, (New York City); Joseph Saporito, (Livingston); Thomas Scholl, (Oswego); Mrs. Morton Sobel, (Nassau); Stuart Stilwell, (Ontario); Joseph A. Stuckart, (Rome State School); Victor Telch, (Nassau); Joseph P. Tholl, (Capital District); Lawrence West, (Clinton); Herbert Zelsler, (Nassau).

The Board now consists of the above together with those members who still have another year to serve: — Robert Cassin, (Oneida-Herkimer); Henry Cox, (Orange); Sidney Finck, (Welfare League); Bernard M. Fineson, (New York City); Evald Gasstrom, (Westchester); William Heisler, (Benevolent Society); Betty Hilty, (Niagara); George G. Hirsch, (New York City); Robert J. Hodgson, (Erie); Anne L. Kraus, (New York City); Sidney Leviton, (New York City); Vernon Madden, (Onondaga); Mrs. William Murdock, (Chemung); Edward C. Quinn, (Suffolk); Robert H. Wagner, (Monroe); Hilda B. Weirich, (Jefferson); Clifford Westfall, (Schenectady).

The convention site for 1963 is Niagara Falls, October 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th.

## "BRYDGES - STEINGUT CLASSES"

In recognition of the enormous amount of work done by Senator Earl W. Brydges, Chairman of the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental Retardation and Physical Handicap, and Assemblyman Stanley Steingut, the Vice-Chairman, in establishing special classes for trainable mentally retarded, the delegates at the State Convention unanimously resolved that the Department of Education be urged to designate such classes as "BRYDGES - STEINGUT CLASSES".



Mayor Harry Helm of Glens Falls greeting Pete Keischgens, President of the Association.



From L. to R., Sid Van Dusen, President, Warren-Washington Chapter, Judge Ringwood and Harold Lucia, Chairman, Convention Committee.



At the Banquet from L. to R., Bernie Fineson, Mrs. Fineson, Father Skinner, Jerry Weingold, Mrs. Keischgens, Pete Keischgens, Elizabeth Boggs and Judge Ringwood. In rear, Sid Van Dusen.



From L. to R., Bob Wagner, Pres. Keischgens and Executive Director Weingold at the Board Meeting.



Bernie Fineson with friend, Jonny Weingold. In rear, from L. to R., Sid Leviton and Cy Weinberg of New York City Chapter.



## HOME CARE OF THE RETARDED TO BE ENCOURAGED

### JOINT POLICY STATEMENT OF DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND MENTAL HYGIENE

On June 27th, 1962 the Departments of Social Welfare and Mental Hygiene issued a joint statement on the care of the mentally retarded emphasizing the need of home care rather than institutionalization.

This statement is so important for the development of future programs that we are printing it herewith in full.

#### STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONERS OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND MENTAL HYGIENE ON THE CARE OF THE MENTALLY RETARDED

"It has been considered by man that an institution offered the best care for a retarded person. More recently this point of view has given way to the belief that the best care, particularly for a retarded child, can be given in his own home. There are some exceptions to this general rule. A child with gross physical disabilities may require more care than it is possible to provide at home and sometimes the emotional stability of the home situation may be severely disturbed by the presence of a retarded child or adult. Occasionally, the behavior of a retarded child may be such that institutional care, possibly of a temporary nature, only, may be the logical solution. Placement in foster home care rather than admission to an institution may offer a solution for some of these situations.

"Many studies have shown that the child reared in the love and warmth of his own home develops more naturally and is helped rather than hindered in making an institutional adjustment later on if that becomes necessary. The joint policy of the Departments of Social Welfare and Mental Hygiene is to encourage the home care of the retarded and to reflect this in the operation of the two departments within the framework of their respective statutes. The general philosophy is to extend to the retarded person all of the privileges available within the framework of the program for normal persons and to bring into effect the special resources for the retarded, only when these are indicated for their actual welfare and the welfare of their families."

"In keeping with the above mentioned policy — to treat the mentally retarded as normally as possible — the Commissioner of Mental Hygiene and the Commissioner of Social Welfare have jointly reviewed the policies and regulations of the two departments relating to care and service for mentally retarded children. They have also considered the present services provided by the Department of Mental Hygiene and institutions licensed by that Department, as well as those provided through public assistance and child-caring agencies and institutions under the supervision of the Department of Social Welfare. It was agreed that:

1. In order to plan properly for a mentally retarded child a medical, psychological and social evaluation is necessary.

2. Based on such evaluation, an appropriate plan should be developed for the child's care:

a. Whenever possible, the child should remain in his own home, with public assistance, including medical care, if needed. Services, such as counseling, training centers, and day care, should be available to the family, as needed.

b. When a child cannot remain in his own home, foster care in a family home or in an institution should be provided. The type of care would be determined by the child's needs.

(1) Boarding home care is appropriate for many mentally retarded children, particularly the infant and pre-school child. For children who are designated to be destitute, neglected or abandoned, and for those discharged to his care as delinquents by the Children's Court, the Commissioner of Public Welfare is responsible to provide care, and financing would be from public welfare funds.

Boarding homes would need to be carefully selected to enable mentally retarded children to realize their full potential. Supervision of such children, as for any child in boarding care, should encompass the total development of the child, his daily living situation, personal relationships, school life, physical needs and emotional well being, spiritual development, and goals for the future. It is particularly important that needed community resources, such as, special classes, clinics, etc., be available to these mentally retarded children.

(2) Care in a child-caring institution supervised by the State Department of Social Welfare may be appropriate for certain older mildly retarded (educable) children who may be able to benefit by a group care experience, and are able to fit into the ongoing program of the institution. It must be borne in mind, however, that child-caring institutions determine their own intake, and the programs of most child-caring institutions are geared to serving the child of normal intelligence, who has serious problems of social or emotional adjustment. If an institution accepts more than a limited number of these mildly retarded children, they should be cared for in a separate living unit. There should be cooperative planning between the State Department of Social Welfare and the State Department of Mental Hygiene in relation to the supervision of such living units.

As in the care of children cared for in boarding homes, payment would be from public welfare funds, if the child were determined to be destitute, neglected, abandoned, or had been discharged to the Commissioner of Public Welfare by Children's Court as delinquent.

(3) Care in a State School for the mentally retarded should be provided for those whose needs cannot be adequately met in the community through boarding home care or through placement in a child-caring institution supervised by the State Department of Social Welfare.

"In the case of the mildly retarded adolescent or adult, the protection, special training and treatment of an institution for the mentally retarded may be needed. The type of care and the length of such care, as well as after care planning, would need to be determined in accordance with the individual's particular situation. This would require cooperative planning between Mental Hygiene and Public Welfare staff.

"Mentally retarded children or adults who have been admitted to a state school and are suitable for foster care in a home should be placed in such care under the family care programs of the Department of Mental Hygiene.

"The staffs of the two departments and the personnel of agencies for which they are responsible will be informed of these policies. The administrative staffs in Albany will work together to implement them."

/s/ Paul H. Hoch, M.D.  
Commissioner of Mental Hygiene

/s/ Raymond W. Houston  
Commissioner of Social Welfare

## ROCKLAND COUNTY CHAPTER EXPANDS PROGRAM FOR FORMER PATIENTS OF LETCHWORTH VILLAGE

### COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD AIDS

The Rockland County Chapter of the State Association, during the year 1962, operated a program for women, former Letchworth Village patients, who are now living and working in the community.

During the 18 months that this program was in operation, six of the women in the group completed their probationary period and now are on their own in the community.

Weekly meetings gave the women a chance for socializing on their afternoon off, as well as an opportunity for learning to shop for clothing; pay their fare and travel on buses; handle money; do simple cooking; discuss ethical and other questions; plan and carry out programs; and many other things. These activities, states the report from James D. Maroon, President of the Rockland County Chapter, are commonplace for most people, but for women who have spent 20 or more years in an institution, they are serious and perplexing matters until they are shown, and have experienced, how to go about them.

The Association has been hampered in starting a second group for women by the difficulty in getting volunteer workers, but this group has already been started. The Chapter further proposes to start a third group for men which is now possible because they have been able to obtain a qualified male social worker.

The budget for the period January 1st, 1963 to December 31st, 1963 for these three groups is \$5,626.00, one half of which is contributed by the Rockland County Chapter.

The professional director of the program is Mrs. Edith Moskowitz of Pomona, a professionally trained social group worker. Mrs. Moskowitz took her training in the New York School of Social Work at Columbia University from which she graduated.

Dr. Isaac Wolfson, Director of Letchworth Village, and Miss Gage of the same Institution, have expressed their enthusiastic approval of the nature and quality of the program.

## BRONX STATE HOSPITAL BUILDING TO BE USED FOR RETARDED

One of the buildings of the new Bronx State Hospital will be used temporarily to relieve overcrowding in the state schools for the mentally retarded in the downstate area, according to Dr. Paul H. Hoch, Commissioner of Mental Hygiene. The first two buildings at the Bronx Hospital, are expected to open in the spring of 1963.

The patients selected will be over five years of age and will be mainly those who are severely retarded and require a minimum of outdoor activity. It is contemplated that about 700 patients will be housed.

Dr. Hoch stressed that no new patients will be admitted directly to the Bronx hospital but will be transferred from the three downstate institutions, Willowbrook State School, Wassaia State School, and Letchworth Village. They will be primarily those who later will be located in the new institution under construction at Huntington in Suffolk County.

The three downstate institutions already have more than 3,000 patients in excess of regular capacity and the new facility, according to Dr. Hoch, will be used to relieve the serious overcrowding.

Dr. Hoch stressed that this is a temporary expedient and in no way reflects a change of the policy of the Department of Mental Hygiene to provide separate facilities for the mentally ill and the mentally retarded.



## FIRST PATIENTS ARRIVE AT WEST SENECA SCHOOL

### GROUP TRANSFERRED FROM NEWARK STATE SCHOOL

The new West Seneca State School was opened on Thursday, October 18th, 1962, with the transfer of thirty boys from ten to fourteen years of age from the Newark State School.

All came originally from Western New York and are being transferred to the West Seneca facility to be nearer their families and relieve overcrowding at the other school.

The school's capacity, as planned, will be between 2700 and 2800. At the conclusion of the first phase, it will accommodate 1700.

The school, the first new State Institution to be built since 1930's, will provide much needed service for the western part of the state.

In inaugurating the opening, Lt. Governor Malcolm Wilson stated that this another significant step New York has taken to meet the problem of mental retardation.

A total of \$8,239,000. worth of buildings have been completed and nearly \$20,000,000. more in facilities are now in the planning stage, including a \$3,000,000-200-bed unit for emotionally disturbed children.

The West Seneca School is part of the State's 5-year master plan to cope with the increasing problem of mental retardation, Lt. Gov. Wilson pointed out.

A full program of care and treatment will be provided at the Institution. An educational program will be carried on during the current year in classrooms in existing buildings. A new school building will be ready for the next school year.

Although there has been no official dedication as yet of the school, its operation will proceed with the utmost dispatch. Although the first patients are now housed in the 8 infirmary units, these educable patients will live in special "cottages". The infirmary units will be used for the more seriously retarded, some of whom are also physically handicapped.

The next group to be transformed from Newark, said Dr. Samuel Feinstein, Director of the new facility, will be 30 educable girls, six to ten years of age. Next will come 30 trainable girls. After that, the school will accept infirmary cases to relieve the load of such patients at Newark.

The time table and description of the other buildings included in the overall plan follow:

**Infants Building.** This is planned for completion in the summer of 1963 and will house 180 children under 5. Eventually, when the other buildings are completed, this will connect by a corridor with the medical-surgical-reception building and the rehabilitation building.

There are four 40-bed wards and a separate 20-bed ward for acutely ill children. Each 40-bed unit has a dormitory and a play area, with a nurses' station between them, observation windows opening on both sides.

Each also has its own dining and bath area with an adjacent clean clothes room. Outdoor play areas are reached through the indoor ones.

School, occupational therapy center and assembly hall are planned for the fall of 1963. The sections also for the educable "academic" program, for vocational training and other training activities; occupational therapy; persons with severe emotional and behavior disorders; suitable patients over 21 who are not otherwise provided with full-time occupation. The assembly hall will also serve as a gymnasium. There will be facilities for group activities, such as Scouts; barber and beauty shops for training; a community store; and recreational facilities for employees.

Cottages for school children are planned to be completed by January 1964.

Medical-Surgical-Reception-Research Building, a five story building, the only multi-storied building on the campus, now out for bids, will probably not be opened before 1965.

## STATE WILL START BUILDING LONG ISLAND STATE SCHOOL DESPITE SUIT

Contracts for the construction of the first building of a \$38 million state school for the mentally retarded in Dix Hills, Long Island, have been signed and returned to Albany for final approval.

A spokesman for the contractor, the Preston-Brady Co. of Glen Cove, said that ground will be broken for the institution's power plant by October, 1962. Bid for construction of the plant was \$434,282.

Additional contracts totaling about \$1 million for heating, plumbing and electrical work are expected to be signed, if they have not already been so signed, in the near future, a State Department of Mental Hygiene spokesman said.

He said that the state was going ahead with the project despite legal action against the school now pending in the Appellate Division. It was brought by residents near the school site.

Suits for temporary and permanent injunctions, sought by the residents, were denied in a Riverhead Supreme Court last February.

The State spokesman added the department wants the school quickly because of the urgent need for facilities for the mentally retarded in the New York area.

## \$187,000 AWARD MADE TO COUPLE FOR INJURY TO BABY IN HOSPITAL

A Supreme Court jury in New York City awarded \$187,000 on November 15th of this year, to a couple who charged that their baby had been permanently injured during birth in Doctors Hospital.

The suit was lodged by Emery Deutsch, violinist and orchestra leader, and his wife, Marjorie, a song writer.

The Deutsches testified that their son, Christopher, now 5 years old, was unable to speak and was completely helpless owing to malpractice in the hospital's delivery room.

According to testimony during the trial, nurses delayed the baby's birth by pressing a towel against his head until an obstetrician arrived. Experts testified this could cut off oxygen to the brain, causing lifetime damage.

Christopher was born Feb. 3, 1957. Witnesses for the Deutsches said he would require medical attention all his life.

The obstetrician, Dr. Emanuel Klempner, and witnesses for the hospital denied the charges, stating that the child's condition could have resulted from numerous other causes. Only the hospital was named defendant in the suit.

The Deutsches' lawyer, Norman Roy Grutman, did not demand a specific amount in damages. He left that to the jury, which stipulated that \$175,000 of the award was to be held in trust for Christopher, and \$12,000 allotted to the parents as punitive damages.

Justice Owen McGovern, who presided at the trial, afterward denied a motion by the hospital to set aside the award as excessive.

### MATTER OF DEFINITION

"The most frequent employer reaction is to reject the disability before considering the applicant", said Dr. Myrtle L. Vogelson, Director of JOB'S Mental Health Project in New York, speaking at an NRA meeting.

To overcome this reaction she suggested using the words "non-physical disability" instead of "mental illness".

### ABSTRACTS FOR AAMD JOURNAL

Dr. William Fraenkel, Executive Director of the New York City Chapter, who has been abstracting articles for the Journal on Mental Deficiency of the American Association on Mental Deficiency, asks that anyone who has a copy of some written article that he feels should be abstracted send it to him at 200 Park Avenue, New York 3, N. Y.



# Chapter News

**WARREN-WASHINGTON** . . . One of the last shall be first . . . Getting busy right away organizing services . . . A Girl Scout troop for girls attending special classes in public school . . . already beginning very definite plans for a workshop . . . how about that? . . . selling slogan stickers . . . one dollar per hundred . . . "Retarded Children Can Be Helped" . . . Just getting over the Convention in Glens Falls . . . reports a growing library . . . and of course, had a summer day camp . . . and the other half of Upper Hudson Chapter (formerly . . . SARATOGA COUNTY has a pre-school class for trainable children under the direction of Miss Nan Walsh . . . an extensive summer program at Saratoga Lake, three days a week for six weeks . . . also has class for children who for various reasons cannot get into public schools . . . classroom donated by St. Clemens School in Saratoga Springs . . . **ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER** really getting serious about a sheltered workshop . . . hope State D.V.R. has enough money to go around . . . reports that over 500 retarded children are in special education classes in Orange County . . . just learned that Henry Cox, our old friend, suffered a serious back injury in August . . . he never told us . . . **CATTARAUGUS COUNTY** reports on 18 boys and girls they sent to Camp Cornplanter—cooperative venture in Pennsylvania . . . Allegany Central School loaned their school bus to take the children to camp and Portville school arranged for bus to bring them home . . . 341 children campers at Cornplanter during the four weeks of camping . . . U. S. Forestry Service donated a rotary toaster, a vegetable slicer, a mixer, a dishwasher, etc., and rewired the entire camp . . . reports 10 children participating in City Recreational Swimming pool program at the Olean Municipal pool



Learning to save — students of special class in Lowville with savings banks, their project for last year.

**ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY CHAPTER**, one of the newest, exhibited work done by the youngsters at the State Convention . . . done of course in the "Little Workshop" . . . donation of \$125. a month made to Chapter by the local Odd Fellows Lodge and the Ancient Mystic Order of Samaritans . . . **ROME STATE SCHOOL CHAPTER** was host to the Region 3 Meeting this Spring . . . Rome State School Choir entertained guests at Annual Dinner in Binghamton . . . reports a full recreation program for Rome State School boys and girls . . . makes us tired to read it—so extensive . . . **BROOME COUNTY CHAPTER** is busy with pre-school, nursery, opportunity and craft classes . . . a teenage dance program, swimming class, bowling, etc., etc. . . Hey, where is that workshop? . . . hopeful of getting Community Mental Health Services grant . . . here is long-range programming . . . Jim DeMaio has had a sign painted to be erected on the site that will some day hold the Broome County Chapter buildings . . . at present just land . . . ah, there, a new 1962 Corvair Greenbriar to replace the 1959 station-wagons . . . congratulations, incidentally, on Joe Abissi's fine president reports . . . and whatever you say about **NIAGARA COUNTY CHAPTER** . . . it's newspaper, "THE

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**STRIDE**", continues to be an outstanding publication . . . an awfully good area coverage via Vivian Bower in Lockport . . . a good deal of talk in the newspaper about "rescue breathing" . . . wonder what's going on up there in Niagara Falls . . . any one going over? . . . of course, you all know that Betty Hilty is now the executive director of the Chapter . . . Enrollment at the Lockport Training Center is 14 and in Niagara Falls 20 . . . Ages range from 5 to 26 . . . are we still planning that workshop? . . . the Elk's Ladies Club, the A R C "Camp Angels" . . . 40 children in camp . . .



Busy painting in the St. Lawrence County "Little Workshop".

**SCHENECTADY COUNTY CHAPTER** reports the training center going full blast . . . let's have a little more specific news out of Schenectady . . . **MONROE COUNTY CHAPTER** reports daily activity program going rapidly . . . with 25 young men and women attending daily and 15 on the waiting list . . . waiting list?—who ever heard of that? . . . emphasis in this program is on the skills of daily living . . . announces a special Sunday Church-School Class at the Asbury First Methodist Church . . . and of course, **ONONDAGA COUNTY CHAPTER** going great guns with its day training center under Mental Health Board contract . . . Flash! Edith Romano a former director of the McCarthy School, elected to the Board of Education of Syracuse . . . democrats sometimes can be elected . . . Onondaga County application for activity center used as model for discussion at the State Convention . . . copies available from the State Office . . . and now a workshop . . . any comments? . . . the Cooperative Board School for Retarded Children has reached a record enrollment of 71 . . . Miss Romano is director . . . the McCarthy School operated by City of Syracuse has 56 trainable children . . . a really dynamic program . . . **WESTCHESTER COUNTY CHAPTER** little late with its news letter . . . last one I have is September . . . all about recreation . . . about which we are rapidly forgetting . . . not too much from **CAPITAL DISTRICT** . . . where is that workshop? . . . let's hear from you . . . you are right in the State's Capitol . . . **CLINTON COUNTY CHAPTER** reports gift of \$600. from General Dynamics Astronautics, builders of the Atlas Missile . . . and did you know that in **LEWIS COUNTY CHAPTER** . . . Louise Cooke has not missed a single meeting since the Chapter was formed 6½ years ago . . . **CHEMUNG COUNTY CHAPTER** still having difficulty with fund raising . . . community does not seem to understand at all the needs of the mentally retarded . . . or aren't we coming through to them as we should . . . Mothers Club was trying to collect one million General Mills coupons to be redeemed for school bus . . . transport only those children of pre-school or post-school age . . . Lycey Murdoch is back as president . . . what a worker! . . . wish I could read the smudged news letter of **ONEIDA-HERKIMER** . . . but see they held their 9th Anniversary Meeting to celebrate the first one called by Dominicia Staffler in 1953 . . . your editor was there . . . very proud that Utica will again be the site of the Association's Annual Convention in 1964 . . . the Activity Center now has six children in class with openings for more . . . Rod Vanderberg reports they are presently

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## CAMP PICTURES WE CANNOT RESIST

It may be a little late to show Camp pictures of last year's summer day camp of Schenectady County Chapter, but we cannot resist the appeal of these pictures which came in rather late (October, 1962).

"It thrilled us all", writes Barbara A. Crampton, Corresponding Secretary of the Chapter, "to have two teen age girls donate their services and assistance in our program. These two girls were present every day of the six weeks that our program was in session.



A real activity at Schenectady Chapter's summer day camp.

## MENTAL HEALTH BOARD AIDS ONONDAGA COUNTY CHAPTER

A new and far-reaching program in the training of mentally retarded children was begun in Syracuse by the Onondaga County Chapter through a grant of partial aid from the Onondaga County Department of Mental Hygiene.

The Chapter's program, under the grant, is divided into 3 parts — a training division, a pre-vocational division and an avocational and recreation division.

The training division, according to Mr. Robert J. Daly, the Director, includes three groups: the pre-school nursery group, the school age group and the group comprised of adolescent and young adults. They are differentiated mainly on the basis of age, but mental capabilities are also a factor in classification.

He pointed out that a wide range of ages are serviced by the center. "We have adults up to 35 years old coming to our classes. When they were children, there was no such program as ours that would accept them for training."

"The application of the Onondaga County Chapter for a Mental Health Grant for Day-Training-Center", said Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of the Association, "is a model of its kind". This application was used as a basis for an extensive workshop at the New York State Convention in Glens Falls in October. Copies of the application may be obtained from the New York State Office or by writing directly to Mr. Robert J. Daly, 282 James Street, Syracuse, New York.

## G. E. EMPLOYEES PLEDGE \$5,000 TO RETARDED

The Board of Administrators of the General Electric Employees Community Service Fund has pledged \$5,000 to the fund raising campaign of the Schenectady County Chapter of the Association.

The pledge was announced by Donald E. Lemon, chairman of the Board of the Schenectady plant's community service fund, following a meeting of representatives of the association and CSF board of administrators.

Lemon said the CSF has contributed \$64,700 to the association over the past 10 years.

## AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY MAKES \$10,000 GRANT TO STATE ASSOCIATION

On August 10th, 1962, Mrs. Agnes R. Boland, President of the American Legion Auxiliary of New York State, presented a check for \$10,000 to our president, Peter C. Keischgens, in a ceremony at the Annual Convention of the American Legion and its Auxiliary.

This contribution was the result of a campaign headed up by Mrs. Boland during this past year. Mrs. Boland, long interested in mental retardation in this State, approached the Association for projects which the Auxiliary could support. As a result of conversations between her, our then president Bob Wagner, and Jerry Weingold, Mrs. Boland was convinced that the development of day training centers and vocational rehabilitation for the mentally retarded adults were of major importance and deserved the support of the Legion Auxiliary.

Accepting the award, president Keischgens said "You good ladies should feel so very, very proud of yourselves for donating such a great amount for such a worthy cause. In addition, the dignity and the manner of the presentation are beyond compare. This sum shall be used for very specific purposes. The retarded children and their parents in New York State owe much to the American Legion Auxiliary, its dynamic president, Mrs. Boland, and its wonderful members."

### CHAPTER NEWS (Continued From Page 12)

overloaded with contracts in the workshop from Hamilton Pharmacal, Mele Manufacturing and NVTI . . . how about sharing the wealth? . . . 13 clients in pre-workshop at present . . . SUFFOLK COUNTY CHAPTER reports new director of Day Training program . . . Florence Solomon (Mrs. John A.) of Huntington . . . and still dying to get that Mental Health Board contract for Day Training Center . . . we never give up . . . Long Island labor and management leaders have teamed to raise funds to help Suffolk County Chapter . . . Chapter sponsors classes as well as a clinic . . . clinic has Mental Health Board support . . . more than 400 persons attended dinner where Fred Gehm, former president of the Chapter, was master of ceremony . . . BENEVOLENT SOCIETY busy with various fund raising drives for funds for the children at Willowbrook . . . suffered a great loss in the death of Max Gordon, president of Benevolent Society . . . proud of the graduation of the first class of Practical Nurses at Willowbrook . . . although the luncheon isn't until May 18th, 1963 . . . everybody is busy at work . . . Herman Resnick has assumed the helm . . . report four variety shows, a trip to Steeplechase Park in Coney Island, where the Policy Anchor Club played host to rides and lunches this past summer, and six groups of best rides sponsored by the St. John's Guild . . . field-day held for adult patients on July 4th . . . and your editor attended an outing at the Merry-Go-Round where we never saw so much rain . . . trips by 160 boys were made to the Mets ball games (poor fellows) . . . how about the Yankees next time? . . . twenty new T.V. sets have been purchased to-date as well as a great deal of medical equipment . . . State too poor? . . . interesting article in two parts in League letter of the WELFARE LEAGUE by Louis E. Rosenzweig, member of Board of Advisor of the State Association, "What Are Your Dreams Made Of?" . . . notes dedication ceremonies for domestic science house for girls at Letchworth Village . . . result of sisterhood for retarded children efforts . . . annual luncheon at the new Americana . . . will we be able to find the dining room? . . . the summer circus had as its distinguished guest and speaker, Vince Fitzpatrick, president of the National Association . . . PUTNAM COUNTY CHAPTER reports successful day camp . . . six educable classes in the county and one trainable, all in the eastern half of the county . . . teachers hold special monthly conferences to discuss mutual problems . . . the honor corp of Camp Nokomis turned over to Deborah Cherey of the Chapter substantial sum of money that children of the camp had raised at the affair . . . if we had more news we would print it . . . Chapters, please cooperate . . .



## ESTHER STUCKART AWARD TO CHARLES BECKER

The Esther Stuckart Memorial Award was made this year to Charles D. Becker, Chief of the Bureau for Mentally Handicapped Children, of New York State Department of Education.



Hon. Joseph W. Esworthy, (R), Judge of Binghamton City Court, presents the Esther Stuckart Memorial Award to Charles D. Becker, Chief, Bureau for Mentally Handicapped Children.

The presentation was a ceremony at the Annual meeting of the Broome County Chapter, in Binghamton, New York.

The award was established by the Broome County Chapter in memory of Esther Stuckart, wife of Joe Stuckart, one of the founders of the Chapter, a member of the Board of Governors of the State Association, and a tireless worker on behalf of the mentally retarded.

The presentation was made by Hon. Joseph Esworthy, Judge of the Binghamton City Court.

The award is given each year to a State employee official who in the opinion of the selection committee has contributed most to the mentally handicapped children of the State.

Previous recipients were Dr. George A. Jervis of Letchworth Village in 1960, and Dr. Arthur Pense, head of the Office of Mental Retardation, State Department of Mental Hygiene, in 1961.

## 41 RETARDATE PLACED IN INDUSTRY BY WESTCHESTER WORKSHOP LAST YEAR

The statistical report of the Westchester Chapter Vocational Rehabilitation services for young adults reveals that 41 of the 159 individuals served in the shop during the year beginning June 2, 1961 and ending June 1st, 1962, were placed in competitive industry. This group earned \$97,072 during the year and paid taxes of approximately \$19,414.

In addition, those who worked in the workshop, had earnings of \$18,581.89.

A most revealing part of the report is the placement of former Wassaic patients through the cooperative program of Vocational Rehabilitation where the Department of Mental Hygiene provides the residential facilities in the community and the ARC Westchester Chapter provides the vocational with D. V. R. sponsorship.

Of the 41 individuals placed during the year, 25 were former Wassaic patients. Since the inception of the program with Wassaic, 29 such individuals have been placed on a job (1959). The Wassaic group this year earned \$59,800 and paid taxes of \$13,960. In addition, the State was saved \$58,000 expenses in caring for these patients if they had remained in the institution.

"What further proof," asks President Keischgens, "do we need as to the value of vocational rehabilitation services for the mentally retarded. I urge each and every Chapter to begin immediately, if they have not already done so, to establish a vocational training center and workshop for mentally retarded adults in their community. I consider this to be major activity for the next few years."

## FINESON AND WAGNER ELECTED TO NARC BOARD

### FORMER STATE ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTS HONORED AT CONVENTION

At the Annual Convention of the National Association for Retarded Children in Chicago in October of this year, Bernard M. Fineson and Robert H. Wagner, former presidents of the New York State Association for Retarded Children, were unanimously elected to the Board of Directors of the National Association.

Bernie Fineson was elected to the office of 3rd Vice-President representing the North East Region of the United States and Bob Wagner was elected to the Board. This is a continuation of the services to the National movement rendered by members of the New York State Association. It will be recalled that Joseph T. Weingold, the Executive Director of our Association, was a member of the first Board of National Association and served on it for seven years. Bill Hayes, a member of the New York City Chapter, secretary of the National Association for a number of years, served as its President until his untimely death in an accident in Chicago while on business for the Association.

Bernie Fineson and Bob Wagner have served as presidents of their local chapters, New York City and Monroe County, respectively, and are also members of the Board of Governors of the New York State Association at this time. Bob Wagner is the first up-state resident of New York State to be elected to the Board of the National Association.

## SHELTERED WORKSHOP BROCHURE RE - ISSUED BY STATE ASSOCIATION

### SECOND EDITION REQUIRED BY DEMAND

"The Sheltered Workshop; A Community Rehabilitation Resource for the Mentally Retarded", has been re-issued by the State Association in a 2nd edition. The first edition of this book, published by Teachers College, Bureau of Publications in 1958 with a grant from the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, was quickly exhausted.

Originally written by Prof. Abraham Jacobs of Teachers College and Joseph T. Weingold, the second edition added Dr. Max Dubrow as a co-author.

The brochure presents guidelines on administrative and programs, structures of sheltered workshops for the mentally retarded, and, as a synthesis of experience, the research project at the Training Center and Workshop of the AHRC, New York, plus contributions of participants in a summer workshop in 1957 in Teachers College, Columbia University.

The manual discusses in detail the basic principles and practical steps in organization, lay-out, and operation of the workshop. It also discusses the problems and issues unique to rehabilitation of the mentally retarded and the vocational rehabilitation services that should be available to them in a comprehensive sheltered workshop.

Copies of the Manual, are available at the State Association at \$1.50 a copy.

## MAX GORDON DIES

A life-time of dedicated services to retarded children and their parents came to an untimely end when Max Gordon, President of the Benevolent Society—Willowbrook Chapter of the New York State Association for Retarded Children, passed away on Thursday, September 13th, 1962.

Max Gordon was well known for his pioneer effort in organizing the Benevolent Society and his personal interest in the welfare and care of the patients residing at Willowbrook State School. He rarely missed a meeting until the year of his fatal illness. His contributions to the cause of retarded children were inspirational. His example of unselfishness and the regard for the plight of these children has left a legacy long to be remembered. Sincerest sympathy of this Association and its members to his wife, Birdie, and their family.



## REHABILITATION PASSES A MILESTONE

Vocational rehabilitation of the handicapped in the United States passed a historic milestone in the last fiscal year with the announcement of President Kennedy that for the first time over 100,000 disabled Americans have been rehabilitated into employment in a single year under the public program of vocational rehabilitation.

At a meeting at the White House, Miss Mary E. Switzer, director of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, reported to the President that 102,396 disabled persons had been rehabilitated into employment under the State-Federal program during the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1962.

This was 11 percent more than a year before. The year was the seventh in succession in which a record was established.

The group as a whole was earning \$47,000,000 a year prior to rehabilitation. They are now earning \$205,000,000 a year.

Each will pay \$10 a year in Federal income taxes alone for each dollar invested in his rehabilitation.

Pennsylvania led the nation last year by rehabilitating 9,060 persons, or 45% more than in the preceding year. New York ranked second in the latest year with 7,008 persons rehabilitated.

It should be noted that in New York many disabled persons receive services through state agencies that are frequently provided in many other states by the Federal vocational rehabilitation agency.

The mentally retarded shared in this increase in New York where 421 retarded individuals or 6.5% of the total group were rehabilitated into competitive employment as against 275 or 4.4% last year. It is estimated that the earnings of this group after rehabilitation would be over \$700,000 as against \$17,000 prior to rehabilitation services.

## THREE CHAPTERS PLAN SHELTERED WORKSHOPS

The great need for sheltered workshops as an important part of services to the mentally retarded adult is becoming more and more evident in the planning of the Chapters of the Association.

Fulton County, whose application for an expansion and improvement grant from the State Division of Vocational Rehabilitation is being used as a model by other Chapters, with modifications, is merely awaiting community and legislative assurance of the continuation of the project after it is started. A committee of the Erie County Chapter, whose program has been seriously hampered by the lack of vocational rehabilitation facilities for the mentally retarded in Buffalo, is now planning actively for a sheltered workshop for the mentally retarded. The progress here has been impeded by the plans for a Niagara Frontier Rehabilitation Center.

"There has been talk about this," said Mrs. Peter Keischgens, wife of our President, and active in this movement, since 1956. "We cannot afford to wait any longer nor do we see any plans that would take care of all the mentally retarded who need such care, in our opinion."

Onondaga County is now in the beginning of its day training center program including an activity program for young adults. Recent conversation with Mr. Robert Daly, director of the Center, brought forth his understanding that there must be more specific vocational rehabilitation facilities in Syracuse if we are to serve the mentally retarded as we should.

The Association looks forward with anticipation to the development of vocational rehabilitation facilities in the form of sheltered workshops for the mentally retarded in Fulton, Erie and Onondaga Counties, and all the others.

## COUNTRY WIDE PARTICIPATION IN WORK CONFERENCE ON VOC-REHAB. OF THE MENTALLY RETARDED

The sixth annual work conference on the Vocational Rehabilitation of the Mentally Retarded conducted by the New York State Association for Retarded Children, through a grant from the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation in Washington, brought applications from 78 professionals.

These came from 34 states, Puerto Rico and Washington, D.C.

The 30 participants, 25 of whom received stipends from the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, came from 26 states and Puerto Rico.

They participated in a two-week intensive conference on the vocational rehabilitation of the mentally retarded with the sheltered workshop as the focus as a community resource.

The workshop was under the coordination of Joseph T. Weingold, assisted by Dr. Max Dubrow, Director of the A H R C Training Center and Workshop in New York City.

Another conference has been approved by the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation for June 17th, through the 30th, 1963.

Applications should be sent directly to Joseph T. Weingold, at 19 Union Square, New York 3, New York.

## "EMPLOY THE MENTALLY RETARDED"

### PAMPHLET ISSUED BY N A R C

In cooperation with the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, the National Association for Retarded Children has issued a booklet. "Employ the Mentally Retarded" in connection with "Employ the Handicapped Week" in October.

Included in this booklet are Sample News Releases, a statement of concern by the President's Committee in the field of mental retardation and a page titled "The mentally retarded can work", with a partial list of work now being done by the mentally retarded in the workshops.

Under the leadership of Governor Rockefeller, the New York State Committee changed its name last year to the New York State Committee on Employment of the Handicapped. Chairman of the New York State Committee is Dr. Orin Lehman. The Committee on the Mentally Handicapped of the President's Committee consists of Dr. Ralph T. Collins, Consultant in Psychiatry and Neurology for the Eastman Kodak Company, and Dr. Gunnar Dybwad, Executive Director of N.A.R.C.

Copies of the pamphlet may be obtained from N.A.R.C. 386 Park Avenue South, New York 16, N. Y.

## PRACTICAL NURSING SCHOOL GRADUATES FIRST CLASS

Twenty-one nurses were graduated in the first class for practical nursing conducted at Willowbrook State School, on September 19th, 1962.

This is the school that was set up by the Department of Mental Hygiene to train personnel in the State Schools in the area of practical nursing so that they may be able to render better service to the mentally retarded in their respective State Schools.

Of the 21 graduated, two came from Letchworth Village; four from Newark State School; six from Wassaic; eight from Willowbrook; and one from Rome State School.

All are kept on salary during the one year training period, at the end of which they are licensed as Practical Nurses. The course continued immediately with the registration of 30 the following week.

Cooperating in the program were the Richmond Memorial Hospital and Seaview Hospital in Staten Island.

Mary Kelly, M.S.R.N. is the Principal of the School.



## A KENNEDY WRITES OF RETARDED SISTER

Mrs. Eunice Kennedy Shriver has publicly discussed the heartbreak her family underwent with a retarded older sister, who is in an institution.

"It fills me with sadness to think this change might not have been necessary if we knew then what we know today," writes Mrs. Shriver in the issue of the Saturday Evening Post for September 22nd. She is the wife of Sargent Shriver, Peace Corps director. Mrs. Shriver is also consultant to the President's Panel on Mental Retardation.

The girl, Rosemary Kennedy, now 43 years old, is the sister of President Kennedy. Mrs. Shriver, also a sister of the President, writes:

"For a long time my family believed that all of us working together could provide my sister with a happy life in our midst."

After the Kennedys returned in 1941 from London, where Joseph P. Kennedy, father of the family, had served as U. S. Ambassador, Mrs. Shriver writes:

"Rosemary was not making progress but seemed instead to be going backward. At 22 she was becoming increasingly irritable and difficult. Her memory and concentration and her judgment were declining.

"My mother took Rosemary to psychologists and to dozens of doctors. All of them said her condition would not get better and that she would be far happier in an institution, where competition was far less and where our numerous activities would not endanger her health.

"My mother found an excellent Catholic institution that specialized in the care of retarded children and adults. Rosemary is there now, living with others of her capacity."

Mrs. Shriver also describes in great detail the activities of the National Association for Retarded Children and many Vocational Rehabilitation programs that she has witnessed.

Her message is one of hope for the mentally retarded and her statement that "This change might not have been necessary if we knew then what we know today" in referring to the institutionalization of her sister is a tribute to the many thousands of parents, friends and professionals who have been providing services in the community since that time.

Copies of Mrs. Shriver's articles are available from the National Association for Retarded Children, 386 Park Avenue South, New York 3, N. Y.

## ASSOCIATION ISSUES PUBLICATIONS LIST

The New York State Association for Retarded Children has issued a Publications List with 185 items available for parents, friends and professionals interested in the field of mental retardation.

The items covered are clinics; vocational rehabilitation; activity programs; morfolism; education; schooling and training; phenylketonuria; recreation, camping & scouting; institutions; social work and counseling; organization and program; and publicity and informational.

Copies may be obtained free of charge by writing to the New York State Office at 19 Union Square, New York 3, New York.

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

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

## HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS SHOULD LEARN ABOUT MENTAL RETARDATION

### WEINGOLD URGES NATION-WIDE ESSAY CONTEST

In a letter to Mrs. R. Sargent Shriver, Jr., sister to the President and consultant to the President's Panel on Mental Retardation, Joseph T. Weingold decried the misinformation High School students are receiving with regard to mental retardation.

He urged that a nationwide contest be conducted, under the aegis of the President, to remedy this situation.

The full letter to Mrs. Shriver follows:

"Dear Mrs. Shriver:

"If we are ever to achieve a real change in public attitude towards the mentally retarded, we must start with the very young to shape their outlook and concerns.

"Certainly, we cannot blame the adult for his lack of sympathy towards the mentally retarded when we see the biology books he studies in high schools; when the Jukes and Kallikaks are still discussed as scientific facts. I should like to suggest that perhaps much of this can be counteracted, without drastic educational reforms.

"I propose that a nationwide essay contest be conducted, under the aegis of the President, for all high school students on the subject (or some particular aspect) of mental retardation. It might be called the President's Essay Contest on Mental Retardation, with a President's Prize.

"I need not point out the publicity and public relations possibilities. And above all, the effort that will be made by thousands and thousands of young people to think positively about their mentally retarded fellow-citizens."

## FRANCES CONNOR HEADS TEACHERS COLLEGE DEPARTMENT

The appointment of Dr. Frances P. Connor as head of the Department of Special Education at Teachers College, Columbia University, was announced by Dr. John H. Fischer, President.

Dr. Connor, a member of the Association's Education Committee, is a specialist in the education of crippled and mentally retarded Children. She will succeed Dr. Maurice H. Fouracre, an old friend of the State Association, who resigned to become director of St. John's Development Services for Children, Washington, D. C.

Dr. Connor has been a member of the college staff since 1954. Previously she taught at the New York State Rehabilitation Hospital, West Haverstraw, and Ramapo Central School, Suffern.

Our heartiest congratulations to our friend, Fran Connor.