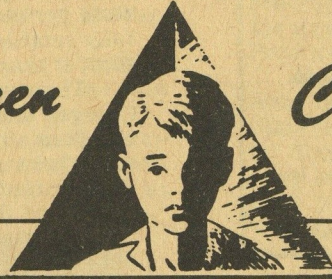


# OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE

*Retarded Children*

*Can Be Helped!*



VOL. XVIII ISSUE NO. 1

MAY 1965

## GOVERNOR PROPOSES BROAD NEW INSTITUTION PROGRAM

### "NOT WITHOUT HOPE"

The fifth in Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller's series of monthly, half-hour television programs, "Executive Chamber," was shown on February 27th and February 28th.

The program entitled, "Not Without Hope," was devoted to the problem of mental retardation and programs to offer mentally retarded children and adults the chance of a brighter future. It included scenes taken at the Willowbrook State School on Staten Island, the Yorktown Heights School in Westchester County, the White Plains Sheltered Workshop and the Onondaga Half-way House operated by the Syracuse State School.

The Westchester Workshop was selected as an example of a successful community based operation which serves rehabilitation needs of the retarded within their own community.



**Westchester sheltered workshop**

On the program, the Governor said new State Schools would not be built in remote areas, but near medical centers so that mentally retarded persons could be treated as sick persons rather than criminals.

The Governor also pointed out to the need of "halfway houses" designed to provide occupational training for mentally retarded persons so that many of them can find a place in normal life.

Throughout the program, interviews with medical personnel and parents of mentally retarded children, and statements by the Governor related to the shortage of facilities and trained help to accommodate the retarded.

This is the first time in the history of New York State that a Governor has devoted a full air program to the problems of the mentally retarded. In a short space of time critical problems had to be highlighted, but it is hoped by the Association that future programs will deal more with community services and the state's role in obtaining them.

### \$138 MILLION CONSTRUCTION FOR SEVEN NEW STATE SCHOOLS TO RELIEVE OVERCROWDING

#### 1168 NEW POSITIONS FOR MENTALLY RETARDED

Plans for a five-year construction program to provide facilities to carry out modern concepts for the care and treatment of the mentally retarded and the mentally ill were announced by Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller in his budget request to the Legislature. Total cost of the program will run between \$500 and \$600 million.

A major aspect of the Governor's program for construction is that new institutions will be much smaller than those in existence and "as close as possible to the people they serve."

For the mentally retarded the plan calls for seven new up to 1,000-bed State Schools to be located (subject to later modification by the State Planning Committee) in Albany, Syracuse and Saratoga areas and in the Boroughs of Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan and Queens. The cost of these seven State Schools will be \$138 million.

"Mental retardation represents a problem separate from mental illness and accordingly requires different approaches," said the Governor.

These state schools will be financed through part of \$400 million in bonds available through the Mental Hygiene Improvement Fund. This is a public-authority type of agency, set up in 1963, with approval of the legislature, to handle the construction of mental hygiene hospitals and schools. The bonds will be paid off by the collection of fees from patients and their relatives.

These new state schools, said the Governor, are required to overcome major shortcomings in the distribution of care of the mentally retarded.

The plans are as follows:

1000-bed — Primary Center — Syracuse	
Region .....	\$17 million
1000-bed Primary Center — Capital	
District Region .....	\$17 million
1000-bed Intermediate Center — Wilton	\$15 million
1000-bed Primary Center — Brooklyn	\$20 million
1000-bed Primary Center — Queens	\$22 million
1000-bed Primary Center — Bronx	\$22 million
1000-bed Primary Center — Manhattan	\$25 million
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$138 million</b>

A Primary Center is one that will be in close proximity to a medical school and university complex. Present plans call for immediate implementation of state schools in the Albany and Syracuse regions, Wilton and Brooklyn.

The Department is consulting with experts in the field of architecture for the development of these plans.

(Continued on Page 8)



## 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.  
 CHelsea 2-3221

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

Chartered by the State of New York  
 February, 1949

Affiliated with National Association for Retarded Children, Inc.

**President: RUTH GROSS**

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

## THE 1,000-BED UNIT

Elsewhere in this issue, we describe the concept of the Department of Mental Hygiene and the Governor's program for the building of 7 new institutions for the mentally retarded, none to be larger than 1,000 beds.

Unfortunately, this does not affect the building in Suffolk County which still will be over 2,000 beds.

In any case, although a most refreshing and new approach to the problem of state school construction, it seems to have been a unilateral decision by the Department of Mental Hygiene with insufficient rationale.

It seems to have arisen from the idea of the 1,000 bed unit for mental hospital community oriented facility. It was just convenient to throw the state schools for the mentally retarded into the same category without regard to considering the many less patients in a state school and the very different approach that is necessary in terms of community care and even residential treatment.

We strongly suggest that the 1,000 bed concept be re-examined to bring it down through the 500-bed concept, as we have in California.

No, we will go further, we must examine the whole residential program in terms of what is actually needed. Is it a 1,000-bed unit? Is it a 500-bed unit? A 250-bed unit? A 50-bed, a 25-bed, a 10-bed, residential center?

What are we going to use these residential facilities for is the more important question to ask if we are to determine how large they are going to be.

The 1,000-bed unit seemed to have been a reaction to a critical situation of overcrowding resulting in unfortunate incidents including deaths of patients in some of the state schools.

This is not the way the whole residential future of the retarded should be arranged, by crisis decision.

## WHAT PRICE PLANNING?

The Department of Mental Hygiene seems to be going on its merry way announcing its own plans for construction and services without regard to the fact that we have a Mental Retardation Planning Committee in New York State receiving money from the Federal government charged with the duty of providing a total long-range plan for the mentally retarded in New York State.

Inherent in the above overlong sentence is much of what is essentially wrong with an important part of the program for the mentally retarded in the State.

To continue on the same course, which in our opinion, has bankrupted the Department of Mental Hygiene in terms of its services for the mentally retarded, is a disservice to the mentally retarded, themselves, and to the communities that look to the State for leadership in developing programs.

As long as the State looks on parents and even the community as irritants, sometimes even, (except when they need them) as enemies, we will really get nowhere very fast.

Cooperation is a two-way street. Parents and their organizations cannot be treated as back-street-wives or part-time partners to suit the convenience of the Department only.

## NEW YORK STATE CHARGES MOST FOR INSTITUTIONAL CARE, STUDY SHOWS

Although ranking 23rd in the nation, in maintenance costs per month per resident in a State School for the mentally retarded, New York State ranks first in the reimbursement it charges to patients and liable relatives.

These results have been shown in a study, "Maintenance Charges and Costs for Residents of State Institutions for the Mentally Retarded" by Dr. Edward Eagle, a director and chairman of the research committee of the Illinois Council for Mentally Retarded Children, in Chicago. It was printed in the Nov. 11th, 1963 Public Health Reports.

The report indicates that as of the end of the fiscal year 1962, New York State spent \$150 per month maintenance per resident and charged \$165 as of that date. The rate has now risen for fiscal 1964 to \$210 per month. As contrasted with this, California spends \$253 per month per resident for maintenance and charges a maximum of \$20 per month which is paid by the County in which the patient had his legal residence.

Three states do not require payment for the care of the mentally retarded at all. Washington allows no charge and payments are voluntary in Louisiana and South Dakota. New Mexico has no formalized program of payments for the care of its institutionalized mentally retarded, and Wyoming reports that, in the absence of an expressed agreement by liable relatives, only the patients estate is liable.

Without any fees, the state of Washington expends \$190 per month per resident as compared with New York State's \$150 per month with a maximum charge of \$165 per month at that time. Louisiana and New Mexico with no charges, also expend more per patient than does New York, \$159 and \$195 per month respectively.

Illinois has passed new legislation effective Jan. 1964 which lowers the maximum charge for liable relatives to \$50 per month, with the use of an equitable schedule of payments of lesser amount on the basis of financial ability. We find an increasing amount of contributions by county of residence, according to the report. For example, in California, the county pays \$20 per month. In Iowa the county is liable for the full cost of care of the mentally retarded under 21 years and over 51 years, but 25% of the per resident costs for those in the ages of 21 to 30, and for 50% of the costs for those between 31 and 50. In Michigan, the counties are liable for the full cost of the first year of residence, regardless of the financial abilities of the patient or his liable relatives.

More and more states are reducing the maximum charge to liable relatives and with cut-off dates, usually the age of 21. For example, on July 1st, 1961, Minnesota reduced the maximum charge to liable relatives to \$10 per month, with a cut-off of age 21.

New York State is now earmarking the funds received from patients and relatives for amortization of bonds for construction. This has been protested by the State Association for Retarded Children as an undue and even an unconstitutional burden on one class of citizens for building facilities for the benefit of the whole state.

Legislation introduced by the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental Retardation provides that liable relatives shall pay only for the first aggregate five years of institutionalization or until the patient reaches the age of 21, whichever is less.

## CARE?

It is interesting to note that the so-called "hospital" sections of the state schools for the mentally retarded generally have no physician in physical attendance during the nights; sometimes one.

Yet the philosophy of the State Department of Mental Hygiene is that these are medically oriented institutions and should be called hospitals.



## COMMUNITY LEAGUE DEDICATES PHYSIOTHERAPY CENTER AT WASSAIC

On Sunday, November 22, 1964, the Community League, Wassaic Chapter of the State Association, dedicated a new Physiotherapy Center at the Wassaic State School in Wassaic, New York.

The room was dedicated to the memory of President John F. Kennedy, and the date of dedication was the first anniversary of the late President's death.

The new room fulfills a great need at the school, containing some of the most modern equipment for the training and rehabilitation of handicapped retarded children at the school.



**L. to R. Mrs. Leo Fixler, president Community League; Dr. George Etling, director Wassaic State School; Mrs. Lucille Altman, and Mrs. Helen J. Altman, honorary president Community League.**

The funds, which will be contributed continuously to this fund by Community League, to supply new equipment as needed, was largely donated by Community League, and supplemented by Kew Hills League for Retarded Children; East Flatbush League for Retarded Children; Putnam County Chapter of the ARC; and Ira J. Altman Memorial Fund.

The dedication ceremonies were attended by Dr. George F. Etling, Director of Wassaic State School, Dr. Angelo Brusca, Assistant Director, Mrs. Leo Fixler, President of Community League, Mrs. Helen J. Altman, Honorary President of Community, and Mrs. Lucille Altman, widow of Ira J. Altman.

## \$2 MILLION SCHOOL BUILDING NEARS COMPLETION AT ROME STATE SCHOOL

A new \$2 million school building is almost completed on the southeast corner of Rome State School.

This long overdue facility will replace buildings more than 50 years old.

Gordon R. Sachoy, institution education director, is principal of the new facility, responsible for the education and training of all pupils between the ages 5 and 21, with IQ's above 30.

Other key staff are Joseph Searow, education supervisor in charge of training programs for 300 educable clients between 5 and 16, and Mrs. Edythe Van Antwerp, education supervisor in charge of the program for about 300 young adult educable retardates (16 to 21) and also for the training program for some 220 severely retarded clients in the 5-to-21 age bracket.

The school includes bowling alleys, a store and restaurant, a cafeteria, kindergarten and a gymnasium which doubles as auditorium, theatre and chapel.

The school also includes chaplain offices, a band room, religious training room, central library, male and female faculty rooms and social meeting rooms.

## HOSPITAL IMPROVEMENT GRANTS NEW YORK STATE INSTITUTIONS APPLY

In 1963 Congress authorized two new Federal programs for the purpose of improving the quality of care received by residents of State mental hospitals and State institutions for the mentally retarded. They are the Hospital Improvement Program and the Inservice Training Program.

For the fiscal year 1964 Congress made available a total of \$6 million for Hospital Improvement Grants in State institutions for the mentally retarded and State mental hospitals. Approximately \$2 million was used for projects in institutions for the mentally retarded. In 1965 a total of \$12 million was appropriated, and it is expected that \$4 million will be used for the mentally retarded projects. A total of 45 awards were made to 31 States, as of January, 1965.

The following State Schools for the mentally retarded in New York State have applied for grants. They are Letchworth Village, Newark State School, Rome State School and Craig Colony and Hospital. These should be acted upon shortly, according to Dr. George L. Wadsworth, Associate Commissioner of Mental Hygiene.

At the present time, the following State Schools are preparing applications for H.I.T. Grants. They are, Wassaic, Rome, Willowbrook, Syracuse, and West Seneca. The Department is hopeful that the applications will be submitted by the June 1st, 1965 date line.

The program gives the superintendent of an institution the opportunity to pinpoint areas of concern. The institution can receive up to a total of \$100,000 a year for ten years either for one project or for a series of projects lasting from 3 to 5 years. Projects should be related to changing needs and roles of the institutions and the focus should be to improve the quality of residential care, strengthen therapeutic services, encourage the transition to an open institution, and develop relationships with community programs.

## CHAPTERS AID PATIENTS AT SAMPSON

At the Sampson Air Base Unit of the Willard State Hospital, there are some 500 mentally retarded adult patients.

They have been chosen for transfer from the various institutions to Sampson because of the fact that they have no relatives or friends interested enough in them to keep them near their former homes.

Aware of this situation, the Association has undertaken to be a friend and helper to these patients through the Chapters from whose territory these patients come.

Recently a check in the sum of \$500.00 was sent to Dr. Anthony N. Mustille, Director of Willard State Hospital, for the use of these patients.

The Association had made it a policy now for Chapters to contribute to the Sampson patients on the same basis as they do to patients at Rome State School; — that is, up to \$1.00 per patient for those who come from the geographic area served by that Chapter.

## CRANDALL NAMED MENTAL RETARDATION CONSULTANT

Del Crandall, veteran San Francisco Giants catcher, has been named consultant to Dr. Stafford L. Warren, President Johnson's special consultant for mental retardation.

Crandall, a major leaguer since 1949 when he broke in with the old Boston Braves, will work "in the areas of sports, recreation and physical training," said Dr. Warren.

**RESERVE THE DATES — STATE CONVENTION — OCTOBER 14, 15th, 16th & 17th.**



## THE 22,000th DROP OF BLOOD

Except for his bright red hair, the blue-eyed boy born to a Woodside, New York couple three weeks ago looked exactly like the two other wiggling babies delivered in Flushing Hospital that day.

Later that week, just before his mother took him to the neat apartment house that would be his new home, a nurse pricked the little boy's right heel with a needle.

A drop of blood was lifted from the tiny cut, placed on a piece of blotting paper, and sent to Health Department headquarters in Manhattan for analysis.

A week later, after the lab had screened 21,999 drops of blood, one from every other child born in New York since Jan. 1, the drop from the redhaired baby was routinely tested. It turned up positive.

The little boy was suffering from PKU, a mysterious disease with an unknown cause but a disastrous effect. Left untreated, the infant would develop such severe mental retardation that he probably would have to be institutionalized for the rest of his life.

This was the first PKU case discovered in the city since a state law went into effect Jan. 1, making the blood test mandatory.

"This case shows the value of the law requiring PKU tests," said Dr. Selma E. Snyderman, attending pediatrician at Bellevue Hospital who is treating the child.

"Because the family's two older children are normal, there was no reason to suspect that there would be any problem with this infant," she added. "Without the newly required tests this child would almost certainly have become mentally retarded."

The baby will be hospitalized for at least a month more and will have to return periodically for tests and examinations.

## EXPERIMENT WITH WORMS MAY HELP RETARDED IN TIME

Eight-thousand flatworms named "George" are attending a college of cannibal knowledge at the University of Michigan.

They're students in a research project headed by James V. McConnell, who has worked with the worms for 12 years.

He said one phase of his studies showed that not only can the worms learn by training, but that educationally deprived worms can learn by eating smart worms. This, he said, indicates a time will come when injections from a normal person to a retarded one could improve the retarded person.

The flatworms, technically known as "planaria," have a brain of sorts and a fairly well-developed central nervous system. McConnell said they have been taught to react to lights and electric shocks and to creep through mazes.

Mr. McConnell further found that when the educated worms were cut in half, both sections retained the previous conditioning given the entire worm.

The next step was to feed the educated worms to the uneducated ones. McConnell found that the uneducated worms not only increased their weight but their knowledge as well.

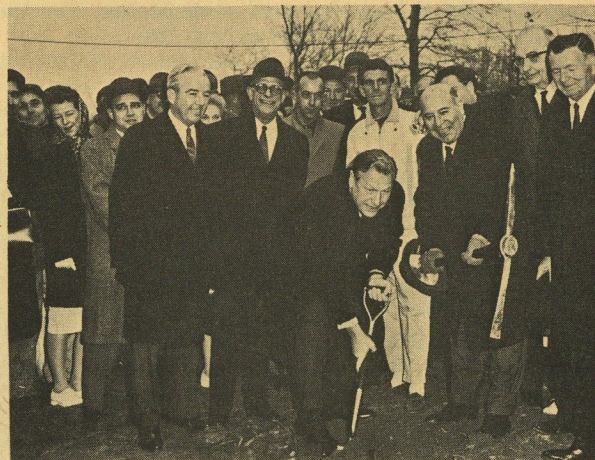
McConnell thinks a chemical substance in the body — ribonucleic acid — may be responsible for passing learning from one worm to another. Currently he is trying to prove this theory.

If proven, it might someday be possible to help the mentally retarded with injections of ribonucleic acid, Mr. McConnell said.

STATE CONVENTION — OCTOBER 14  
TO 17th SARATOGA SPRINGS

## GROUND BROKEN FOR RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR MENTAL RETARDATION

Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller broke ground on December 2nd for the new Institute of Research on Mental Retardation on Forrest Hill Road, Staten Island New York.



**STATEN ISLAND — Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller is shown breaking ground Dec. 2 for the Institute for Basic Research in Mental Retardation, Staten Island. In the foreground, from the left, are State Senator William T. Conklin; Dr. Paul H. Hoch, New York State Commissioner of Mental Hygiene; Gov. Rockefeller; Borough President; Albert V. Maniscalco; Dr. George A. Jervis, director of the institute; and State Senator Earl W. Brydges.**

"The Institute," the Governor said, "will be the first of its kind in the world. It will be focused primarily on seeking the basic causes behind the tragedy of mental retardation. This is a tragedy which comes to countless families in America — for three in every hundred children are born retarded in some degree."

The Governor went on to describe the Institute as "unique in its approach to a great human problem and unique in its promise for easing human anguish by earlier treatment and even prevention of mental retardation."

Dr. George Jervis, director of the Institute, noted that the Staten Island Institute is being used as a prototype for ten similar centers now in planning by the National Institute of Mental Health and could be set up throughout the country. He called the new Institute the culmination of a great dream begun 25 years ago when he and two associates at Letchworth Village spent hours sketching and planning a similar research program and building.

The Institute is the result of legislation introduced by Senator Earl W. Brydges and Assemblyman Stanley Steingut in 1956. The law calls for the Institute to be called "New York State Research Institute for Mental Retardation."

A resolution of the State Association at the Convention last year called on the legislature to name this Institute the, "Brydges-Steingut Research Institute for Mental Retardation." A bill to this effect has been introduced by Sen. Wm. T. Conklin.

The five-story Institute will bring together scientists from the basic disciplines to conduct research in genetics, biochemistry, microbiology, pathology, biophysics, physiology, biometrics and psychology.

Designed by Fordyce and Handy Associates, it will cost more than \$7 million and is expected to be completed by the summer of 1966.



# AT THE RESEARCH INSTITUTE GROUNDBREAKING



Governor Rockefeller surrounded by ARC. L. to R. Bernie Fineson, V. P. NARC; Jerry Weingold, Exec. Director, N. Y. State Association; Gov. Rockefeller, Ruth Gross, President, N. Y. State Association, and Dr. Henry Cobb, Pres. NARC.



L. to R. Jerry Weingold and Bernie Fineson congratulating each other.



Dr. George Jervis, Director of the Institute being congratulated. L. to R. Dr. Schneider, Director of Syracuse State School; Dr. Cobb, Dr. Jervis, and Jerry Weingold.



State President, Ruth Gross, discusses the new Institute with Dr. Henry Cobb, NARC President, and National's Publicity Director, Ida Axelrod.



Happy to see the culmination of planning are State Assemblyman Edward Amann; Mrs. Harry Weinstein, Institutions Chairman, State A. R. C.; Senator William T. Conklin; Joseph T. Weingold; the late Commissioner of Mental Hygiene Paul H. Hoch.



Some of the early arrivals try hard to keep their blood circulating before the proceedings begin.



# ASSOCIATION TESTIFIES ON BUDGET

## GENERALLY SUPPORTS GOVERNOR'S PROPOSALS

The following is the Association's testimony at the State Budget Hearing on March 4. Joseph T. Weingold represented the Association:—

"We wish to address ourselves to five aspects of the Budget as they relate to the mentally retarded of this state. These are: Mental Hygiene Construction, Mental Hygiene Operations, Local Assistance for Mental Health, Education and Vocational Rehabilitation.

### BACKGROUND

In New York State there are almost 600,000 mentally retarded individuals. They come from all walks of life. Mental retardation does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed or income level. It hits the rich and the poor with terrible impact and results — with their parents and affected relatives, we may say mental retardation touches closely more than 10% of our population.

This State has long been aware of this problem and its efforts stand out in the country. We were one of the first to mandate special classes for the mentally retarded; the second to mandate testing for phenylketonuria; the first to begin a Research Institute for which ground was broken this year.

It is impossible to estimate the cost of mental retardation directly to the parents and to the state and indirectly to the whole economy. One small example is the cost of institutionalization. Every bed we build costs \$20,000. The annual cost of patient care is about \$3,000. If a retarded child is in an institution for 20 or more years, an ordinary occurrence, with today's prolongation of life, the cost is over \$100,000 for one patient. Human anguish we cannot measure.

Where are all these retarded? As of May 14, 1964, 27,068 were in the State Schools for the Mentally Retarded, built to accommodate about 21,000. The statistics of the Department indicate that 3,865 beds are non-fire resistant. The net increase in the State School population is between 500 and 700 each year as compared to the net decrease annually in the state hospital population.

Some 36,000 are in special public school classes, but these are about ½ of the number that should be in such classes.

The rest are in private schools and in the Community. Many of them are working and are lost in the general population, but many need other services to develop their potential and prevent institutionalization.

To this end and the improvement of the lot of the institutionalized retardate, our Association, with 46 Chapters in the State and our National Association with over 1000 Chapters in all 50 states have dedicated our efforts. The hope of these people is governmental support of facilities. There is not enough philanthropic money in the world to deal with this enormous problem. Our Association spends more than \$2,000,000 annually on services, but does not begin to meet the needs of our waiting lists.

With this background may we comment on the Budget as presented, and the needs not being met or considered.

### MENTAL HYGIENE

#### A. CONSTRUCTION

The Governor's program for construction of 7, one thousand bed new State Schools is the first full scale recognition of the problem of overcrowding and an attempt to meet it in a professionally acceptable way.

Whatever our opinion may be as to the need of even smaller residential facilities, the 1000 bed concept is a refreshing departure from the 3000 bed warehouse concept we have had in the past. It is interesting to note, and we commend this to the legislature for study, that California, by legislation, has limited the size of new institutions to no more than 500.

We strongly urge you to support the Governor's budget in full for the construction of new residential facilities for

### BUDGET (Continued)

the mentally retarded through the Mental Hygiene Facilities Improvement Fund.

We further urge full acceptance of the Governor's program for the rehabilitation of the existing run down facilities.

Gentlemen, overcrowding is a thing that cannot be imagined. It must be seen. You must see a ward of over 200 beds without an inch of space between them; with no room for a small box for individual possessions; crowded dining areas; crowded day rooms — an utter loss of individuality, a human warehouse. One must see this through parents' eyes to appreciate its deadly effect. I do not mention the morale of personnel working under those conditions.

This move is long overdue and only a small part of what we should be doing.

If we have any criticism it is the manner in which the Mental Hygiene Improvement Fund is funded. The fees paid by patients, their parents and relatives supply the money, not the State. In our whole social history, this is the first time that the afflicted are specially taxed to build state facilities to care for them. Yet the parents are general taxpayers, as well. All other state and local general construction is a charge of all taxpayers, not one group. Again, it is interesting to note that the California Supreme Court has held such charges unconstitutional as violating the equal protection feature of the 14th Amendment. The Supreme Court of the U.S. will soon rule on the appeal.

Gentlemen, we ask you to negate this immoral procedure that has raised the reimbursement from \$75 a month some 10 years ago to \$210 a month today. Building of these necessary facilities must be a charge against all the state's income not just that provided by the afflicted patients and their families. Are we, indeed, so hungry for money?

With this reservation, we urge support of the Mental Hygiene Construction Budget in full.

### B. OPERATION

#### 1. New Positions.

Here we come to the very heart of the Mental Hygiene Institutional program. The proposed budget provides for 566 new positions for the state schools to complete staffing for total care cases over 10 and 250 new positions for the anticipated increase of 550 in state schools. The amount is \$2,115,000, small indeed compared to consequences of understaffing. This past year in one institution alone, two deaths occurred due to understaffing. One was the strangulation of one patient by another in a ward built for 100, but having 200 patients with only 2 attendants; the other was the scalding to death in a shower of a totally disabled patient being showered by another patient because there were insufficient attendants. What further arguments can I give?

#### 2. Ward Service Improvement

The budget calls for \$3,200,000 to raise the ward service attendants from grade 5 to 6. We have enormous turnover in attendants and great difficulty in recruitment. This is but a small first step to make these key jobs more attractive.

#### 3. For Care of Patients under 5.

The legislature in its wisdom has enabled the placement of mentally retarded children under 5 in private residential facilities pending openings in the overcrowded State Schools. The Department asks a mere \$30,000 increase to \$180,000 for this program. We urge its approval.

In brief, we support all the requests for operations as being at the very heart of services.

### C. LOCAL ASSISTANCE

Under local assistance we note a request for \$4,032,381 increase of state aid to municipalities for community mental health services. This is in anticipation of community requests and the removal of the ceiling for state support.

This is an important service, but we respectfully point out that of over \$35,000,000 spent last year on community mental health services, the state spent a little over \$300,000 on the mentally retarded, less than 1%. Yet the mentally

(Continued Next Column)

(Continued Next Page)



## BUDGET (Continued)

retarded are supposed to get their community services through this act. Why, Gentlemen, our Association spends over \$2 million a year. Is it too much to ask the state to match this?

The defect is in the Act itself, because each local Mental Health Board may do as it wishes. Thus in New York City, the Mental Health Board refuses to enter into any contract with our New York City Chapter, even though not one cent will be put up by the city.

This is a gruesome farce, Gentlemen.

We urge you to look into this matter intensively and give the Commissioner of Mental Hygiene the right to order a local board to enter into a contract for services for the mentally retarded where no county or city money is involved. The Joint Legislative Committee is introducing legislation to this effect and we urge its support.

Of course the \$4,000,000 should be appropriated, but are the mentally retarded to get none — or 1% of this?

I must add another word. We have read of the Comptroller's statement that the Mental Hygiene Services budget can be cut \$3,500,000. We have not seen the details, but we urge that none of this cut be made where human beings will suffer. It is enough that society's failure has doomed them to institutional care.

## EDUCATION

The education laws dealing with the handicapped in the state are among the best in the country, but we have played the local school districts a dirty trick.

We have mandated them to provide special classes. With this, under the Heald formula, we provided state aid to cover the full excess cost of such classes. With this provision special classes burgeoned. Special classes jumped from 1348 in 1956-1957 to 2,568 in 1963-1964, from 20,000 children to 34,000.

But then came the Diefendorf legislation removing special state aid. In the last two years only 10 additional administrative units each year started classes, whereas the year before that 40 new administrative units started classes.

We mandated classes, provided the funds and then, keeping the mandate, we pulled out the rug from under our school districts by doing away with special aid for special classes.

New York City, alone, with some 12,000 children in such classes was hit a real blow.

If we are to increase state aid for education why should we not tie it into a special education as part of the package. We urge that pupils in special classes be weighted as at least 2 to make up for the greatly increased cost of operating such classes.

About ½ of the mentally retarded who should be in special classes are sitting in regular grades. In some of our cities as New York City, there are children sitting at home, with no education under laws mandating the school districts to provide such classes. We are sure that the administrative reluctance to start such classes is tied in to the lack of adequate state aid. The Big 6 have clamored for this, but nothing has been done.

In this year of favorable climate for aid to education, we must make state aid for special education once more available as it was before the Diefendorf formula wrought its havoc.

## VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

**General** The failure of this great state to appropriate sufficient funds to match available Federal funds in vocational rehabilitation has resulted in the loss of some \$5,000,000 in Federal funds and \$10,000,000 for vocational rehabilitation services in this state.

We note that the Budget calls for \$6,705,000, an increase of about \$1,000,000 over 1964-1965, but, gentlemen, against this is available \$1 million dollars more in Federal funds if we will only appropriate the money.

Is there any need to justify this expenditure. For every \$1 spent we receive back in taxes and relief from welfare rolls over \$10.

(Continued Next Column)

## CONKLIN BILL GEARED TOWARD BETTER HEALTH FOR RETARDED

A bill introduced by Senator William T. Conklin would require every pre-school child in the State after January 1st, 1966 to be tested for ceruloplasmin deficiency.

Senator Conklin explained that a deficiency of the body chemical known as ceruloplasmin is associated with the building up of excess copper in the body, resulting ultimately in copper poisoning. The victims become mentally retarded and are affected by lack of muscular coordination, palsy, and sometimes a physical and mental deterioration.

The bill is co-sponsored in the Assembly by Assemblyman Robert F. Kelly who pointed out "The test involves only the taking of a few drops of blood from the child for the test, and these few drops can spell out the difference between a healthy person and a very sick and incapacitated one."

With compulsory testing for ceruloplasmin according to Senator Conklin, another major step forward will be taken in the constant campaign being waged against mental retardation and physical handicap.

## BUDGET (Continued)

A small indication is what is happening in one sheltered workshop for the mentally retarded. Out of 39 trainees from Wassaic State School in our Westchester Workshop, by 1962, 29 were placed in industry, earning \$59,800 and relieving the state of some \$3,000 a year for care. This is a saving to the state of \$60,000 per person for the life expectancy of these men — over \$1 million. Add to this the \$20,000 per bed for construction and you see the return the vocational rehabilitation dollar brings us.

We urge that all the money necessary be appropriated to pick up all the Federal Vocational Rehabilitation funds available. Let us not be penny wise. It just doesn't make good business sense.

## SHELTERED WORKSHOPS

In 1962 the legislature amended the Education Law to provide for the possibility of state aid to help staff "sheltered workshops for the severely handicapped". This was a device both to help sheltered workshops meet their deficits and to upgrade services. The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation estimated that about \$1¼ million was needed. Nothing was appropriated in 1962, and a mere \$200,000 in 1963. This has been gobbled up with excellent results.

What happens? Do we say: This is a fine program. It will bring the state returns in the form of taxes, relief from welfare rolls and human satisfaction. Let us appropriate what is needed to help the sorely beset sheltered workshops, all run by non-profit agencies.

Indeed, we do not, but call for a niggardly \$150,000 increase, for which there is already a 4 time demand.

The failure to increase this will merely mean many times this in cost to the state through dependency and lack of production. We urge, at minimum, that this budget for staffing sheltered workshops be increased to \$650,000, about ½ of what is needed.

Under Education we could also comment on the timidity of the Department in asking increase for the Division for Handicapped Children. A few, a very few, people are asked to administer and supervise a wide flung system of special education. In spite of their dedication it is impossible. We urge you to inquire why no more positions are being asked for the Bureau for Mentally Retarded Children. We need at least six more on staff to begin to do a reasonably adequate job. We must say that in our 15 years of experience this fine service has been systematically starved.

We will not close on a negative note. The present budget, with the exceptions we have noted, is a fine document with which to begin implementation of services for the mentally retarded. We commend it. Our observations, we hope will aid you in changes and additions we see needed from our special concern and experience.

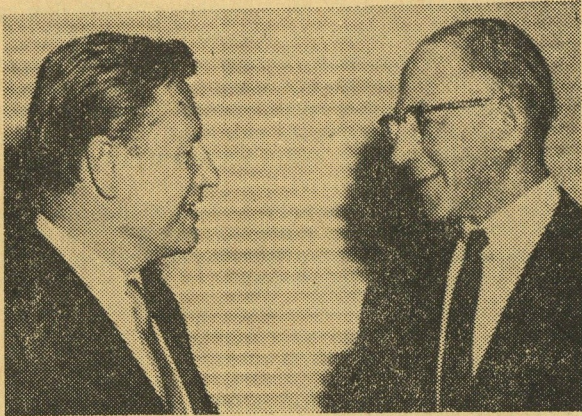


## GOVERNOR'S PROGRAM (Continued from Page 1)

The State Association has offered its help and also the cooperation of the architectural committee of the N.A.R.C. for consultation.

In addition, the Governor's program calls for the modernization of existing facilities. This will be financed through the sale of \$188 million in bonds authorized by the voters in 1954, but never sold.

### DISCUSS NEW WILTON SCHOOL



Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller (left) greets Sen. Nathan Proller of Glens Falls as they meet to discuss plans for new State School at Wilton.

The Governor's program also calls for a \$30 million increase in the Department's operating budget to include 2700 new positions. Of these, over 1100 will be for the mentally retarded.

250 additional positions at a cost of \$.6 million provided to meet the annual increase of over 500 children in the mental retarded school population.

352 new positions are provided for new facility at West Seneca State School and the new Suffolk State School.

566 additional positions at an additional cost of \$1.5 million are made available to provide better medical and personalized care for the severely physically handicapped mentally retarded children.

The program is an attempt to alleviate the terrific overcrowding in our State Schools and to improve the patient care, providing a better ratio of attendants to patients, especially in those areas where patients are more helpless.

In addition to the institutional program, the Governor's budget provides for a \$4 million increase in state appropriate to help meet the State's share of Community Mental Health Services anticipated because of the lifting of the ceiling on matching funds.

Finally, the program calls for \$9.6 million to continue research efforts in mental retardation and mental illness.

"The results of such efforts," said the Governor, "will provide us with the basis for making even further forward progress in the treatment and care of the mentally retarded."

The Governor's program is a vindication of the Association's stand," said Mrs. Gross, the President of the State Association, "calling for smaller institutions and more emphasis on care than education." Although the 1000-bed concept is not exactly what the Association has in mind, it is a step in the right direction, said Mrs. Gross.

Unfortunately, she continued, the increased funds to Community Services may not help the retarded at all as there is no mandate for local Mental Health Board to enter into contracts for such services although clearly permitted under the Act.

In a bulletin sent out to the Chapters, the Association stated, "The Governor's program is an enormous step forward."

## JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ENDORSES ASSOCIATION'S PROGRAM

The Joint Legislative Committee on Mental Retardation and Physical Handicap has endorsed virtually the total Association's program for the year 1965.

The measures introduced include:

Testing of "under-achievers" or pupils who fail in any two consecutive years in school; the vocational rehabilitation demonstration project including a residential center in Westchester; to amend the code of criminal procedure to treat the mentally retarded as "youthful offenders", regardless of age; to mandate receiving school districts children from school districts that do not have enough pupils to start special classes; to mandate the state schools to set up special classes for the mentally retarded which they would have been entitled to if they had remained in the community; to provide that appeals may be taken from adverse decisions of Mental Health Boards refusing to enter into contracts for services for the mentally retarded to the Commissioner of Mental Hygiene and giving him the power to overrule such decisions; to amend the Constitution to include the mentally retarded and the mentally ill in the powers of the state to make gifts or give state aid to private groups and associations for such services; to provide that the director of a state school may be a psychologist, educator or social worker in addition to a physician; to enlarge the powers of the Boards of Visitors to conform with those under the social welfare law; to amend the Mental Hygiene Law that payments of parents for children in a state school for the mentally retarded be limited to the first aggregate five years or until the age of 21, whichever is less; to amend the Public Health Law to assure that no child shall be deprived of services solely because of the degree of mental retardation; to amend the insurance law to provide that the mentally retarded children, regardless of age, shall be considered dependents for family insurance plan purposes.

At the present writing, five of these bills have been reported out, but in view of the cloudy budget situation this may be a very disappointing year for legislation for the mentally retarded.

### SENATOR JAVITS ON MENTAL RETARDATION

In a letter to the press, Senator Jacob K. Javits supported the nationwide campaign to acquaint the American people with the problems of mental retardation.

"The responsibility, of course," he wrote, "is not that of the U.S. Government alone, it is the responsibility of all Americans and we will bear that responsibility I am sure."

The letter follows:

"I am taking this opportunity to call your attention to the nationwide campaign now being sponsored jointly by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare and the Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation to alert the American public to the problems of mental retardation.

"Mental retardation is an affliction far more widespread than is commonly realized. It has been estimated that one American in ten will spend some portion of his life in an institution. Mental illness and mental retardation, like all sicknesses, know no racial barriers and make no economic distinctions.

"The 88th Congress enacted legislation to aid the mentally retarded. With the passage of this legislation, we inaugurated a progressive new program of community centered facilities designed to meet the country's needs in the treatment of the mentally ill and the mentally retarded.

"As a member of the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare. I have supported legislation to help the mentally ill and mentally retarded and I assure you I shall continue my support of such programs.

"The responsibility, of course, is not that of the U. S. Government alone, it is the responsibility of all Americans and we will bear that responsibility I am sure.

(Signed) Jacob K. Javits  
U. S. S., New York"



## PARENTS OF RETARDED CARRY A HEAVY ECONOMIC BURDEN

The following is a reprint of an article that appeared in the Wall Street Journal, December 3rd, 1964.

"Many parents of retarded children are burdened not only with a sense of personal tragedy but also, with a staggering financial cost of raising a handicapped youngster.

"Although most states pay for care of deaf and blind children, they bill parents for caring for those handicapped by retardation. Charges usually are levied according to what a court or state agency considers the parents can afford. Those who can pay the entire cost are billed over \$1,500 a year in 10 states. In 24 others, maximum rates range between \$1,500 and \$720 a year, and often exceed the annual cost of sending a normal child through a year at a state university, according to a recent survey by the National Association for Retarded Children.

"In most states the financial responsibility of parents ends when the child reaches 21. But Massachusetts residents can be charged as long as a retarded child lives. In Michigan, brothers, sisters and grandparents may be billed if the parent can't pay."

New York State, as noted elsewhere in this issue, charges far more than the amounts mentioned in this article. The parents of the mentally retarded and other liable relatives in New York State have to pay as long as the patient lives in the State School.

## SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS REACH 130,000 RETARDED

"Monthly social security benefits are now being paid on behalf of about 130,000 mentally retarded persons," Robert M. Ball, Commissioner of Social Security, Department of Health, Education and Welfare recently said.

"Thousands of other retarded children and adults will become eligible in the future if their parents retire, become disabled, or die," Ball continued.

Prior to 1956, social security benefits were payable only to children under 18. Changes in the social security law, however, also provided for the payment of social security benefits to sons and daughters 18 and over who were severely disabled before that age.

Thus, under the present law, if the parent of a mentally retarded son or daughter retires, becomes disabled, or dies, benefits may be payable to the child if the parent had worked under social security. Benefits are also payable to the mother of a disabled son or daughter so long as she has the child in her care.

Any social security office will be glad to give the parents of the mentally retarded children additional information about the possibility of the child qualifying for benefits should the mother or father die, become disabled, or retire.

The prime requests for eligibility for mentally retarded children is that they shall be incapable of remunerative employment because of the disability. This has been liberally interpreted by the Social Security Agency.

## MEDICAL DEDUCTIONS EXTENDED

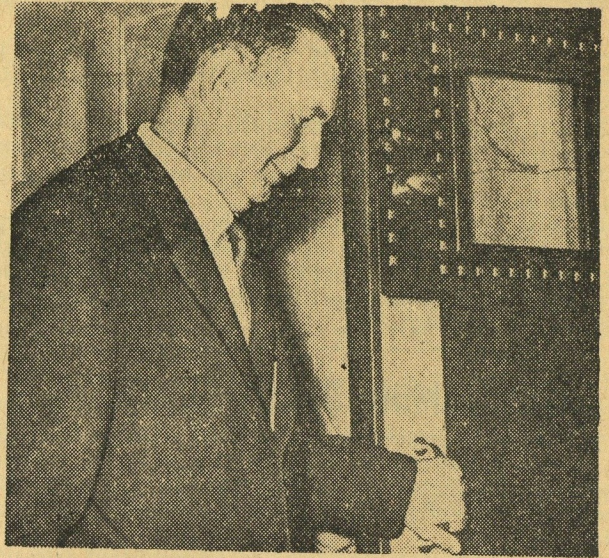
If you are parents of a retarded child who cannot be placed in a special training program, a 1964 court decision held — although the Treasury hasn't yet agreed with it — that the entire fee paid to a regular military school for special training of the child was deductible.

However, fees paid to special training schools for retarded children are deductible without dispute as medical expenses.

## HAPPY TO GET JOB BRYDGES DECLARES

The only Republican state senator on the Niagara Frontier to survive the Nov. 3 Democratic landslide, Earl W. Brydges of Wilson, was designated as the GOP minority leader of the upper house.

As Republican leader, Brydges succeeds Sen. Walter J. Mahoney of Buffalo, who was defeated Nov. 3 and whose term expired. Earl Brydges is known to the Association as a friend of the mentally retarded from the very first days of the Association's existence. He sponsored legislation before there was a Joint Legislative Committee and became the first chairman of the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental Retardation and Physical Handicap, until two years ago when Sen. William T. Conklin took his place.



Earl W. Brydges . . . Senate Minority Leader

## WARD PERSONNEL TO RECEIVE SALARY INCREASE

Some 30,000 ward nurses and attendants in the state institutions will receive a salary increase April 1st, as a result of reallocation of these positions by the Civil Service Department. A total of \$3.2 million is included in the proposed 1965-1966 Department's Budget to cover the increase. The upgrading, which provides a more realistic salary range and better promotional opportunities, stems from a growing awareness that new treatment techniques have changed ward personnel responsibilities from primarily custodial to active participation in the treatment program. It is intended to help solve problems of recruitment and retention of qualified personnel.

Reallocations call for upgrading of ward attendants to a salary range of \$3,915 to \$4,870, staff attendants to a range of \$4,375 to \$5,420, practical nurses to a range of \$4,135 to \$5,135, staff nurses to a range of \$4,905 to \$6,040, and head nurses to a range of \$5,500 to \$6,740. In addition, a new position is established for ward supervision during evening and night shifts where there is no head nurse or staff attendant. The new title is to have a salary range of \$4,135 to \$5,135.

RESERVE THE DATES — OCTOBER 14, 15, 16, 17 — STATE CONVENTION



## HEREDITARY DISEASES: ACCENT IS ON DIAGNOSIS

Scientists at Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago are struggling to overcome one of the most baffling problems of modern medicine: hereditary diseases.

They are investigating a variety of these disorders, in an effort to:

Devise means for detecting which parents unknowingly carry genetic flaws that may lead to death, deformity or disease in their children, and develop methods for treating these disorders. A large number of the more than 200 known genetic diseases are still not subject to therapy.

Thus far only a beginning has been made. And in the opinion of Dr. Robert B. Lawson, Chief of staff, "genetic diseases will be a harder nut to crack than cancer."

Genetic diseases include such disorders as certain types of mongolism, diabetes, mellitus, cystic fibrosis, hemophilia, gout and proressive muscular dystrophy.

An outstanding example of a rare hereditary disease is PKU, where diagnosis and treatment has been carried to a successful end.

Testing for carriers has generally been less successful than testing for diseased victims. But the search continues, for if carriers can be detected, they can be warned of possible risks in bearing children.

Dr. Wayne Borges, head of the division of hematology, believes about one-fourth of all mongolism cases are hereditary. By analyzing chromosomes in the white blood cells, his laboratory is able to detect parents who carry the hereditary types of mongolism.

## ANTIHISTAMINE DRUGS SUSPECTED

A United States government scientist reported recently that several antihistamine drugs widely used for motion sickness and for the nausea of pregnancy have caused malformations in the offspring of animals to which they were administered.

After reporting this finding to an international scientific meeting in Montreal, Dr. C. T. G. King of the U. S. Public Health Service added in an interview:

"It's up to the U. S. Food and Drug Administration and the companies selling the drugs . . . to evaluate what it means" in terms of any possible hazard to humans.

Dr. King told the 31st meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science that the drugs, when given to rats on specific days of pregnancy, produced an array of congenital malformations in the animals' offspring.

These included cleft palate, fusion of the tongue to the palate, undeveloped jaw and small mouth. Skeletal deformities also occurred.

"I want to emphasize," he told the scientists, "that although at the present time we cannot translate animal experimental congenital malformations to conditions of human experience, we still cannot and should not ignore the results obtained in animals."

He identified the drugs as meclizine (trade name Bonine) cyclizine (Marezine) and chlorcyclizine (Perazil).

Dr. King is an endocrinologist with the U. S. National Institute of Dental Research, Bethesda, Md. He said that the research at his institute had also:

Further dispelled the "myth" that in pregnancy the placenta membrane provides an "impenetrable barrier" to chemicals being transferred from the mother to the embryo.

## 'AMERICA' SEAMEN AID RETARDED KIDS

The crew of the SS America, contributed a total of \$313 to the New York City Chapter of the New York State Association for Retarded Children.

The money will be used as a scholarship to the pre-school center of the Association.

## VIRUSES DAMAGE BRAINS

An explanation of how nerve and brain damage sometimes results from infections by viruses which do not normally attack nerve tissue was offered at a scientific meeting recently in New York.

Viruses which have been implicated in central nervous system injury include those that cause measles, chicken pox, cold sores and smallpox. They usually infect lymphatic tissue or skin, not nerve cells.

When they do hit the brain and spinal cord, however, they can cause serious damage: paralysis, temporary madness, mental degeneration or retardation and death.

While such cases are rare, about two-thirds of the victims die, most of them children.

When scientists first noticed that certain non-nervous infections often concluded with nerve and brain damage, they assumed that the nerve injury was caused directly by those viruses which somehow got past the selective barrier that normally protects tissue from such harm.

But they could never find those viruses in the brain or spinal cord of the victims. Moreover, the nerve injuries did not look like typical viral damage. Instead, the regions of nerve tissue destruction resembled those found in the nervous tissue of animals which had been made allergic to their own nervous tissue.

That has been done by injecting animals with a mixture of their own nerve cells and chemicals that accentuate the activity of their natural defense mechanism, called the immune system.

Under those circumstances, cells put out by the immune system from the lymph glands and spleen behave like bloodhounds. Aroused to action and at the same time exposed to the particular proteins — called antigens — that are peculiar to the injected nerve tissue, the lymph cells race through the body looking for other cells with that characteristic chemical "scent" and attack them. This constitutes the allergic reaction.

But how could a person be made allergic to his own brain tissue simply by becoming infected with a virus, and one that is not supposed to attack nerve tissue? That question has never been adequately answered, according to Dr. Philip Y. Paterson of New York University's School of Medicine.

## EXCESS VITAMIN D IN PREGNANCY LINKED TO CHILD'S RETARDATION

A Johns Hopkins Hospital spokesman announced recently that researchers had linked abnormalities in babies, such as mental retardation and blood defects, with calcium accumulation in their bodies before birth.

The study showed "very clearly that there is a great potential hazard for some women during pregnancy of excessive intake of vitamin D," according to Dr. Robert E. Cooke, chief pediatrician at the hospital.

"We don't suggest that excessive amounts of vitamin D are harmful to everyone, but too much of a good thing is bad," he said.

As an instance, the physician cited one woman who ingested 2,000 to 3,000 units of vitamin D daily by drinking one-and-a-half to two quarts of milk and by eating other Vitamin D-rich food. Sunlight was not counted in the total units. Her child was mentally retarded, had heart defects, high blood pressure and some kidney impairment.

The recommended vitamin D requirement is 400 units a day about the amount contained in one quart of milk.

Dr. Cooke said that researchers had found 13 cases of children with abnormalities in the last year and a half.

Dr. Cooke called for a "definite review" of the practice of supplementing diets with vitamin D. The review should include the diets of babies as well as the pregnant women. However, he remarked that excess vitamin D "is not something that affects every pregnant woman because there is a wide variance of sensitivity to vitamin D."

He advised expectant mothers to review their diets with their physicians.



## KENNEDYS DONATE \$1.4 MILLION FOR EINSTEIN RETARDED CENTER

At a luncheon of the Yeshiva University's Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Senator Robert F. Kennedy announced that the Joseph F. Kennedy Jr. Foundation had given \$1.45 million to Yeshiva University, Albert Einstein College of Medicine to help build a center for the study of

### MRS. KENNEDY TELLS OF HER RETARDED DAUGHTER



**Mrs. Joseph P. Kennedy speaking at luncheon. Others are from L. to R. Dr. Samuel Belkia, Yeshiva President; Sen. Robert F. Kennedy; and Sargent Shriver, Peace Corps director.**

mental retardation and human development.

At the luncheon, Senator Kennedy said, "Everyone here today I think would agree that the application of what we know now would cut mental retardation in half. But we should all recognize that the application will require the elimination of poverty from our society."

The Senator's mother, Mrs. Joseph P. Kennedy, alluded to the fact that one of her daughters, Rosemary, was mentally retarded.

"I had this problem about 45 years ago," she said. "We had a daughter born about a year and a half after our second son, who later became President.

"I felt helpless and heartbroken. But now we know that these children can be taught to lead useful and happy lives."

The United States Public Health Service has already given a grant of \$3.75 million toward the building of the center, and the city allocated the land on which it will be constructed.

In honor of Mrs. Kennedy, the center will be named the Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Center for Research in Maternal and Child Health and Human Development.

One million dollars of the grant from the foundation will be used to help construct the center. The remaining \$450,000 will go to pay the salary of an associate director and to support Kennedy Fellows and Scholars.

Dr. Harry H. Gordon will be director of the center.

The 10-story center will bring together under one roof medical and behavioral scientists and clinicians. Research will encompass the genetic, prenatal, biochemical, psychological, and environmental aspects of mental retardation. The center will be completed in 1968.

## COLD BATH AT BIRTH MAY PREVENT PALSY, SCIENTISTS REPORT

A dramatic discovery that may prevent thousands of newborn babies from developing the brain damage at birth that may lead to mental retardation or death was reported recently by a husband-and-wife scientific team.

Their technique, now successfully tested on 155 babies in the U. S. and Europe, provides that minutes-old infants having breathing difficulties be plunged into tubs of cold water to lower body temperature quickly and radically.

Made after 15 years' research on animals, their finding is contrary to one of the basic tenets of obstetrics — keep the baby warm.

"The standard measure after delivery is to warm the baby, but it may be the best way to kill him," said Dr. James A. Miller, chairman of the anatomy department, of Tulane University, New Orleans.

He and his co-worker and wife, Dr. Faith S. Miller, an assistant anatomy professor at Tulane, reported their discovery to the American Academy for Cerebral Palsy meeting in New York in December.

He added that tap water at about 75 degrees has been the usual method used. Sometimes ice can be put in the water to reduce the temperature quickly.

Dr. Miller said the method is becoming widely used in Sweden, Finland and Switzerland. To date it has been successfully used on five American infants.

In one case, the treatment was used for more than three hours before the infant started breathing normally. She is now 6½ years old and completely normal, Dr. Miller said.

He added that the procedure is so radical that most U.S. doctors are leery of it for fear of lawsuits and that it would take a long time for it to be completely accepted.

## I. Q. TESTS QUESTIONED

In a letter to the New York State Association, Mr. Roger Currey, special education teacher of the Carmel Central School District No. 2, in Carmel, New York, questions the present concept of I.Q. tests to determine mental retardation in public school pupils.

He writes:

"I am not sure sure legislation is needed but I feel some inquiry must be made into the individual tests used by the psychologists in the certification of the mentally handicapped.

"I believe our entire cultural picture is improving and our retarded youngsters seem to have advanced beyond the point they were when I first went into this area of work about ten years ago. However, since the norm has improved, they are just as far below as they were before.

"During the past two years, I have noted children going into the low track junior high groups rather than in the special classes. I would swear that, ten years ago, most of them would test below 75 I.Q. Now, apparently the test scores run between 75 and 80. With respect to the norm of our students, they would be considered mentally deficient; according to the individual I.Q., they are low normals or borderline cases.

"As I understand, from talking to our guidance department, the individual I.Q. tests have been revised for some years. In other words, we may be in the position of administering 1930 or 1940 tests to 1960 children.

"Whether education law is needed or not to have to revise such tests, something should be done. I feel that some children being placed in junior high, would be happier and would develop further in the more informal special class program".

Mr. Currey has an older sister who is mentally retarded and has been in Wassaic State School for 14 years.



## ASSOCIATION PROTESTS MENTAL HYGIENE BUDGET CUTS

The New York State Association for Retarded Children has vigorously protested reductions in the budget of the Department of Mental Hygiene which directly affect the lives of institutionalized, mentally retarded persons.

In a telegram to leaders of both parties, the Association has asked for restoration of \$1.5 million for staffing of State Schools for the mentally retarded.

The cutback of \$1 million (from \$1.5 million to \$.5 million) for doubly handicapped, severely retarded children over 10 means a 67% reduction in services. "Heretofore," said Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of the Association and Member of the Board of Visitors of Willowbrook State School, "these children died before 10. Now, because of increased medical knowledge, they live much longer. Are we to preserve their lives so they can live like animals?"

The \$1.5 million provides 579 positions for 3,055 patients in Willowbrook, Letchworth, Rome, Wassaic and Newark. The cut means almost all the planned programs will die.

The cut of \$.5 million from \$2,735,109 to staff new facilities will mean, according to Mr. Weingold, that "we have spent tens of millions on brick and mortar, but refuse to spend enough to staff the buildings."

Calling these cuts "unconscionable," he said that, "180 children under 5 will remain on the waiting list for West Seneca and the Suffolk School's opening will have to be postponed at a time when Willowbrook in Staten Island is more than 50% overcrowded."

Mr. Weingold called the cuts a "callous indifference to helpless lives," and suggested that budget for ski slopes and highway construction might provide some budget relief.

At present, only one of three State Schools serving New York City can admit new patients, and those, only a few selected females. "We have achieved not only overcrowding, but also waiting lists," concluded Mr. Weingold.

The cut in the Mental Hygiene budget is part of a \$50 million cut in the Governor's Budget that is occasioned by the fact that the Democratic leadership does not wish to raise the taxes on automobile registrations as requested by the Governor.

## CAMP FOR RETARDED AND THEIR FAMILIES

A new and unique type of summer camp — a camp for retarded children and their families — has been announced by Mr. Irving Lazaroff, a New York City real estate broker.

Mr. Lazaroff is a father of a retarded child, Kenneth, now age 12.

He planned the Irene-Kenmar County House in Hurleyville in the Catskills as a place where middle-income families can spend an inexpensive summer vacation with all their children, including the retarded child.

Information may be obtained from Mr. Lazaroff at his office, 212- Ch 3- 1443, or by letter at 255 West 18th Street, New York, New York.

## BIBLE CONFERENCE OFFERS CAMPING FOR RETARDED

Lake Arrowhead Bible Conference, Inc. of Brackney, Pennsylvania, a member of the Broome County Chapter of the A.R.C., is offering a two week camping program for mentally retarded campers. It is opened to boys and girls 8 years and up and operates under the name of CAMP SHEPHERD for MENTALLY LIMITED CHILDREN.

The camp dates are August 15th to August 28th.

Information may be obtained by writing to: Clif Reed, Program Director, Camp Awana, Brackney, Pa.

## VISITATION PANEL



Senator Conklin visits with members of the Special Visitation Committee he appointed to survey conditions in the State Schools for the Mentally Retarded. They are, left to right, Mrs. Harry Weinstein, Chairman of the State Association Institutions Committee; Mrs. Anthony Kerner of the Benevolent Society, and Mrs. Noel DeFelippo.

## ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE TESTIFIES ON MEASLES CONTROL

The discovery of the one-shot vaccine to prevent measles has led to a re-examination of our Public Health Policy with regard to such vaccination.

At a hearing before the Senate Committee on Public Health on this question, Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of the Association, stated:

"One of the most frustrating experiences in working in the public health field is to encounter the terrible time lag between scientific discovery and its practical application to human beings."

Urging that the vaccination against measles be made mandatory in some way, as has been done with the test for PKU, Mr. Weingold testified that if only 20 children a year in the State become mentally retarded because of post measles encephalitis and have to be institutionalized, the cost to the State may be more than the total cost administering such a program.

At a cost of \$20,000 a bed to build a place of domicile for these children, the State would have to spend \$400,000 for these 20 beds. In addition, the cost of care and treatments in a State School for the mentally retarded is approximately \$3,000 a year. If these children can expect a fairly normal life expectancy, because of methods we have discovered for prolonging life, then the average stay would be from 20 to 30 years at \$3,000 a year each — or \$90,000 to \$90,000 per patient in addition to the \$20,000 per bed. In total, this would be about \$2 million for a fraction of those who over a long period of time would have to be institutionalized because of measles encephalitis.

Encephalitis has been supposed to affect only 1 measles victim in 1,000; some recent estimates credit it with being 2½ times as common. Says the American Medical Association: "Survivors of this complication are fortunate if they escape severe brain damage. Treatment, if for no other reason than it must be given too late, is not very effective."

Despite the best of medical care, about 22 per cent (according to some estimates, 33 per cent) die. Another 39 per cent suffer from arrested mental development, convulsive seizures, behavioral changes.

Testimony varied as to the need for a mandatory vaccination program. It was pushed by the U.S. Public Health Service representative, but seemed to be resisted by Dr. Hollis Ingraham, Commissioner of Health of the State of New York.



**John F. Kennedy  
helped 5½ million  
mentally retarded  
Americans.**

**Have you helped  
even one of  
them?**

Write for the free booklet to  
The President's Committee  
on Mental Retardation  
Washington, D.C.





## **"THE UNDEVELOPED RESOURCE" PLAN FOR THE MENTALLY RETARDED OF CALIFORNIA COMPLETED**

Each mentally retarded person is an individual, different from others, yet entitled to the same respect for his dignity as a human being. The State of California would make it possible for every individual to develop and grow to the limits of his capabilities.

This is the credo that motivates the Study Commission on Mental Retardation of California which has become the first State to complete and report on planning for the mentally retarded.

The Study Commission offers more than sixty specific recommendations. For first priority considered by the Legislature, and for action in 1965, the Commission recommends:

1. The Establishment of a Mental Retardation Program Board. Appropriation to the Board is \$2,000,000 for the stimulation of new services to meet the needs of the mentally retarded.

This Board would have the power to review and recommend the budgets of all departments concerned with Mental Retardation, plan and implement on a demonstration basis new facilities, and in fact, be the follow-up organization to implement the recommendations of the Planning Commission.

In future years, the mental retardation program board will present recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature for program priorities and appropriations.

2. Establishment of Regional Diagnostic and Counseling Centers which would be the "anchors" and central point of referral for the mentally retarded in the state. These centers, among other duties, would marshal the financial resources of the family, obtain follow-up services for the mentally retarded, stimulate the creation of other services not in existence, and in short, be the place where the mentally retarded can come at all times in their lives when in need of counseling or services.

3. Development of residential facilities other than state hospitals.

4. Division of rehabilitation services on a broad basis.

5. Strengthening of special education programs.

6. Establishment of child care centers for the mentally retarded through public education (pre-school classes) throughout California.

7. Professional training.

8. Direction to the University of California and California State College system to develop new programs of the graduate and undergraduate levels.

9. Encouragement of research that will discover causes of mental retardation and point toward preventions or amelioration.

In addition, the Study Commission believes that public guardianship service should be available for every retarded person who needs it. "What will happen to my retarded child when I am no longer able to care for him?" is the poignant cry of almost every parent.

The Commission recommends the provision of a total of 13,200 beds at hospitals for the retarded by 1970, which would require acquisition of 4,150 hospital beds, with the state assuming responsibility for financial assistance and for setting and enforcing standards of care.

The report suggests development of residential facilities other than state hospitals, to serve the mentally retarded who are not sick. These would include residences for those who need care away from home, foster homes, boarding homes, and supervised living arrangements to meet the different needs of retarded children and adults with different degrees of handicap.

"Approximately one out of every 50 Californians is mentally retarded," Mr. Jack Halpin, Chairman of the Commission, pointed out "and every retarded person and his family is entitled to the concern and assistance of the state and

(Continued Next Column)

## **ROSENBERG ASKS FOR INFORMATION ON CIVIL SERVICE JOBS FOR RETARDED**

In a letter dated January 14, 1965, Bernard Rosenberg, Chairman of the NARC vocational rehabilitation committee and a member of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, has asked for reports on this service to date.

The letter follows:

"Dear Jerry:

"In the December issue of Our Children's Voice, I was pleased to see the article on page 6 entitled, 'Government Finds Jobs for Retarded'. I think it is proper, however, to get the record straight and give the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped recognition for initiating this program rather than President Kennedy, although, of course, it probably wouldn't have gotten off the ground as quickly as it did if it were not for the President and Mrs. Shriver's interest. Here are the facts.

"Immediately after I was appointed to the President's Committee in March, 1962, I (rather naively at the time) asked why the President's Committee wasn't pushing the Federal Government to employ trained retardates since its name obviously advocated such employment. Fortunately, Dr. Melvin Johnson of the Civil Service Commission was on the committee with me and there followed a series of meetings between us about how to do with what I claimed was the bottleneck to employment specifically the testing that had been required.

"You received a copy of my letter to you of December 12, 1962 wherein I stated that I had set up a meeting with the Civil Service Commission and this meeting and the others that followed in 1962 and early '63 resulted finally in the decision of Civil Service to do what I had recommended, specifically to do away with the required test and use certification by a responsible agency. You received progress reports on Civil Service from me and a copy of the letter of May 27, 1963 from Commissioner John W. Macy, Jr., to me outlining the steps that would be taken, including certification, as the new policy in hiring trained retardates.

"On September 12, 1963 President Kennedy issued his memorandum announcing the two year special authority to make Civil Service expected appointments to Federal positions for the mentally retarded. Incidentally, since this is a two year test period, which will end September, 1965, we must prove that this policy is worthwhile and should be continued.

"As Chairman of Vocational Rehabilitation and Adult Services of NARC, I am asking all chapters to report on results to date.

"We want to continue the program, and I am sure we will be able to with a little help from all chapters.

Sincerely,

Bernard Rosenberg

### **CALIFORNIA (Continued)**

the community. We have no basic pattern of services for these people, and that is what our commission is working to establish. Our ultimate goal is an amalgam of state and local, public and private services, that will cooperate to systematize this pattern and raise the quality of services."

Mr. Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of the New York State Association for Retarded Children, acted as consultant to the State of California in drawing up the Legislative Program to implement the recommendations of the Commission.

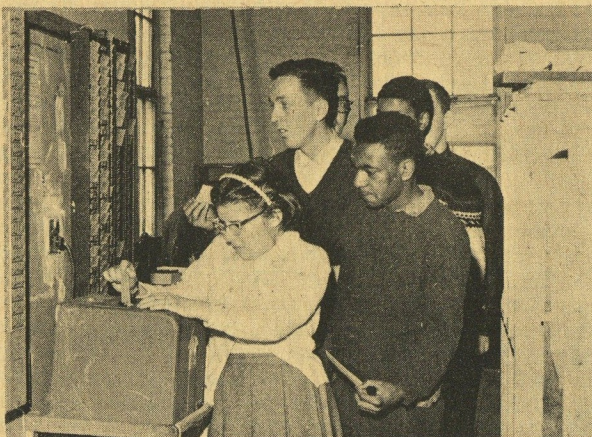
Leopold Lippman, formerly Executive Director of the Washington State Association for Retarded Children, is the Executive Secretary of the Commission.

Full report of the Study Commission may be obtained by writing to : 1500 - 5th Street, Sacramento, California 95814.



## PERSONAL ADJUSTMENT TRAINING IN WORKSHOPS

"Basic work attitudes that increase productivity as a worker are what an employee must have," according to Dr. Jack M. Gootzeit, author of the newly published "Handbook on Personal Adjustment Training for Workshops Serving the Mentally Retarded." (NARC, 420 Lexington Avenue, N.Y. N.Y. 10017- \$1.00).



**Punctuality — and regular attendance — two important traits for an employee. The time clock at Westchester's Sheltered Workshop and Training Center keeps the record, is in itself an aid in personal adjustment training.**

Dr. Gootzeit is Associate Director of Westchester ARC's Sheltered Workshop and Training Center in White Plains. The 70-page handbook originated as part of a New York University School of Education Study by Dr. Gootzeit, on the subject of the Personal Adjustment Training programs in sheltered workshops and training centers for mentally retarded youths and adults.

The study includes a survey of current practices and recommendations from heads of 37 sheltered workshops located in 23 states and the District of Columbia, and includes all seven major geographical areas of the United States.

Of the workshops directors questioned, 76 percent listed grooming first among the personal traits most needing development in the P.A.T. program, and gave emphasis also to personal health and eating habits.

Other areas explored were physical demands made of workers; work habits most often in need of developments; traits of behavior found by workshop directors to need the most adjustment; and personal attitudes.

## RETARDATION FACILITY FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL

An agreement to set up a mental retardation outpatient facility for children of military personnel was signed on January 11 by representatives of the Medical Department of the Navy and the Public Health Service, U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The facility, to be called the Diagnostic and Study Unit, will be located on the grounds of the National Naval Medical Center.

While the Diagnostic and Study Unit will be a direct research activity of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Health, it will be run on a cooperative basis with the U.S. Naval Hospital in Bethesda when completed in about 8 months.

Children and families studied at the Unit will be those ordinarily eligible to receive medical services at the Naval Hospital, and will be referred to the Unit by the Naval Hospital's Pediatric Service.

## FEDERAL TREASURY GAINER, FOUND REHABILITATION

Miss Mary E. Switzer, Commissioner of Vocational Rehabilitation, commenting on the cost of rehabilitating nearly 120,000 handicapped Americans for jobs in the year ending June 30, 1964 said, "In terms of income taxes paid into the Federal treasury alone, these disabled men and women will pay back several times over the nearly \$140 million spent in Federal and State funds in the public program on their rehabilitation for employment."

Of the 70 cents invested by each person in vocational rehabilitation services, Miss Switzer said, about 43 cents on the average comes from the Vocational Rehabilitation Administration and the remaining 27 cents comes from the States.

Contributions on a State basis varied considerably. The highest per capita expenditure on vocational rehabilitation was in Arkansas, where \$2.22 per person was spent as compared to the 70 cents national average.

Significantly, Arkansas ranked fourth in the country in the number rehabilitated in proportion to population.

New York State spent 66 cents per person and ranked 21st among the states in the amount spent per person.

46 persons out of each 100,000 population were rehabilitated in New York State which ranked 34th in this respect.

## DEFENSE DEPARTMENT FOSTERS USE OF SHELTERED WORKSHOPS FOR SUB-CONTRACTING

Recently, Paul R. Ignatius, newly appointed Assistant Secretary of Defense for Installations and Logistics, issued a joint statement with Lawson B. Knott, Jr., Acting Administrator of General Services Administration, endorsing to all businesses and industries holding government contracts the use of sheltered workshops as sub-contractors. In issuing the statement it was pointed out that sheltered workshops "can supply a wide variety of goods and services at competitive prices, and government prime contractors are encouraged to give these workshops every opportunity to compete for sub-contracts."

Mr. Bernard Rosenberg, Chairman of NARC's Vocational Rehabilitation and Adult Services Committee, and a member of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, has worked closely both with the Defense Department and the General Services Administration to obtain their endorsement of sheltered workshops for the handicapped, as subcontractors, including those sheltered workshops which train and employ mentally retarded persons.

Implementation of this policy, however, rests with the local sheltered workshops and the local member units of NARC.

The State Association's staff is working closely with G.S.A. to develop a practical relationship which it is hopeful will bear fruit.

## U.S. HARNESS WRITERS ASSOCIATION CONTRIBUTES TO RESEARCH

Through the efforts of the Schenectady County Chapter of our Association, the U.S. Harness Writers Association has made a contribution of \$1,000 to the NARC Research Fund.

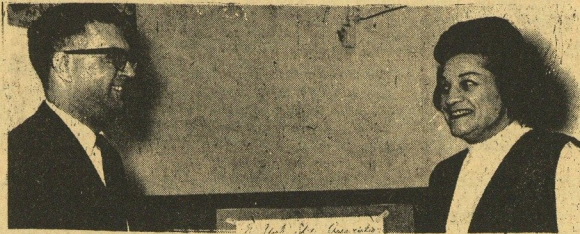
This is part of the efforts of all parents to extend the activities of NARC in this direction.

— STATE CONVENTION — HOLIDAY INN —



# Chapter News

COLUMBIA County (probably just admitted as a Chapter) already has a Newsletter . . . in fact, Issue No. 2 of Vol. 1 . . . their modest treasury, they report, has been boosted by the grand total of \$300 as a result of a rummage sale . . . and membership is now at 150 members



**Columbia County Chapter (in formation) receives its first contribution, \$80, from the Employees Union at L & B Products Company, Stottville. Frederick P. Andrews of Hudson, Chapter President, and Mrs. Marcia Goldman of Claverack, V. Pres. of the Chapter, check the membership roster in second week of drive for 75 members. The roster now stands at 150!**

with a goal of 75 for the first year . . . other Chapters please copy . . . have already procured space in one of the local club rooms to hold a canteen for the children . . . and planning a Day-Camp . . . speed, we call it . . . ONTARIO County . . . 44 teenagers from the special classes throughout the county were guests of the Legions Retarded Childrens Committee at a bowling party . . . and DeSales High School girls sponsored a Christmas party, as well as others by other organizations . . . report that the the CANANDAIGUA COLONY (Newark State School Half-way House) women chartered a bus to travel to Rochester to see the Ice Follies . . . two high schools in the area have started work training and work-experience programs . . . and our ONONDAGA COUNTY CHAPTER (Syracuse) should be reporting on their always important fund drive . . . Honorary co-chairmen of the drive this year are leaders of four major religious faiths; the Most Reverend Walter A. Foery, Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Syracuse; The Right Reverend Walter H. Higgle, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Central New York; the Reverend Dr. W. Ralph Ward, Bishop of the Central New York Methodist Conference and Rabbi Theodore S. Levi of Temple Society of Concord, President of the Syracuse Rabbinical Council . . . the ARC activities Center under Bob Daly is going great guns . . . with help of Community Mental Health Board . . . religious education classes for retarded children of all Protestant faith started at the Atonement Lutheran Church . . . WAYNE COUNTY CHAPTER raising funds for a Day-Training-Center in Wayne County . . . the State Association through John Bertrand helping . . . BROOME COUNTY CHAPTER continues with parents discussion . . . such topics as "disciplines at different age levels" explored . . . report that the advance swimmers in a swimming project have passed several of the American Red Cross tests . . . one of the young people has even managed to swim continuously for an hour without touching the sides of the pool . . . three children have been graduated from the pre-school program to public school special class and six new children have entered the classes . . . LIVINGSTON-WYOMING CHAPTER announced that gifts through coin banks from organizations and individuals totaled nearly \$200 . . . winter meeting drew members from Warsaw, Perry, Silver Springs, Dansville and Genesee in spite of a storm . . . goal undertaken by County Chapter is the establishment of a Day-Training-Center for young retarded children . . . CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY CHAPTER reports that there are two day care centers for a total of 30 children being serviced 15 in each . . . in Jamestown and Dunkirk . . . United Commercial Travelers giving very good support in many areas reports the Chapter . . . fund drive a real success with over \$14,500 raised . . .

just chew on that . . . by this time probably has a contract with Community Mental Health Board for a day training center, summer program in planning stage with a day program of 7 weeks, 5 days a week . . . also planning for 30 campers at Camp Cornplanter for the summer . . . PUTNAM COUNTY CHAPTER reports that bowling leagues sponsored by the Chapter are being formed in the Mahopac and Yorktown areas . . . members of the Niagara Falls Hairdressers and Cosmetologists Association donating much of their time to the mentally retarded in National Beauty Salon Week . . . back in February . . . gave a free sample to the children in the retarded classes operated by the Association . . . ran a "bring a member" month, each member coming to a meeting brings another prospective member . . . the Fulton Lodge of Elks sponsored a Christmas party for retarded children in school in Mexico operated by OSWEGO COUNTY CHAPTER . . . WESTCHESTER very proud of its exposure on Executive Chamber T.V. Program of the Governor's . . . busy trying to get the Department of Mental Hygiene to commit itself to a new Institution in Westchester . . . the State Association is wholeheartedly with them . . . report that last month the Yonkers Committee to Aid Retarded Children raised \$3,000 at its Bridge for the Occupational Training Center . . . should have impressed the pupils tremendously but it didn't . . . what thrilled them was the \$53.75 worth of ceramics from kiln which was sold to guests at the Bridge . . . and the orders still coming in . . . which the Albert I. Evans Jr. family of Scarsdale, who sent six checks including one from each of their five daughters who took money from their own savings account to help WESTCHESTER CHAPTER . . . ROME STATE SCHOOL CHAPTER reports that SERTOMA of Binghamton, Breakfast Club almost realized goal of \$1,000 on behalf of abandoned children at the school . . . CLINTON COUNTY CHAPTER is seriously considering expansion of program . . . recent meeting had more than 150 in attendance . . . Adirondack Chapter of the National Hairdressers Association put on a dessert card party for the Chapter . . . very successful . . . Dorothy Merritt is



**Part of the 44 retarded children guests of the Co. Legion Retarded Children's Committee at a bowling party in Ontario County**

back in harness as President . . . MONROE COUNTY CHAPTER reports that 7 children have passed the swim test . . . all requirements for Red Cross beginners swimmers card . . . Beta Sigma Phi Society helps the ULSTER COUNTY CHAPTER with Valentine Dance . . . Murray Weiss, executive director, looks sheepish with two pretty girls, . . . about 80 attended annual holiday supper and party at Ellenville . . . much talk of an area or regional workshop to service Western Ulster, Sullivan, and Orange County . . . SARATOGA COUNTY (where we will have our State Convention in October) dance at the V.F.W. Post in Ballston Spa . . . a group of Skidmore Girls brought their dates to the party . . . the Saratoga County Deputy Sheriffs Association has taken the Saratoga County's retarded children as a community project this year . . . any member

(Continued Next Page)



of the Association driving through Saratoga County and getting a ticket will have it squelched . . . have two classes in religious instruction . . . looking forward to the summer program . . . NEW YORK CITY CHAPTER reports 300 gather at the PEARL GALA held at the Plaza to benefit the Association . . . Mayor Wagner, Honorary Chairman of the evening was among the guests . . . awards given to three Chapters of the American Red Cross for water safety instructions to over 200 mentally retarded children . . .



**FREE Sample.** Children from Niagara County Chapter are given a preview of hairdressing from volunteer beauticians. Hairdressers are John McCune and Sylvia Casal. "Clients" are Charles Shine and Laurie Nix.

WELFARE LEAGUE, LETCHWORTH VILLAGE CHAPTER . . . deep in its luncheon plans . . . celebrated its 25th Anniversary with an enormous cake . . . ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY seeking volunteers for the training center . . . dire need of immediate volunteer help . . . SCHENECTADY CHAPTER awaiting decision of DVR for expansion and improvement grant to start a sheltered workshop . . . new class just established for 5 to 8-year old group . . . parent education courses proceeding well . . . opening a new library — a little red school house, the training center of the SCHENECTADY COUNTY CHAPTER . . . costs of existing programs during this past year is approximately \$50,000 or



**At the Teen Age Dance in Saratoga**

about \$1,000 per child . . . by this writing, the BENEVOLENT SOCIETY-WILLOWBROOK CHAPTER luncheon will have been history . . . reports various recreational activities for the youngsters at Willowbrook including witnessing performance of WIZARD OF OZ and trip to Radio City . . . ROCKLAND COUNTY CHAPTER is negotiating with Community Mental Health Board for contract . . .

(Continued Next Column)

## MRS. McALLISTER APPOINTED

Mrs. Charles I. McAllister, Deputy Director, Division of Mental Retardation State Department of Mental Hygiene, is now the Chairman of the Northeastern Region of the American Association on Mental Deficiency and Vice President of the Section on Education of the national group of the A.A.M.D.



**School officials at Hebrew Academy of the Capital District congratulate Mrs. Charles McAllister on her appointment as supervisor of general studies. From L. to R., Philip Arian, acting principal; Jack Goodman, chairman of the Bd. of Ed., and Leo Phaff, academy president. Mrs. McAllister is the wife of Charles McAllister, deputy director mental retardation services, Dept. of Mental Hygiene.**

## CHAPTER NEWS

Ramapo Auxiliary having a luncheon-fashion show at the Hotel Pierre in New York . . . LEWIS COUNTY CHAPTER has just put out a handbook for parents of children in special education classes . . . a really very good exposition of the system and how it can help the Mentally retarded . . . small county . . . but wonderful cheese . . . SUFFOLK COUNTY CHAPTER announces opening of Day Training Center in Riverhead . . . another expansion of this rapidly expanding Chapter . . . has applied for a grant to start a workshop . . . now in the hands of Division of Vocational Rehabilitation . . . Brookhaven Town Superintendent of Recreation, Louis Rogers has announced that the Department has been operating a day camp program for the mentally retarded children . . . Fred O. Gehm, former president of Chapter, and Middle Country's special education chairman, addressed special class school administrators on areas of vocational education and employment of the exceptional child at a recent meeting in Babylon . . . dinner-dance of the Pigeon Fanciers Association of Nassau-Suffolk marked by presentation of a check to the Chapter . . . and we love the new dramatic form of Suffolk County Chapter Newspaper, "ARC LAMP-LIGHTER" . . . very professional . . . Come on Suffolk, send it out to all the Chapters so that they can see how it is done . . . report that there are 30 requests for service each week . . . informationary services grown by leaps and bounds . . . congratulations Murray Tucks, editor . . . ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER also negotiating for Mental Health Board grant . . . usual roadblocks . . . but we must borrow a phrase from another organization and sing lustily "We Shall Overcome" . . . sounds as if they borrowed it from us . . . Senior Citizens of Middletown stuffed envelopes for mailing during the fund raising campaign of the ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER . . . goal of \$15,000 has been set . . . Proterians of Wellsville (ALLEGANY COUNTY CHAPTER) spread the word by carrier pigeon the benefit performance for the Chapter . . . CAPITAL DISTRICT CHAPTER has not reported too much . . . but did arrange for our Executive Director to be present when Senator Kennedy explored the need of the region at a meeting in Albany . . . had a chance to speak with the Senator about some National legislative matters . . . newest county . . . RENSSELAER COUNTY CHAPTER is redeveloping the program . . . it was formerly part of Capital District — so really not new in program development . . . keep the news coming and don't forget the pics . . . we look to see action . . . even though we enjoy your words . . .



## FEDERAL LEGISLATION FOR VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

The administration's vocational rehabilitation bill has been introduced. It is S.I. 1525 by Senator Lister Hill and H.R. 6475 by Representative Mrs. Edythe Greene. Its title is "Vocational Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1965." It is a comprehensive measure, the passage of which will have a profound effect on rehabilitation services for years to come. The provisions of the bill as related to the rehabilitation facilities and workshops are as follows;

1. A separately financed program for the evaluation of rehabilitation potential - vocational rehabilitation clients will be established with a 75% federal share for all the states. The definition of evaluation services in the act is being revised to permit agencies to provide vocational rehabilitation services to any client for a period of six months, and to mentally retarded clients, for a period of eighteen months, while rehabilitation potential is being determined.

2. New construction authority to permit the vocational rehabilitation administration to make grants for the establishment, equipment and initial staffing of rehabilitation facilities and workshops. Constructions would include new buildings as well as expansion of existing buildings.

3. A new program with 75% of federal participation is included to finance the training of vocational rehabilitation clients in workshops.

4. Provision is also made for grants for initial staffing of facilities for a maximum of four years and three months. Federal funds would be available for a maximum of 75% for the first 15 months, decreasing annually to a maximum of 30% at the final period.

5. Legislation would authorize a five-year program of Federal grants to public and other non-profit workshops to strengthen their programs.

A significant and greatly needed feature of this section would be authority to provide training allowances for disabled trainees. Such allowances would not exceed \$25 a week plus \$10 for each dependent to a maximum of \$65.

6. Another section authorizes a five-year program of project grants to workshops to pay part of the cost of improving their professional and administrative services. Technical consultants would also be made available for limited periods to advise and guide such workshops.

7. A 12-member National Policy and Performance Council of vocational rehabilitation experts would be established to advise the Secretary of H.E.W. on all aspects of the new workshop provisions.

8. Legislation would also authorize the establishment of a National Commission on Architectural Barriers to Rehabilitation of the Handicapped.

Emphasis in the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1965 was placed on medical rehabilitation services, the training of personnel and research. The results have been overwhelmingly successful.

In the proposed 1965 amendments, emphasis is placed on vocational rehabilitation and workshops to permit more widespread application of what has been learned during the last decade through research and experience.

In almost every community in America, there is a crying need for more workshops, especially for the mentally retarded.

Despite the efforts of voluntary agencies funds are difficult to raise in sufficient quantity to expand these programs.

Paradoxically a workshop success increases its financial problems.

As workers with higher vocational potentials are trained and leave for competitive employment, the percentage of workers in the shop with lower production rates increases.

Operational costs, therefore, increase and leave no funds for improvement or expansion. The new legislation is designed to break this cycle.

(Continued Next Column)

## REFERENCE TO MONGOLOIDS CORRECTED

In the December, 1964 issue of O.C.V., an item was quoted about Civil Service which included the following attributed to Mr. Murr:

"The biggest thing we had to get across was that we were talking about educable people with no identifying marks. We were not talking about mongoloids."

This brought many reactions from parents, who were obviously disturbed by this reference to a physical stigma as a controlling deterrent to employment.

This was called to the attention of Mr. Bernard Rosenberg a member of the Board of the State Association and also of the President's Committee to Employ the Handicapped.

In a letter to Mr. Melvin T. Johnson, U.S. Civil Service Commission, Mr. Rosenberg wrote, "Of course you can understand why there was an immediate and negative reaction to this statement because Mongoloids are included among the educable and we all agree that the intent of the Civil Service ruling is to help all handicapped who can be productively employed after being trained for jobs in Civil Service."

This brought a reply from Dr. Johnson as follows, "As you already know, no qualified mentally retarded applicant is excluded as long as he can be certified by the State Vocational Rehabilitation Agencies."

"Thank you for your letter and you can rest assured that we will remember your suggestions in our future contacts with reporters."

Mr. Rosenberg reports that on the positive side, as of December 31st, 1964, 27 Federal Departments or Agencies have hired 333 mentally retarded applicants. 157 of these were in the D. C. area, 177 were in the field.

## FEDERAL LEGISLATION (Continued)

One of the most significant portions of the legislation is a new program of expansion grants to enable states to initiate programs and to carry out state-wide planning, something that has been suggested by this Association for many years. Grants can be made to public and voluntary agencies.

Although generally in favor of this bill, the Association feels that there are two aspects of this measure which must be re-examined and corrected.

The first is the method of allotment of funds which are still under the Hill Burton formula and under which, as in the case of the mental retardation facilities construction Act (Public Law 88-164), New York States' share of federal matching funds is 37.67% as against 66% for Mississippi and almost 57% for Texas. Under this arrangement, the voluntary agencies that wish to construct or remodel facilities will be starved in comparison to other states.

In a letter to Senator Lister Hill, Jacob Javitz and Robert F. Kennedy, as well as Congresswomen Mrs. Edythe Greene, Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of the State Association pointed out this inequity and asked that the law be amended in the following respects:

1. That allotments to the states be in direct proportion to the states' population.

2. If this is not acceptable, then an alternative is suggested — that whatever the allotments are to the states, the states be permitted to decide what portion of this shall be used as matching funds for grants to any voluntary agency undertaking to building such a workshop.

The Association also protested the tying in of the funds for initial staffing to new construction. It was the feeling of this Association that the staffing is important whether it would be for newly constructed facilities or an old facility and grants for such aid in staffing should be made without regard to whether the construction is under the Act or not.



## GROSSINGERS SCENE OF WORKSHOP MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE

Grossingers Hotel was the site of an Institute on the Management of Sheltered Workshops attended by many of our local Chapter people on December 15th to 18th, 1964.

This institute was supported by a grant to the New York State Association of Sheltered Workshops from the Vocational Rehabilitation Administration. Co-sponsors were the New York State Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and the Vocational Rehabilitation Services for the Blind.

Mr. Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of the Association, was the coordinator of the institute and Dr. Max Dubrow, President of the New York State Association of Sheltered Workshops and Homebound Programs, was chairman of the Planning Committee.



**John Bertrand, Jerry Weingold and Max Dubrow "take five".**

The outstanding faculty which conducted the institute consisted of:

Mr. M. Dolnick, National Representative of the National Society for Crippled Children who spoke on Sheltered Workshops — Look at Contract Procurement and Negotiation.

Mr. R. Williams, Assistant Director Purchasing I.B.M. Corporation, who spoke on "Industry Looks at Contract Procurement and Negotiation".

Mr. J. S. Fiske, Supervisor of Vocational Services Hartford Rehabilitation Center, who spoke on "Pricing and Overhead".

Mr. Carl E. Olsen, Director of Industries, Lighthouse Industries, who spoke on "Manufacture of Saleable Items."

Mr. R.G. Albrecht, Executive Director of Detroit League for Handicapped, who spoke on "Budgeting, Equipment and Costs — Write off".

Mr. R. E. Watkins, Assistant Executive Vice President of Goodwill Industries in Washington D.C., who spoke on "Agency Budgeting, Supporting Services, etc".

Mr. W. D. Watkins, Executive Director of Goodwill Industries in Dayton, Ohio, who spoke on "Plant layout, space utilization, work-flow".

Dr. S. G. Di Michael, Regional Representative, VRA Region II, and Mr. A. S. De Simone, Associate Regional Representative, VRA Region II, also participated in the program and were on hand to lend their support during the entire proceedings.

The enthusiastic reception of all those who participated in the program indicated that it was a very worthwhile undertaking.

Association staff people who participated in the conference in addition to Mr. Weingold and Dr. Dubrow included:

Mr. Robert J. Daly, Education Director, Onondaga County Chapter; Mr. Milton Levine, Workshop Director, Nassau County Chapter; Mr. Anthony J. Lombardo, Workshop Director, Westchester County Chapter; Mr. Charles J. MacVean, Workshop Director, Fulton County Chapter; Mr. Walter. Schofield, Program Schenectady County Chapter; Mr. J. Roger VanDenbergh, Workshop Director, Oneida-Herkimer Chapter; Mr. Kurt E. Walter, New York City Workshop, Mr. John N. Weems, Administrator, Cayuga County Chapter and John W. Bertrand, Assistant to Executive Director of the State Association.

## SOME WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS



**Walt Schofield of Schenectady points to the camera, but Helen Kaplan of Nassau refuses to believe him. The "believers" include, from L. to R. Robert Heath, president Florida NASWHP; Bob Daly, Onondaga County Chapter, ABC; Schofield, Michael Dolnick, Chicago, Ill.; Kaplan, J. S. Fiske, Hartford, Conn.; and John Bertrand, State Ass'n.**



**At dinner, L. to R. Morris Klapper, Dr. Max Dubrow, N.Y.C.; J. T. Weingold; Mrs. A. Lombardo; Tony Lombardo, Westchester; Sol Richman State DVR; and Mrs. Richman.**



**Mr. and Mrs. Sol Richman (sitting) enjoy a good gag which appears to be gently tickling Joel Richardson, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Salzman and Dr. Max Dubrow.**



**Most of "Our Gang" at the Institute (l. to r.) Bob Daly, Onondaga Co.; Walt Schofield, Schenectady Co.; Charles MacVean, Fulton Co.; Rod Van Denbergh, Oneida-Herkimer Co.; Milt Levine, Nassau Co.; an unidentified thinker and Ralph Albrecht, faculty member from Detroit, Michigan.**



## FEDERAL PROJECT SHOWS MENTALLY RETARDED CAN HOLD JOB

In connection with the hiring of the mentally retarded by Federal Civil Service, President Johnson has issued the following statement:

"Over a year ago, in January 1964, we inaugurated a program to open routine jobs in the Federal government to mentally retarded but occupationally qualified persons. Our hope and intent was to demonstrate the useful potential of individuals suffering mental as well as physical handicaps without creating extra jobs especially for such persons — and without compromising the quality or efficiency of the Federal work force.

"Chairman John Macy of the Civil Service Commission has just reported to me the results of our first full year effort under this pioneering program. What has been done by the Federal agencies is gratifying and what has been learned from the program is most useful to our further planning.

The significant facts are these:

—Under the program for Federal employment of the mentally retarded, 361 appointments were made during the first year.

—At the end of the year, 88 percent of these appointments were rated as good placements, with the individuals performing their duties in a 'satisfactory' to 'outstanding' manner.

—Supervisory officers report that the ability of 23 such employees to perform their assigned tasks remains under study at this time.

—Only 21 employees — 5.5 percent of the original total — have been separated from the Federal service for inability to meet the performance standards or make necessary social adjustments.

"This is a remarkable record. I am gratified by the cooperation and understanding of the Departments and agencies in their conduct of this effort.

"The Treasury Department led all others in numbers of hires with 69 appointments. Other leaders include: Post Office, 59 hires; Army 40; Veterans Administration, 35; and Health, Education and Welfare, 30. Most appointments have been to relatively simple, highly repetitive, and lower paid jobs. The fact that the mentally retarded are succeeding in such positions is of significance to private employers since these are the kind of jobs in which employers find it most difficult to retain competent and reliable workers.

"It is noteworthy, however, that more than 40 different job titles are listed among those for which government has hired retarded persons. These include several kinds of jobs not previously considered within the abilities of retardates, such as receptionists, clerk-typists, engineering aides, carpenters, and physical science aides. Slightly more than half of all the retarded appointed to Federal jobs have entered clerical or office work.

"The success of the program has not been confined to the Washington area Federal offices. Approximately half of all appointments made in 1964 were in the Washington area. However, 196 appointments were made in field offices in various states. The State of New York led all others, with vocational rehabilitation officials there certifying 39 of the persons appointed. The State of Washington followed with 22, California with 17, Pennsylvania with 13, and Illinois with 10.

"Chairman Macy has pointed out to me that while very substantial progress — far exceeding our early expectations — has been made, there remains a number of problems and, as he expresses it, "We still have far to go."

"I have directed Chairman Macy to continue his effective work and leadership on this program during the current year and I know he will receive the cooperation of all Executive Agencies in advancing the objectives of this useful and humane program."

## AREA VOCATIONAL EDUCATION CENTERS SUGGESTED BY STATE

A brand new State Education Department bill to construct "area centers" for vocational education is being actively pursued in the Legislature.

The legislation is to encourage area vocational and technical programs in areas large enough to support them.

If the bill gets the Legislature's nod, it would abolish the Boards of Cooperative Educational Services operating throughout the state in rural areas, as well as county vocational education and extension boards.

The new "area center" operations would also be somewhat larger than the present that the Cooperative Boards serve.

Criticizing the bill, Dr. William Chiverton, superintendent of schools in Geneva, said the bill is "too narrow" because it does not allow for construction of other facilities such as schools for the mentally and physically handicapped and other special education facilities.

He said he felt it would be a shame if the bill went through the Legislature permitting only a narrow operation. He observed that the problem today with Cooperative Boards is that they are allowed to carry on programs but they have no facilities to carry them on (Boards of Cooperative Services were originally established in the more rural and less populated sections of the state to provide services including educational programs and classes for the handicapped that could not otherwise be afforded by the local districts in terms of pupil number and cost).

Dr. Chiverton said he is concerned for provision of facilities other than vocational and technical schools, calling facilities for special education "one of the crying needs".

Dr. Chiverton in his argument for writing a more encompassing bill, commented that often "we are guided more by numbers than by needs."

It is interesting to note that at the same time the Boards of Cooperative Services were conceived, the same Act provided for the creation of what is known as the INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT. According to a SCHOOL DISTRICT REORGANIZATION LAW PAMPHLET No. 14, the Boards of Cooperative Services were created as a preliminary step toward the formation of this type of larger or regional district.

The pamphlet points out that thus far there is no organization of Intermediate Districts under the Education Law. Writers of the pamphlet give as the reason that "Cooperative Board for a variety of reasons, has proven to be preferable, and a great many of these latter units are now in existence."

## FRED A. SCHUMACHER DIES

Fred A. Schumacher of the Vocational Rehabilitation Administration died on January 13, 1965 after a heroic struggle with the ravages of cancer.

"This sad event," said Mary E. Switzer, Commissioner of Vocational Rehabilitation Administration, "is not only a personal shock to us all but a tremendous loss to the field of rehabilitation."

Fred Schumacher was not only a friend of rehabilitation, but especially a friend of the mentally retarded. He was closely allied with the VRA program for Research and Demonstration in the field of the vocational rehabilitation of the mentally retarded and was of invaluable assistance to the Association in its preparation for grants and prosecution of programs.

His qualities of character and personal dedication, writes Mary Switzer, to the cause of handicapped people especially the mentally retarded will be a standard which we will all strive to match.

"He will be sorely missed," writes Mary, "but we will be forever grateful to him for providing us with both a philosophy and a framework of community services with which we can continue to work."



## DR. PAUL H. HOCH DIES DECEMBER 15TH

Dr. Paul H. Hoch, New York State Commissioner of Mental Hygiene for nine years, died in Albany, Tuesday, December 15th.

A career state employee, Dr. Hoch was appointed commissioner on July 7, 1955, by Gov. Averell Harriman and reappointed by Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller on January 1, 1959.

Dr. Hoch was a diplomate in psychiatry and neurology of the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, and a Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association, the American Medical Association, the American Association on Mental Deficiency, and the New York Academy of Medicine. He was a member of 22 scientific and professional societies.

Dr. Hoch's major interest was the mentally ill. Under his aegis, the number of patients in the state hospitals dropped to 84,000 from 93,000 patients in 18 state mental hospitals. In the same period of time the increase in patients in the state schools for the mentally retarded, was at the rate of between 500 and 700 a year.

Prior to his appointment as Commissioner, Dr. Hoch was principal research scientist (psychiatry) in the New York State Psychiatric Institute. He joined the staff of the Institute in 1943 and became Director of the Department of Experimental Psychiatry in 1948.

Dr. Hoch was Assistant Professor of Psychiatry and Neurology at the University of Göttinger, Germany, in 1932, and since coming to New York State held a number of teaching posts at the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Columbia University.

At the time of his death, he held the post of Professor of Clinical Psychiatry.

He is survived by his wife, the former Barbara Griffiths of Brooklyn.

## AREA YOUTH OPPORTUNITY CENTERS APPROVED

On February 2nd, 1965, Governor Rockefeller announced that plans submitted to the federal government by New York State for Youth Opportunity Centers in Albany-Schenectady-Troy, Buffalo, Rochester, and Utica-Rome have been approved.

The Governor said that all four Centers are expected to begin operation, as part of the State Labor Department's Division of Employment, in the spring. The first opening is anticipated by March or April in Albany.

The Centers will be available to all youth 16 through 21 years of age. They will give special attention to unemployed out-of-school youngsters and will also serve as recruitment headquarters for the Neighborhood Youth Corps and other programs designed to assist disadvantaged youth.

Others to be served by the Youth Opportunity Centers include young men who have failed the Armed Forces' qualifications tests, youths who qualify for training under the Manpower Development and Training Act, and those who haven't the means of securing further education, training or employment.

Employment Service personnel will stress education and will assist youths who require additional training, especially in the basics — reading, writing and arithmetic — and in the selection of vocation.

The Chapters in these areas have been alerted to this development for possible use of the Centers by mentally retarded youths.

**RESERVE THE DATES — OCTOBER 14,  
15th, 16th and 17th. STATE CONVENTION  
SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y.**

## "TRANSPORT PUPIL", SCHOOL ORDERED

Dr. James E. Allen Jr., Commissioner of Education of the State of New York recently ordered a central school district in Wayne and Ontario Counties to supply special transportation to a pupil.

He upheld the appeal of Charles Catholdi for transportation of his child after it was denied by Central School District No. 1 of the Towns of Arcadia, Palmyra, Marion, Lyons, and Sodus in Wayne County, and Manchester and Phelps in Ontario County.

Dr. Allen ruled that the district should supply transportation in the present school year to the class for the mentally handicapped that he is legally attending. If the district does not have the money, it should raise it by taxes, the commissioner ruled.

The child is Mr. Catholdi's daughter, Joanne, who is 11 years old. Mrs. Catholdi has been driving Joanne to the BOCES trainable class in Williamson, waiting while the class is in session and then driving Joanne home, a total of 36 miles roundtrip each day since September 1964.

Mr. Catholdi is Vice-President of the Wayne County Chapter.

## PARENTS FIGHT FOR BETTER SCHOOL SERVICES

A long parents' fight for better school services for the mentally retarded in Peekskill, New York, has resulted in an expanded program for the Board of Cooperative Educational Services.

Recent increases will enable BOCES in that area to service 15 trainable and educable mentally retarded children for a budget item of \$22,500 compared to \$10,800 for eight students during the current year. Per pupil cost for these services is increasing from \$1,350 to \$1,500.

Mrs. Catherine Paul, Peekskill, New York, has been carrying on a long struggle for improved quality services in public schools for the past two years with this final result.

In a letter to the Association, she writes, "I wish to thank you for your interest in our less fortunate children. The interest of our Mayor Salvatore Gambino, and other influential friends who helped me to reach this end I am most grateful."

It is interesting to note that the Peekskill group is not a member of the Westchester Chapter or of the State Association. Nevertheless, the children in Peekskill benefit from the efforts of the total movement in the State. This is a rather one-sided affair, commented Mrs. Ruth Gross, the President of the State Association, but we are always ready to help.

## MEL APPELL APPOINTED

Governor Edward T. Breathitt announced on Jan. 1, 1965 the appointment of Melville J. Appell as deputy commissioner for Mental Retardation in the Kentucky Department of Mental Health. Appell joined the staff of the Department on January 15th.

Appell, the Governor said, will coordinate the State's retardation program. His position will include "program development and coordination of the operation of the two State facilities for the retarded and of the Division of Mental Retardation in the Department of Mental Health."

Mel Appell spent five years as director of a community program in mental retardation in Monroe County. It was one of the first comprehensive community retardation programs in the country, and was cited by the President's Panel on Mental Retardation.

The Association congratulates our old friend Mel Appell on this important appointment.



## COUNTY ASSUMES LARGE SHARE OF SUFFOLK CHAPTER'S BUDGET

The 1965 Budget for the County of Suffolk provides for the following projects in all of which the County itself puts up a significant proportion of the funds.

Contract	Amount	REIMBURSEMENT
Suffolk City Clinic for the M.R.	\$126,000	85% (15% vol. (35% co. (50% st.
Two mental health associates to be assigned to the Suffolk County Clinic for the Mentally Retarded	17,420.00	50% county 50% state
One psychiatrist (part time) assigned to Suffolk County Clinic for the Mentally Retarded	8,000.00	50% county 50% state
Association for Retarded Children Day Training	74,450.00	85% (15% vol. (35% co. (50% st.
Town Rehabilitation & Recreation for Retarded Children	45,000.00	50% county 50% town funds

It is noteworthy that in at least three of these projects, total over \$70,000, all the funds to put up by county and state or town. These are the two Mental Health Associates assigned to the Suffolk County Clinic (50% county, 50% state); one psychiatrist assigned to Suffolk County Clinic \$8,000, (50% county, 50% state); and Town Rehabilitation and Recreation for Retarded Children, \$45,000 of which 50% county and 50% town funds.

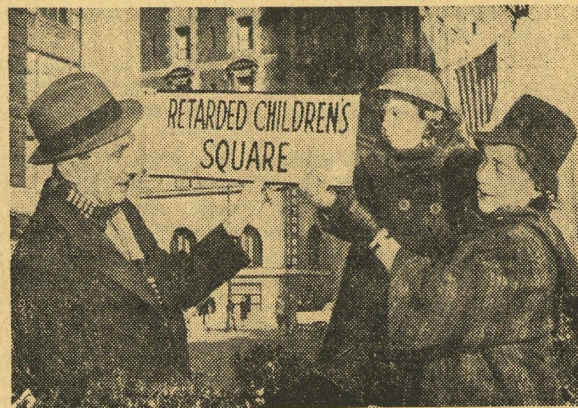
Of the total Mental Health Budget in Suffolk County (\$999,877.00) almost 30% is for Mental Retardation, \$270,-870.00. Of this, most is put up by the state (50%) and generally the Chapter itself puts up only 15%, the other 35% coming from the county.

It is interesting to note that the Chapter requested \$126,000 for the Clinic and \$74,450 for the Day Training Center for 10% to be contributed by the Chapter, 50% by the state and 40% by the county. The Mental Health Board recommended only \$100,000 for the Clinic on a 75-25% contribution but the Board of Supervisors approved the total Budget on a 85%-15% ratio.

The Suffolk County Chapter is now in the process of applying for an E. & I. Grant for a sheltered workshop for the mentally retarded which it hopes will be part of the County's program for the mentally retarded after the grant expires.

"Suffolk County's experience," said Mrs. Ruth Gross, President of the Association, "should give all Chapters dealing with Mental Health Boards and Counties incentive for further negotiations. It is proof that a County, where it wishes, can assume a significant portion of the financial burden of operating these projects for the mentally retarded. It is just good business."

## RETARDED CHILDREN'S SQUARE



Max W. Schachter, president of the N. Y. City Chapter and Ann Musso, 7, help change Times Square to Retarded Children's Square for the 16th Annual Campaign. Mary Burt, director of education looks on.

## CAYUGA DEDICATES NEW WORKSHOP

The Mary Delaney Workshop, named for former school director Mrs. Edward Delaney, was dedicated early this year by the Cayuga County Chapter of the Association.

Appropriately enough, it was dedicated on the anniversary date of the assassination of President Kennedy.

Begun in April, 1963, it took more than a year and a half to complete. Most of the materials and work were contributed by community organizations, labor unions, and business firms.

Principal speaker at the dedication and evening banquet was Representative Samuel S. Stratton, who spoke about the role played in mental retardation by the federal government. He said that now the government is "moving into the area, recognizing the needs, providing funds and giving hope."

Ralph Schooley and Joseph M. Pettigrass, were the leaders of the building campaign.

The toastmaster was Assemblyman George N. Michaels.

Other speakers included Mr. Clyde Bay, president of the Chapter, Senator George Metcalf, an old friend of the Association and one of its staunch champions in Albany, Dr. Leonard C. Lang, Associate Commissioner of the New York State Department of Mental Hygiene and Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of the State Association.

Messages were received congratulating the group from Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller, John Nolan for Sen. elect Robert F. Kennedy and former Representative John Taber.

## A LESSON IN PUBLIC EDUCATION

Recently an anonymous donor sent a \$1.00 bill to Governor Rockefeller with the notation, "To help the handicapped children."

Sam Aldrich, Executive Assistant to the Governor, sent the \$1.00 on to Comptroller Arthur Levitt for "appropriate attention."

Comptroller Levitt sent it to the New York State Association for Retarded Children with the following letter: Dear Jerry:

Enclosed herewith is a one dollar bill together with copies of correspondence which are self-explanatory.

The directive to help the handicapped children cannot be better fulfilled than through the instrumentality of your agency.

Sincerely yours,  
Arthur Levitt  
Comptroller

RESERVE THE DATES — OCTOBER 14th,  
15th, 16th and 17th. STATE CONVENTION —  
SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y.



## RETARDED DRIVE IN ELMIRA



**Remember the blue envelopes on Thanksgiving Day. That's the reminder of Postman Stephen New, with Joseph T. Weingold looking on, as preparations are being made for the annual Chemung County drive for the retarded.**

## SULLIVAN COUNTY DAY TRAINING CENTER

The Board of Supervisors of Sullivan County unanimously approved the establishment of a Day Training Center for the mentally retarded not now being cared for in the schools of the county.

It will provide pre-school training and post-school programs of a rehabilitative nature, and also take care of those mental retardates that present school programs cannot care for.

The program is sponsored by the Sullivan County Chapter of the State Association for Retarded Children who requested a contract from the County Mental Health Board under the Community Mental Health Services Act.

The cost of the initial program is approximately \$28,000. The Sullivan County Chapter of the Association provides \$7,000, the County \$7,000, which will be matched with \$14,000 by the State.

The proposal was drawn up by the staff of the State Office who consulted with Mental Health Board and representatives of the County Chapter to reach an agreement.

Commenting on this, the Liberty Register said, "When it is realized that in a school district like Liberty, with approximately 2,000 pupils, 3 per cent of the pupil population, or over 60 children, must be cared for in four special classes, without allowing for those whose mental deficiencies are such that the school cannot do the job, are of pre-school age or require a post-school program of rehabilitation, one can understand the depth and scope of the problem. A good start has been made and all who brought this new program into being deserve the support of every segment of the community, in and out of government."

## SCHOOL FOR RETARDED OPENS 53RD CLASS

The largest school for the trainable mentally retarded in the Free World, the Special Services School in Hicksville, Long Island, opened its 53rd class in February, it was announced by Sam A. LaMagna, principal.

The centralized public school facility, sponsored by the Nassau County Vocational Education and Extension Board, has an enrollment of 590 students ranging in age from five to 21 years and representing the County's 56 school districts.

Board director is Charles R. Wallendorf.

But Mr. LaMagna reminds that it is a community responsibility that it find ways and means of cooperating with the educational center and help provide realistic work study training programs and social outlets for the retarded.

This responsibility is being shouldered by the Nassau County Chapter of the Association which supports not only a sheltered workshop in Hempstead but also a Summer Camp and other recreation programs.

## TEACHERS CONFERENCE

The 12th Annual Teachers Conference co-sponsored by the State Department of Education and our Association will take place this year on Saturday, May 22nd, at the Carnegie International Center, 345 East 46th Street, in New York City.

Under the direction of this year's committee chairman, Sam LaMagna, Director of the Special Services School in Nassau County, the committee has come up with an interesting program which will, for the first time, especially include teachers of the educable mentally retarded.

Based on the theme "The Mentally Retarded in Our Changing Society" a morning presentation on the development of the theme will be given by Dr. Leon Charney of Hofstra University. A panel of four will react to this, including Mrs. Eleanor Scharnberger, a teacher of the educable, Mrs. Helen Conroy, a teacher of the trainable, Dr. Martin Bregman, as school psychologist, and Mrs. Helen C. Weil, as vocational rehabilitation representative. There will also be an opportunity for audience discussion at this point.

In the afternoon, the Conference will break up into four group sessions for each of the above named areas with groups being lead by Professor Barbara Lake, Mrs. Derfla Williams, Dr. Marvin Hunter, and Mr. Milton Levine, of our Nassau County Workshop, in each of the sessions, respectively.

It is hoped and expected that this year's Conference will again attract many teachers from throughout the state. There will be a registration fee of \$3.00 for the Conference which will include a luncheon.

Anyone wishing to attend the Conference who has not yet had an opportunity to complete a registration form, may obtain one by writing to the State Office, 19 Union Square, New York, New York 10003.

## JEFFERSON COUNTY EXPANDS SERVICES CONTRACT WITH COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

A contract was approved and signed in January between the county board of supervisors, through the county Community Mental Health Board and the Jefferson County Chapter of the New York State Association for Retarded Children, Inc., which will permit expansion of services for the retarded.

The importance of the proposed expansion in serving families of retarded children in the highly important pre-school years and during the after school years when such aid is not available through public schools and other county facilities was emphasized by Rev. Thomas W. Wright, pastor of the Burrville and Rutland Congregational churches, and president of the Jefferson County Chapter.

It was pointed out that the contract, for about \$14,000, does not involve the expenditures of any local tax money. Half of the amount is furnished by the Retarded Children's Chapter from its own resources and the balance in matching funds from the state mental hygiene department.

Dr. George S. Sturtz, mental health board member, commended the board of supervisors for its cooperation in approving the contract and enabling the Jefferson County Chapter to receive the added funds.

## HOLIDAY INN — SARATOGA SPRINGS —

### STATE CONVENTION —

OCTOBER 14th, 15th, 16th, & 17th

WE EXPECT TO SEE YOU

COME TO SARATOGA SPRINGS



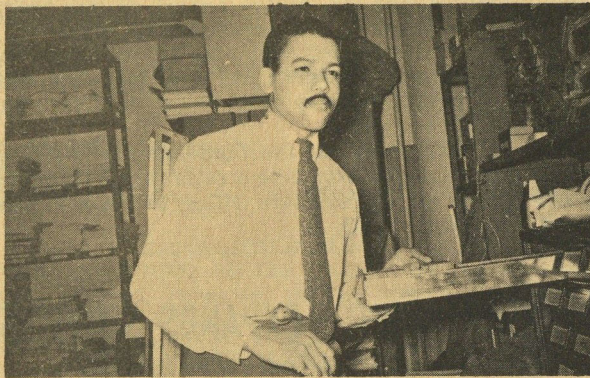
## IN THE STATE OFFICE WHAT MAKES THE WHEELS GO AROUND

Its "business as usual" in the State Association Office once again after a long and difficult search for a girl to replace Stephanie B. Hollander who left the Association in November to be married.

Joining the staff in the role of Secretary to Mr. Weingold, as of January 29th, was Miss Christa J. Martens.

Virtually a native Brooklyn girl, Christa brings with her an unusual fact in that she was born in Germany while her parents were on a trip there and spent the first two months of her life in that country. In the following years in Brooklyn, Christa attended public schools there and graduated from Madison High School in a commercial course. Prior to working for the Association, she had 9 years of secretarial experience with various business firms in the New York City area.

An attractive blonde, who stands 6' 1" tall (that's right, its no misprint she is over six feet tall), Christa has been a welcome addition to our staff and has already given an indication of her interest in the mentally retarded through her willingness to give her job extra time whenever it is needed.



**Donald Taylor, without whom there would be no bulletins, no mailing lists . . . is that bad?**

During the three months that we were without a regular secretary, Mrs. Max Blau, as we all know her, Elaine, really did a tremendous job in acting as secretary to both Jerry Weingold and John Bertrand and carrying on in her role as bookkeeper, as well.

A picture of the people who serve you from the State Office would not be complete without the other individual who keeps things moving smoothly and put forth such a splendid effort during our period of secretary-seeking, Donald F. Taylor, our friendly clerk.

We hope this helps all our readers come to know our setup a little better and to feel a little closer to the people who are here to try and help you — help retarded children.

## INSTITUTIONS OF WOOD, RECOMMENDS AUTHORITY

"It may be shocking, but I would be serious in recommending that all buildings be of frame construction . . . When the building is no longer suitable for modification, it could then easily and economically be burned to the ground, taking with it forever the image of past and mistaken concepts of treatment."

The above is no statement by a crackpot, but the very considered opinion of an eminent authority in the field of mental health. It was made by Dr. Daniel Blain, President of the American Psychiatric Association at a meeting of the National Association of Private Psychiatric Hospitals, in San Diego, California.

We recommend it to all the building planners who think in terms of 50 years for a building within whose walls are perpetuated the mistakes of the past.



**The "long and the short" of it. Christa Martens, Mr. W's secretary, and Elaine Blau, bookkeeper, office manager, etc. (the short one)**

## CHECK LIST ON REPORTS DUES, PAYMENTS, ETC.

The staff of the State Association has developed a Check List for the use of all Chapters on content, due date, etc. of dues to State and National, reports and payments.

Any Chapter that does not have this available as yet, please write to the State Office for another copy.

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

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

Non-Profit Org.  
U. S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
New York, N. Y.  
Permit No. 8245