

# OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE

*Retarded Children*

*Can Be Helped!*



VOL. XXI, ISSUE NO. 3

SEPTEMBER, 1969

## GOVERNOR SIGNS THREE MAJOR BILLS

### WHERE RETARDED WORK IN STATE CENTER



State Senator William T. Conklin who has led State Program to employ the retarded and physically handicapped inspects equipment at State Senate Printing Office in Albany where additional disabled personnel will soon be working.

### FIRST HOSTEL FOR RETARDED DEDICATED

#### WESTCHESTER COUNTY CHAPTER TO OPERATE

White Plains hostel for retarded adults, the first in operation of a network of similar and long-needed residence facilities for semi-independent retarded adults to be established in this state was formally dedicated at an open house at 53 Davis Avenue, White Plains on Wednesday, April 30th, 1969.

Ten male retardates who are unable to live with their own parents will be housed in the new facility. A home-like atmosphere, guidance and assistance when necessary, a recreation program and lounge areas will serve to make the hostel a pleasant and practical place for the retarded adult working in the community or associated with a program for the retarded.

The hostel will be operated by the Westchester Association for Retarded Children under agreement between the agency and the State. This agreement has been approved by the Westchester Community Mental Health Board "as providing a needed service," according to Dr. Burton Giges, director of Westchester Community Mental Health Services.

The financing of the operation is a cooperative effort between the Westchester County Chapter and the State, each contributing 50 per cent of the operating cost. It is expected that the residents will contribute to the cost of their up-keep as they are able.

Other hostels for the mentally retarded in the process of being developed are New York City, two in Nassau County, Rochester, Watertown, Bronx, New York, and Brooklyn, New York.

Many letters of intent have also been sent by various Chapters of the Association to Mr. David Baumstein, Assistant Commissioner of Mental Hygiene who is coordinating the program on the part of the State.

## GUARDIANSHIP, SHELTERED WORKSHOP & AID TO DISABLED BECOME LAW

### VETOES THREE OTHERS

Three of the four bills that were emphasized by the ARC as part of its legislative program, were passed and signed into Law by the Governor.

These were the Guardianship Bills (S. 2767 Conklin; A. 5065 McCloskey to amend the Surrogate's Court Procedure Act by adding a new article 17-A giving jurisdiction to appoint guardians of mentally retarded persons over 14 years, not terminating on majority; and standby guardians.) (Chapter 1143, Laws of 1969) The Sheltered Workshop Bill S. 2780; Assembly 5064 McCloskey to amend the Education Law by adding a new section to authorize the department to provide up to \$1500 per year for each retarded person in extended sheltered employment in workshop of non-profit organization) (Chapter 1069, Laws of 1969); and Aid to the Disabled S. 2660 Adams A. 4930 Kelleher to amend Section 303, the Social Services Law, to provide that aid to disabled persons may be furnished in a residential facility for the mentally retarded, approved, licensed or operated by the State Department of Mental Hygiene, and so long as federal aid is available therein.) (Chapter 1135, Laws of 1969).

The bill to relieve parents of their liability for fees in a state school for the mentally retarded (S. 2685 Conklin; A. 4963 Mercorella) passed the Assembly, but failed to be reported out by the Senate Finance Committee.

Under the Sheltered Workshop Bill, the Governor's message, "Unfortunately, it will be impossible to implement this program immediately because no funds have been appropriated for it. Enactment of the measure at this time, however, even without immediate funds, establishes the State's commitment to this worthwhile program."

The following bills were passed and were vetoed by the Governor:

#### Mental Hygiene Family Court Procedure

S. 2713 Conklin; A. 4970 McCloskey (Veto message No. 44) amends Section 24, Mental Hygiene Law, to repeal provisions that mental hygiene commissioner may institute proceedings to compel support of mentally disabled patient under family court act, where payment for cost and charges of admission or for care, maintenance or treatment of patient in state institution, facility or in family care is refused.

#### Criminal Code — Ability To Stand Trial

S. 2677 Ohrenstein; A. 4929 Kelleher (Veto message No. 257) amends Section 662-b, Criminal Code, to provide that when defendant in criminal case is found to be in state of idiocy, imbecility or insanity, court having jurisdiction may dismiss indictments or proceedings, if satisfied that it is consistent with ends of justice and custody of defendant by mental hygiene commissioner pursuant to final or temporary order of commitment or order of retention is not necessary for

(Continued on Page 22)

## OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE

Issued four times a year by

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

175 FIFTH AVE., NEW YORK, N.Y. 10010  
674-1520

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: **JAMES F. REVILLE**

Executive Director & Editor: **Joseph T. Weingold**

## AN OPPORTUNITY MISSED

(EDITORIAL)

The Legislature has before it the proposed recodification of the Mental Hygiene Law.

This recodification, the first since 1927 when the Law was first passed, represented a unique opportunity on the part of the Department of Mental Hygiene to present a new concept in the care and treatment of the mentally retarded in institutions and the development of programs in the community to prevent institutionalization.

Unfortunately, it is, for the most part, a document of little or no imagination with emphasis on technicalities, and incorporates almost none of the new concepts in the field of mental retardation that have been developed in the past 20 years.

Exhaustive reviews of this document will take place in hearings before the appropriate legislative bodies. We note, however, that no attempt is made to define, in accordance with modern social concepts, the relationships of the parents of the children in the institutions with the Department of Mental Hygiene other than to preserve the right of the State to soak the parents to enforce the collection of fees through criminal proceedings.

In the area of community services, a sop is thrown to the parent groups who have persistently urged parent power and equal rights in the control of programs by the infantile gesture of mentioning mental retardation by name.

No real attempt is made to distinguish mental retardation from mental illness, alcoholism, or narcotic addiction. All are listed and lumped under the term "mental disability".

We could go on and on, but suffice it to say that this document was obviously drawn by the Department of Mental Hygiene itself, without any consultation with the Legislative body of the State and a token approach to so-called "advisors", who were just that and whose advice could or could not be taken.

These comments are being written more in sadness than in anger. If passed in its present form, it will immediately be assaulted by an avalanche of amendments in an attempt to bring it into line with modern thinking.

## SUPREME COURT DECISION AFFECTS HOSPITAL WORKSHOPS

The Supreme Court (Maryland vs. Wirtz, 392 U.S. 183, June 1968) has decided that all workshops and public and private hospitals will come under the provision of the Fair Labor Standards Act. A hospital workshop may still put a patient to work for three months, if it is medically determined that the work is undertaken for therapeutic purposes. After three months, however, an employer-employee relationship develops and the regulations apply. It is stipulated that a working patient cannot replace a regular employee and that all out-patients in the workshop come under the regulations, "It will be very interesting," said Mr. Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of the Association, "to see what develops as therapy and what develops as work."

## A GIANT STEP FORWARD

(EDITORIAL)

The signing by Governor Rockefeller of three major bills introduced through the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental and Physical Handicap and part of the Association's program is one of the most important events that has taken place for the mentally retarded in this State.

With the signing of the guardianship bill, and plans that the Association will be making, it is now theoretically possible for a parent to know to a much greater extent what will happen to his child when he is gone. The whole system of guardianship is simplified and made easy through this important piece of legislation.

The sheltered workshop bill, providing as it does for payment by the State Department of Education of up to \$1500 for every long term mentally retarded employee of a workshop, will give the ARC and other workshops in the State serving these individuals some security in the financing of these programs which are expensive and heretofore received no State aid of this kind. It is a little unfortunate that the Governor in his message when he signed the bill had to make the remark that no money was appropriated.

All of us were keenly aware of this and it was not necessary to mention it again. Nevertheless, the bill is on the books and all our efforts will be to persuade the Governor and the Legislature to provide funds for its implementation. As noted before, this measure in the long run will save the State millions of dollars by keeping these young and older adults in the community rather than placing them in institutions at a cost of at least \$5700 a year.

The last bill, Aid to the Disabled, rectifies an inequity in the Social Service Law. Before this bill was passed, the mentally retarded, although eligible for Aid to the Disabled under the Social Service Law, could not receive such aid if they were residents at private institutions licensed by the Department of Mental Hygiene. Although the Association disagreed with this interpretation by the Department of Social Service, we were fortunate indeed to have their complete cooperation as well as that of the Department of Mental Hygiene in devising an amendment that would permit such aid to the disabled.

Unfortunately, the whole Social Service Program has been cut drastically so that this Aid to the Disabled may not mean as much as it could otherwise, but the fact is that the rights of these people are recognized even though they are in institutions licensed by the Department of Mental Hygiene and their condition is carefully distinguished from that of mental hospitals, private or public.

Although we congratulate ourselves and the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental and Physical Handicap on these developments, we even more congratulate the Governor on his farsightedness in signing these measures in spite of, what we know must have been extreme pressures in other directions.

## NYS HOSTEL PROGRAM DISCUSSED AT MASSACHUSETTS CONVENTION

The community residence program of the State of New York is receiving Nationwide attention.

The most recent interest was expressed by the Massachusetts Association for Retarded Children who asked for a workshop on the subject for their 14th Annual Convention on May 31st, 1969.

Dr. Jack Gorelick, Chairman of the Community Residence Committee of the State Association for Retarded Children and Mr. David S. Baumstein, Assistant Commissioner for State School Community Affairs, Department of Mental Hygiene, were the discussants in a panel on "A new way — community hostels for the retarded" at the convention.

# "IF NOT NOW — WHEN?" — STATE CONVENTION THEME

**MEETING IN WATERTOWN, SEPTEMBER 25 — 28**

The State Convention this year will concentrate upon new programs available for the mentally retarded in New York State. Our workshops will discuss Guardianship, now made possible for the ARC through new Legislation, new institutional developments, current Legislation which will effect ARC programs including, Section 4407 of the Education Law, Vocational Rehabilitation, Social Service Law, Hostels, and Construction; and the organization and operation of Y.O.U.T.H. Groups.

The preliminary Convention Program follows:

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25th, 1969**

4:00 p.m. — 9:00 p.m. Registration  
8:00 p.m. Meeting of the Board of Governors

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26th, 1969**

9:00 a.m. — 9:00 p.m. Registration  
9:00 a.m. — 12:00 p.m. Board of Governors resumes  
9:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m. Tour Sunmount State School (3 hour drive — advance registration required)  
12:00 p.m. Luncheon (open)  
12:30 p.m. — 5:00 p.m. Thousand Island Boat Tours  
1:30 p.m. — 4:30 p.m. Tours — Jefferson County ARC Center  
6:00 p.m. Dinner (open)  
8:00 p.m. Convention Opens  
— Greetings by Chapter President  
— Welcomed by Mayor  
— Business Session Begins  
11:00 p.m. Business Session Recesses

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27th, 1969**

9:00 a.m. — 2:00 p.m. Registration  
9:00 a.m. — 12:00 p.m. Business Session Reconvenes  
12:30 p.m. — 1:30 p.m. Luncheon  
2:00 p.m. — 5:30 p.m. Concurrent Workshops —  
I Formation and Function of "Youth for the Retarded."  
II Involvement of the Consumer in Decision Making. (Institutions)  
III Implications of Guardianship.  
IV Legislation and Regulations.  
6:00 p.m. — 7:30 p.m. Reception and Social Hour  
7:30 p.m. Banquet

**Presentation of Awards**

— Outstanding State School (Employees Award)  
— Employer of the Year  
— American Legion Auxiliary  
Address — Philip Roos, Ex. Dir. of NARC  
— Installation of New Board  
10:30 p.m. Entertainment and Dancing

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28th, 1969**

10:00 a.m. Meeting of Newly Elected Board  
12:30 p.m. Adjournment

## ALBANY CHAPTER HELPS PARENTS MEET TEST

American society is based on the concept of the normal family, two compatible parents, the four kids and a comfortable home. "There is the great expectation on the part of young married couples that they will somehow fit in with the general scheme of things. The arrival of a handicapped child puts any family to an enormous test."



**We care what the child can do at this moment.**

This observation was made by Thomas Kilbride, Director of the Albany ARC, who joined with Mrs. James Caniano, of the chapter discussing the role of the Association and the retarded child in an interview with the Albany Times Union.

"When a family is tested in this way, the pressure to fit in becomes even greater. Some families make it, some don't", he explained.

The Albany County Chapter through its programs is helping materially the parents to meet this test of a handicapped child in the family.

In 1951, the year of the founding of the Albany County Chapter education or training facilities for the trainable mentally retarded were non-existent. Classes began with 12 pupils in a classroom provided by the City at School 18. By 1957 enrollment exceeded 75 pupils with a staff of eight teachers. The Association then moved to its present home at 419 Madison Avenue, contributed by the City of Albany.

When mandated classes for the trainable retarded child were initiated in the public school system, the Association was able to expand its facilities to take care of children who could not meet the criteria for inclusion in public school classes.

Today the Association takes children and adults for whom services are not available in other settings. Many have multiple handicaps. "The children cannot sit at home all the time," Mr. Kilbride explained, "so we give service to the trainable retarded unable to attend regular school."

Mrs. Caniano concluded: "We at the Association like to feel that we have the heart to accept these children and adults for what they are."

Added to this are the programs of the Association which are still expanding and all helping the family to meet the test to which a handicapped child in the family puts everyone.

## EDUCATION FUNDS EARMARKED FOR HANDICAPPED

Ten per cent of the funds allotted for the vocational education amendments of 1968 are mandated to go to programs for handicapped children. Aimed at occupational education it may be an important avenue to help the mentally retarded if the State plan includes them in a professional significant way.

**RESERVE THE DATES NOW — SEPT. 25 - 28**

## GUARDIANSHIP LAW SIGNIFICANT FOR PARENTS

A "significant advance in Law" is the way Governor Rockefeller characterized the guardianship bill signed on May 26th, 1969. It is Chapter 1143 of the Laws of 1969.

"The bill is designed," wrote the Governor to achieve a number of worthwhile protections for mental retardates.

Perhaps the principle contribution of the measure will be its provisions to enable parents to make long-term plans to project a mentally retarded child. The bill will also enable a protective plan to be tailored to the individual needs of a retarded person by providing a broad flexibility in the types of guardianship that can be utilized."

The measure amends the Surrogate Court Procedure Act to provide the following:

Authorizes the Surrogate's Court upon application of the parents or upon application of any other interested person and the consent of both parents to appoint a guardian for the retarded person while the parents are living.

Authorizes the Court in the case of a person over the age of 21 who is wholly or substantially self-supporting by means of his wages or earnings from employment to appoint a limited guardian. In this case the mentally retarded person has the right to receive and expend wages and other earnings and the power to contract or bind himself for any sum not exceeding one month's wages or earnings from such employment or \$300 whichever is greater.

Guardianship does not terminate at the age of majority or upon marriage, but shall continue during the life of such retarded person or until terminated by the Court except with the guardianship of a female mental retarded person shall terminate upon her subsequent marriage. The person over the age of 21 may petition the Court to have the guardian discharged, and is entitled to a hearing and a jury trial if he demands it.

It authorizes the court upon application of the parents to appoint a standby guardian of the personal property or both. The Court may also appoint an alternate to such guardian to act if such guardian shall die or become incapacitated after the death of the last surviving parent, or shall renounce. This would give the parents an opportunity to appoint a guardian during their lifetime and with some continuity after they are gone.

The standby guardian shall have the power to assume the duties of his office immediately upon the death or adjudication of incompetency of the parents only through confirmation of the appointment by the Court.

Perhaps one of the most important portions of the bill is the provision that a non-profit corporation organized and existing under the Laws of the State of New York and having the corporate power to act as guardian of mentally retarded persons may be appointed as the guardian of the person only of such mentally retarded person.

This was tailored to provide for the possibility of the New York State Association for Retarded Children through its chapters to be appointed as a guardian under this Law. Advantages of this, certainly as to continuity of guardianship, are obvious.

The purposes of the State Association were amended recently to enable it to act as guardian under a law such as this, if as and when passed.

It has now been passed.

**STATE CONVENTION — SEPT. 25 - 28**

**— MAKES THE GOING GREAT**

## GOVERNOR SIGNS BILLS TO AID CONSTRUCTION

Bills aimed at helping voluntary agencies provide community mental health and mental retardation services to the mentally disabled have been signed into law by Governor Rockefeller.

They are P.L. 1033 and 1034, Laws of 1969. Copies may be obtained by writing to the Secretary of State, 162 Washington Avenue, Albany, New York.

One bill permits the State Health and Mental Hygiene Facilities Improvement Corporation to design and construct facilities to be made available under a license or a permit to voluntary agencies for use in providing community mental retardation services or mental health services at the request of the Commissioner of Mental Hygiene. The projects would be financed totally through the State Housing Finance Agency.

The second bill encourages the construction of community mental retardation facilities through the provision of low-cost mortgage loans to nonprofit corporations by the State Housing Finance Agency. The HFA is authorized under the measure to issue up to \$100 million in notes and bonds for the purpose of making the loans.

The bills provide different and complementary approaches to meet the particular needs of various types of voluntary agencies and the communities they serve.

"During the past decade the thrust of the most advanced thinking of professionals concerned with the care of the mentally disabled has been toward treatment and rehabilitation in the patient's home community," Governor Rockefeller noted. "The development of comprehensive community services is without question one of the most socially significant trends in our present effort to attend to man's well-being."

Many problems still have to be ironed out in connection with the implementation of these bills which will not become effective until September 1, 1969. Among the problems is the utilization of Federal and State funds. At present a voluntary organization that wishes to construct a mental retardation facility may be eligible for Federal and State aid limiting the community share to a fraction of the total cost. The question arises: will the obligation of the Voluntary agency under any of the two other plans limit this liability to the same amount.

According to Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of the NYS ARC, these plans open up new areas of funds for construction and it will be very helpful.

Similar bills introduced last year through the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental and Physical Handicap did not become law. This year they were part of the Governor's program.

## COMMUNITY RESIDENCES FOR RETARDED LACKING

### THOUSANDS REMAIN IN STATE SCHOOLS FOR LACK OF HOUSING

A severe shortage of hostels, halfway houses and foster homes is keeping 7800 mentally retarded New York citizens in State schools according to the State Mental Hygiene Department.

These persons, the Department says, have the potential to live and work in the community with a minimum of supervision.

But without appropriate accommodations, says Dr. Frederic Grunberg, Deputy Commissioner of mental hygiene for mental retardation, the State has no choice but institutionalization.

The Department's findings are based on a year-long study of 27,000 residents of the State's 14 schools for the mentally retarded.



Senator William T. Conklin, former chairman of the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental and Physical Handicap congratulates Senator Dalwin J. Niles on his assumption of the chairmanship.

## RECODIFICATION STUDY BILL INTRODUCED

A study bill to recodify the State's Mental Hygiene Law for the first time since 1927, when it was first written, has been submitted to the Legislature.

The bill as submitted was the result of five years of discussion, planning and writing according to the Department of Mental Hygiene. The Department retained the Institute of Public Administration of Columbia University in 1964 to prepare a draft recodification of the law.

Copies of the bill have been distributed by Senator Dalwin J. Niles, Chairman of the Senate Committee on Mental Hygiene and of the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental and Physical Handicap to hundreds of persons around the State for possible comment.

Mr. Augustus Jacobs, Chairman of the Legal and Legislative Committee of the Association, has sent copies of the recodification to all the members of the Committee of the State Association with the request that they prepare comments on it so that an official position of the Association can be made known at the various hearings that will be held around the State.

Senator Niles has stated that he intends to hold a series of meetings in various parts of the State to get public reactions to the recodification.

During the process of drawing the recodified measure, various members of the Association have commented on different portions of the bill. A cursory reading of the measure, however, does not indicate that very much of the suggestions from Mr. Jacobs and others were included in the recodification.

The State Association is holding judgment until further study has been completed, but quotes now from the Mental Hygiene News, April 1969 issue:

"Underscoring the Department's determination to promote more local community services for the mentally retarded, the study bill recommends that the name of local mental hygiene agencies be changed from "Community Mental Health Board" to "Community Mental Health and Mental Retardation Board."

The guts of the Community Mental Health Services Act within the bill, however, remains essentially the same, does not make provision as suggested by the Association for a number of items including members of the Association to serve on Mental Health Boards, appeals to the Commissioner from adverse decisions of local Mental Health Boards, etc.

## COME TO WATERTOWN

OVER 400 PARTICIPATE

"We think that on a day-to-day basis, the Teacher In-Service Training Sessions were highly successful". So said Mr. Robert Sansone, the Associate Program Analyst of the N.Y.S. Department of Mental Hygiene who served as Coordinator of the Special Title I Program jointly sponsored by the New York State Education Department and the New York State ARC. The Sessions, which were held for two week-ends each, a total of 32 training hours, have just recently been completed, as was reported in the previous issue of OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE.



MR. DON CIAGLIA, Director, Day Training Center in Rochester conducting a group session at the school building of the Nassau County Chapter.

In discussing the value of the sessions, Mr. Sansone pointed out, "While it may not be possible for us to assess the value to the individual teacher at this time, we think that it was a good learning experience for everyone involved, and certainly has given us much ground work on which to build additional such sessions in the future." Mr. Sansone will be engaged through the conclusion of the grant period, in August 1969, writing a report on what has taken place. At the present time, all participants have been sent some follow-up material, which is being received and collated in the State ARC office to become a part of the final report. One of the forms being distributed is a follow-up to the original questionnaire which asked teachers and staff members to give an order of importance to the twelve areas of study, which were to be covered in the sessions. It is anticipated, that some of the significance of the program will be shown in whether any of their attitudes have significantly changed.

Over 450 teachers, aides and other specialists participated in the program which was held at four (4) locations around the State. 92 participants registered for the sessions at the Al Sigl Center in Rochester; 105 staff members participated in Utica, at the ARC Center there; 136 were registered for the New York City sessions held at the Occupation Day Center; and 140 signed up to attend the sessions held at Nassau County Chapter's Center in Brookville.

Chapters of the ARC whose staff people participated in the programs included: Niagara, Erie, Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, Monroe, Wayne, Chemung, Broome, Cayuga Onondaga, Jefferson, Oneida, Schoharie, Albany, Schenectady, Saratoga, Clinton, Rensselaer, Sullivan, Orange, Westchester, New York City, Nassau and Suffolk. Agencies involved other than the Association included: The United Cerebral Palsy of Western New York; Finger Lakes Cerebral Palsy; Special Children's Center; Prospect Programs; Rehabilitation Programs, Inc.; Westchester Cerebral Palsy; Pre-Schoolers Workshop; Shield of David; Kennedy Child Study Center—Suffolk Rehab., Albany C. P., and Utica C. P.

In commenting upon the program, Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of the State ARC, said "This has been a very difficult program to administer because of the very short period of time we had for preparation after the grant was approved. We are very pleased with the daily operation of the sessions and feel that it will prove to be a most successful program."

## LOCAL BOARDS OF ED. CONTRIBUTE TO 4407 PROGRAM

Chapter 171, Laws of 1969 amends Section 4407 of the Education Law and provides for school districts to share in the cost of educating certain handicapped children who attend private schools. The provisions of Section 4407 are well known in New York State as most school districts have had at least one handicapped child whose education has been subsidized under the provisions of this Section of the Law, which provides for up to \$2,000 per year for such education in private facilities. It is expected that approximately 4,000 handicapped children will receive the financial benefits offered through this Law for the 1968-69 school year.

Thus far the State has assumed the total cost up to the maximum of \$2,000 per year allowed for each eligible child. The payments have been made directly to the private school with which the State has contracted after a site visit to the school to determine its eligibility to receive these funds.

The amendment to Section 4407 which becomes effective July 1st, 1969, now provides that the school district of residence of the handicapped child for whom this service is provided must contribute to the cost of each child's education. The amount per child to be paid by the school district will be the difference between the district's per pupil operating expenditure, not to exceed \$760 and the operating expenses aid per pupil. Three examples determining how school districts will be charged their share are shown on the chart below. The examples cited refer to low aid ratio districts, average aid ratio districts, and high aid ratio districts, respectively.

The school district's share of the cost of this program will be deducted each year from the State aid otherwise payable to the district. A voluntary agency which is rendering this service will still receive the same amount up to \$2,000.

The purpose behind the legislation is to prod local school districts who have been remiss in setting up a facility for the mentally retarded and other handicapped, to do so as soon as possible. The fact that they now have to contribute financially to the education of those children may be an inducement to them to obey the Law.

The following are examples of school districts will be charged their share of the cost of services provided through Section 4407 of the Education Law.

### EXAMPLES OF HOW SCHOOL DISTRICTS WILL BE CHARGED THEIR SHARE OF THE COST OF SERVICES PROVIDED THROUGH SECTION 4407 OF THE EDUCATION LAW

	Low Aid Ratio Districts	Average Aid Ratio Districts	High Aid Ratio Districts
Approved Operating Expenses (A.O.E.)	\$2,400,000	\$1,200,000	\$2,000,000
Aid Ratio	.25	.49	.85
Weighted Av. Daily Attendance (WADA)	2,000	1,500	3,000
Operating Expense Aid (A.O.E. x Aid Ratio or Flat Grant)	548,000	588,000	1,700,000
Approved Operating Expense Per WADA (A.O.E. divided by WADA) Limit \$760	1,200*	\$800*	\$666.67
	\$ 760	\$760	
Operating Aid Per WADA (Oper. Aid divided by WADA or Flat Grant)	\$274	\$392	\$566.67
Subtract Oper. Aid from Approved Oper. Ex.			
District's Share — To be Deducted from State Aid	\$486	\$368	\$100

\* Not to exceed \$760

## TITLE III, ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL ACT

### SERVICES FOR EDUCATION OF HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

Title III of the Elementary and Secondary School Act provides an opportunity to develop innovative and exemplary programs to serve as models for educational change at the elementary and secondary levels. Amendments by the 90th Congress assure that this opportunity will be available for education of handicapped children.

Under the definition of handicapped children under P.L. 88-164 the mentally retarded are included by name.

In 1967 the 90th Congress recognizing the special need for innovation and creativity in educational programs for handicapped children, amended Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, under P.L. 90-247, to authorize the use of at least 15 per cent of each State's allotment, and at least 15 per cent of the discretionary funds of the U.S. Commissioner of Education to be used for exemplary educational projects for the handicapped, beginning in the 1969 fiscal year. Fifteen per cent of the funds authorized by law for these purposes amounts to approximately 23 million dollars for fiscal year 1969.

Under this program each State must submit a State plan under which several aspects must deal with special education for the handicapped. The plan must explain how funds for such activities will be made available and will be coordinated with funds from other sources to help the handicapped, including funds available under Title I and VI-A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act as amended.

Some of the examples of innovative programs are as follows:

A model for the development of the Statewide program to identify and provide remedial services to pre-school deaf children be demonstrated in nine geographic regions of Indiana.

Comprehensive program for the severely physically handicapped in Rochester, New York under which health, physical education, recreation and/or driver education programs will be developed for 114 severely handicapped students.

The preparing of trainable retardates for sheltered employment in Louisiana including diagnostic and evaluative services, pre-school training, special education classes, activity centers and a sheltered workshop are provided for trainable mental retardates.

The effort to provide innovative programs for the handicapped through the setting aside of funds under Title III, is complemented by several other programs designed to provide educational services for the handicapped in each state. These are: P.L. 89-313, which gives support to State and State supported institutions for the handicapped to allow them to strengthen their education programs;

Title VI-A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act which provides funds on a formula grant basis to allow States to expand and extend existing services for handicapped school children;

The Vocational Education Act amendment of 1968 which provides 10 per cent of its total funds to strengthen and initiate programs for the handicapped in the important school-community juncture;

P.L. 88-164 which provides for major research and training support for handicapped children involving over 250 colleges and universities.

The programs noted above are administered by or coordinated with the Bureau of Education for the Handicapped within the U.S. Office of Education.

SEE YOU IN WATERTOWN

— STATE CONVENTION

— DON'T MISS SEPT. 25 - 28



Alan B. Coughlin, left, President of Rosamond Gifford Charitable Foundation, seals a Gifford Pledge of \$30,000 to Retarded Children's Building Drive with a hand shake. Accepting hand shake is Syracusean Joey Belge, 1968 Poster Child of National Association for Retarded Children. The Association's Onondaga Chapter President, Alfred Cappuccilli, looks on. Gift will go towards construction of a new Retarded Children's Center next to Syracuse State School on Wilbur Avenue.

## RENSSELAER COUNTY BUILDING DEDICATED

On Sunday, April 13th, the Rensselaer County Chapter held an open house and dedication at the Pinewoods Center for the Retarded, a building that the chapter had erected with Federal and State aid.



Speaking at the dedication was Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of the State Association, left to right, Ray Retzlaff, Chapter Vice President; Mrs. Ernest Messier, Chapter President; and Mrs. Patricia Rogers, Open House Chairman.

Joseph H. Weingold, Executive Director of the State Association was the speaker at the dedication.

The building, the first in that area, will house some of the program of the day training center, which serves the retarded from the age of 4 to 21 and over.

Part of the evening social program will also take place in the center.

Rensselaer County Chapter was formed in January, 1965 after having functioned for 15 years as a part of the Capitol District Chapter. Services for the retarded in the area were conducted in many and varied places in Troy until the new building, the Pinewood Center for the Retarded was opened. This facility now houses most of the current programs sponsored by the Association.

It is interesting to note that the Chapter is already thinking of acquiring adjacent property for the purpose of expansion.

It is just becoming too evident that any building that is built is inadequate in space for the growing programs.

## NEW REGULATIONS ON SERVICES TO HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

Of extreme significance in the revised regulations governing services to handicapped children in the public schools adopted by the Board of Regents in September, 1968, is the requirement that each school district establish a Committee, or contract with a Board of Cooperative Educational Services to secure the assistance of such a Committee to review and evaluate at least annually the status of each pupil within the School district who is designated "handicapped".

The district must file annually with the Commissioner of Education the names and qualifications of the members of said Committee. The Committee shall also review and evaluate all relevant information pertinent to each handicapped child and make recommendations to the Chief School Officer as to appropriate educational programs and placement of pupils.

In commenting on this regulation, Mr. Weingold, Executive Director of the Association said, "These regulations, like all regulations, are only as good as their implementation. We hope that the Division for Handicapped Children in the State Department of Education will be strengthened in order to permit personnel to police and I use that word advisedly, police the school district."

## PILOT PROGRAM FOR PRESCHOOL MENTALLY RETARDED

A pilot program for preschool mentally retarded children, a first under BOCES sponsorship in New York State, got under way at mid-term of this past year as the class opened in the Campus School of the State University College at Cortland.

Funded under the provisions of Title VI-A, Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Superintendent Walter Franklin, Syracuse Board of Education, Cortland-Madison County BOCES, terms the project "an innovative attempt to meet the special needs of an age group within the handicapped population about whom little has been known and for whom little has been done in the past." The project brings together, health, welfare, education and volunteer services in the BOCES area, as well as all resources of the State University College.

Miss Mary Engels, Coordinator of Special Education Services, Board of Cooperative Education Services, Homer, New York is also the President of the Cortland County Chapter of the ARC.

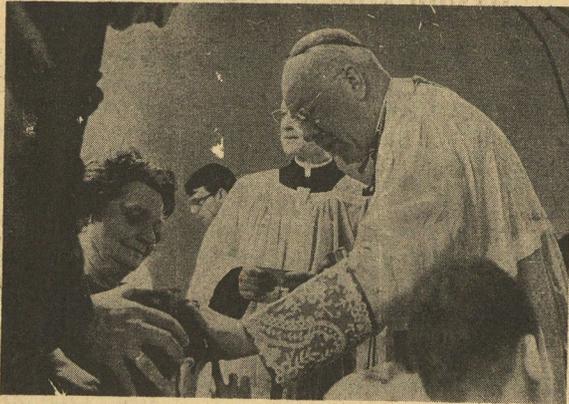
## CONVENTION OF THE NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF TEACHERS OF MENTALLY HANDICAPPED

The Third Annual Convention of the New York State Association of Teachers of Mentally Handicapped will be held at the Statler Hilton Hotel, Buffalo, New York, Thursday through Sunday, October 30th through November 2nd.

The program will feature outstanding leaders and teachers in the field of mental retardation from both in and out of the State and Canada.

Under the theme "The Edge of Change" the focus will be on current controversial issues, Federally-funded State programs and projects under way and innovations in the education and training of the mentally handicapped.

For further information you may write to the Convention co-chairman, Mrs. Marjorie Doyle, Special Education Teacher, School No. 16, Collins and Walker Avenues, Troy, New York 12180 and Miss Sandra Perley, Teacher Evaluator, BOCES, First Supervisory District, 50 Indian Road, Cheektowaga, New York 14225.



The Most Rev. Walter P. Kellenberg, Bishop of the Rockville Centre Catholic Diocese, anoints one of the retarded children recently during Confirmation Ceremonies at the Suffolk State School in Melville.

## ASSOCIATION HONORS OUTSTANDING EMPLOYEES

Mrs. Evelyn Weisenfeld, Chairman of the Scholarship and Awards Committee of the New York State ARC, was among the Association representatives at the Department of Mental Hygiene's annual Employee Awards Day held at the DeWitt Clinton Hotel in Albany, on June 11th. Mrs. Weisenfeld, on behalf of the Association, presented Certificates as the first part of the Association's Outstanding Employee Awards to Employees from 13 State Schools who had been named "Outstanding Employee".

This Luncheon, which is given annually by the Department of Mental Hygiene to honor the Outstanding Employees and the Psychiatric Aide of the Year in the various State Schools and Hospital, will be supplemented later in the year, when the Employees are invited to the Convention of our State Association, to be held at Watertown, to receive a name plate for the plaque at their respective State Schools, and a \$50.00 check.

The Outstanding Employees for 1969 are:

Childs Berger — Staff Attendant — Suffolk State School  
 Mrs. Mechi K. Brown — Attendant — Willowbrook State School  
 Miss Anita M. Festa — Supervising Dietician — Letchworth Village State School  
 Wilbur M. Rouse — R.N. — Wassaic State School  
 Mrs. Violet Green — Staff Attendant — Wilton State School  
 Kenneth A. Dening — Ass't. Dir. Phys. Therap. — Sunmount State School  
 Mrs. Lila O. Larrabee — Supvsng. Hskpr. — Rome State School  
 Miss Helen M. McGraw — Sr. Teacher — Syracuse State School  
 Mr. Ralph Best — Enginrng. Dept. — Newark State School  
 Patsy Bruno — Attendant — Sampson State School  
 Mrs. Louise Little — R.N. — Craig State School  
 Alma Smith — Attendant — J. N. Adam State School  
 Mrs. Elaine Mootry — Attendant — West Senaca State School

"We are looking forward to the opportunity to meet these people and congratulate them personally at the State Convention," said Mrs. Weisenfeld.

In addition to Mrs. Weisenfeld those representing the Association at the Outstanding Employee Awards Luncheon were: Mrs. Shirley Epstein, Chairman of the Institutions Committee; Mr. Clifford Westfall, Vice-President N.E. Region and Mrs. Mary Caniano, Board Member, Albany County Chapter.



An historical turning point in the progress of the St. Lawrence County Association for Retarded Children and the Village of Hermon occurred in March. Village Officials and the Association signed a lease for the old Hermon High School Building for use as a central office, rehabilitation facility, sheltered workshop and day training center. Officials of both groups hail the signing as an extremely significant factor in the future of Hermon and the Association's work in the County. The facility will serve the mentally, physically, emotionally handicapped of St. Lawrence County. Seated, from left: Sherman Slate, Mayor of Hermon; Mrs. Edward Biondi, President, St. Lawrence County Chapter, Association for Retarded Children. Standing, from left: William Wade and Warren Dittes, members of Hermon Village Board; Gerald Crump, Association Board Member from Madrid, and Richard L. Laurin, Executive Director.

## PARENT ROLE URGED FOR RETARDED WEINGOLD ADDRESSES WISCONSIN STATE ASSOCIATION

Parents of retarded children should be in control of State programs and services for retarded children, delegates to the State conference for the retarded were told in Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

Jerry Weingold, Executive Director of the NYS State Association for Retarded Children, who was the keynote speaker said that parents were seldom appointed to planning committees or advisory groups.

He said that parents knew far more about what services should be provided for the retarded than bureaucrats and psychiatrists.

He emphasized that mental retardation should not be linked with mental health programs which also include help for the alcoholics, the mentally ill and drug addicts.

"Mental retardation has no more necessary association with mental illness than it has with cancer," he said. He proposed a separate State department for the mentally retarded.

About 400 persons who attended the meeting heard him say, "The impatience of the parents is being pitted against the inertia of the State and the struggle of power groups. Planning has been substituted for services."

## COMMISSIONER MILLER ACCOMPANIES ROCKEFELLER TO S.A.

A note of social and perhaps professional interest to our readers: Commissioner of Mental Hygiene, Dr. Alan D. Miller, accompanied Governor Rockefeller on his various visits to South American countries.

# FIRST RUBELLA VACCINE LICENSED

## EVENTUAL END OF THREAT SEEN

With licensure of a vaccine against rubella (German measles) Surgeon General William H. Stewart issued the following statement:

"Live rubella virus vaccine is recommended for boys and girls between the age of one year and puberty. No pregnant women should be given the vaccine. Immunization of adolescent girls and adult women should not be undertaken routinely."

The Surgeon General said his statement is based on recommendations of the Public Health Service Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. These recommendations were published in the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report released in April by the National Communicable Disease Center, Atlanta, Georgia. He added that the Advisory Committee's recommendations were developed in close collaboration with the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Dr. Stewart said, "The most effective use of the vaccine would be the immunization of children in kindergarten and the early grades of elementary school because they are commonly the major source of virus dissemination in the community." He added that school children catch the disease and pass it on to their mothers. If the mothers contract rubella in the early months of pregnancy they may transmit the disease to their unborn babies. It is then that congenital defects can occur. Dr. Stewart said, "Preventing infection of the fetus is the principal objective of rubella vaccination."

The PHS Advisory Committee noted that more than 30,000 susceptible children have received the vaccine in field investigations in the United States with almost no untoward reactions.

Rubella is a disease of the late Winter and Spring, and by early adulthood some 80 to 90 per cent of persons in this country have had the disease. Sometimes it is so mild as not to be clinically apparent.

When women contract the disease, however, in addition to the threat it poses to unborn babies, it commonly causes an arthritis-like soreness and pain in the joints. The vaccine also causes these symptoms in adult women, beginning two to four weeks after vaccination. The condition usually disappears within a few days.

If a woman of child bearing age is to be considered individually then susceptibility to rubella should first be determined. If she is found to be susceptible, she should be vaccinated only with the understanding that she will avoid becoming pregnant for at least two months.

The last large epidemic of rubella occurred in 1964. That epidemic caused some 50,000 abnormal pregnancies, malformations and stillbirths throughout the United States.

With the wide use of the new vaccine, there is a distinct possibility that the dire results of such an epidemic will not be repeated and that the birth anomalies resulting from German measles will eventually, in the not too far distant future be wiped out.

## IMPORTANT RESOURCE MATERIAL

It is highly recommended that all interested in mental retardation legislation enacted by the 90th Congress, 1967-68, obtain a summary of such legislation by writing to National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors, 20 East Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001 and ask for volume V, No. 14, November 1968.

Sixteen measures are summarized ranging from the mental retardation amendments of 1967 through the Social Security Amendments, Vocational Rehabilitation, Handicapped Children's Early Education Assistance Act and Health Manpower Act of 1968.

# LACK OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR HANDICAPPED QUESTIONED

In a searching article on Compulsory Personal Health Measure Legislation, April 1969 issue of the Public Health Report, Nathan Hershey, research professor of health law, Graduate School of Public Health, University of Pittsburgh, raises interesting questions concerning the delivery of health services under compulsory personal health legislation.

In speaking about the detection of PKU, for example, he differentiates such detection programs from compulsory vaccination. He notes that the remedial service after detection is often not provided when a defect or condition is detected through examination, but in vaccination programs all children are vaccinated through one or another mechanism.

He asks such questions as:

Is the difference accounted for by the distinction between a preventive measure and the remedial or treatment measure?

Is the difference based upon the relatively great expense to the public in implementing an extensive remedial or treatment program for individuals, as against a simple specific preventive program?

Is the difference explained by a view of therapeutic or remedial measures as strictly within parental prerogative?

Is the reason that many defects or conditions do not require attention because they are not acute problems although remedying them is advisable?

Is the reason simply that our society lacks sufficient resources to provide the services?

He notes, for example, that while PKU legislation requires that practically all new births be tested, the laws do not require the parents to provide the necessary diet to prevent the handicapping condition. No sanction, he notes, is imposed in the health legislation upon the parent for failure to secure desired treatment for detected defects. He suggests that since neglected child legislation in every state permits the public authorities to take custody of the child denied necessary medical attention by a parent or guardian in order to have such attention provided that perhaps for certain serious conditions that might be identified by examination, the legislation establishing the program should contain specific provisions requiring treatment and, where the parents do not provide it, establish a mechanism for the treatment under public auspices.

## PROPOSED REGULATIONS ON GERMAN MEASLES VACCINE ISSUED

On April 3, 1969 Secretary Robert H. Finch issued proposed regulations which established standards for the production of German Measles vaccine.

German Measles is a threat to susceptible pregnant women at any time, but the threat increases significantly during epidemic years. One of the most tragic and disastrous epidemics to hit the United States in modern times was the German measles epidemic in 1964-1965. This resulted in about 50,000 abnormal pregnancies. About 20,000 infants were born with such crippling defects as mental retardation, heart disease, blindness and deafness. The remaining 30,000 pregnancies terminated in miscarriage or stillbirth.

The regulations apply to vaccines containing a live virus strain known as HPV-77 which is grown in either duck embryo or dog kidney cell culture systems. Experimental vaccines produced in accordance with the standards have undergone extensive community testing in the United States and abroad.

**KEEP THE DATES OPEN — SEPT. 25 - 28**

# Chapter News

This issue's Chapter News, has got to be lead off by our **ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER** . . . Orange seems to be turning out more publicity than anyone else lately. Noted with interest that the Chapter operated a workshop for adult and teenage volunteers to train them to work in day camp for the retarded . . . Chapter's young adult class prepared table decorations for the Cornwall Hospital Auxiliary 12th Annual Dinner Dance . . . Thanks to the Jr. Catholic Daughters of America, who collected soup to be served to the youngsters in the 4407 program of the School thereby reducing the costs for the Chapter . . . Note that the Chapter will be operating three summer day camps; one in Newburgh, one in Port Jervis, one in Middletown . . . Chapter working closely with the Kennedy Foundation and acquired a \$300.00 grant toward summer camps . . . Greatly enjoyed the Annual Report submitted by Chapters Executive Director Ed Tangney. One of the Best that we have ever seen a local executive turn out . . . **ONONDAGA COUNTY CHAPTER** thrilled over the fact that they will be breaking ground for their new Center on June 26th . . . Chapter now raising money through Bingo games which have been a great financial success . . . Did an outstanding job in their Newsletter of getting legislative information out to their members and urging them to action. We certainly hope the members followed their suggestion to act . . . **GREENE COUNTY CHAPTER** held a Tag Day to help their youngsters on March 14th and 15th for the benefit of The Camp Fund . . . Thanks to volunteer students from both Catskill Central High and St. Patrick's Central High School who assisted the campaign in the village of Catskill . . . **NASSAU COUNTY CHAPTER** as usual with its fabulous "Teen Drive" in this campaign thousand of teenagers helped raise funds for Nassau County Chapter . . . Certainly one of the big youth activities in the State and one that gets the most publicity . . . **MADISON COUNTY CHAPTER** was given profits from a sausage and pancake breakfast co-sponsored by the Oneida Moose and the Oneida Post of the American Legion — our thanks to these grand gentlemen also . . . Chapter President Harvey Bancroft submits an Annual Report of great interest including such activities as a family picnic last August with 45 attending; a Christmas Party with 42 children attending; 20 organizations approached by the Chapter speakers, membership increased from 25 to 93, pre-school classes started, mental Health Board Contract begun, County-wide fund drive which collected over \$3,000 was held, a summer program being planned, a Boy Scout Troop being sponsored in a local grade school and the contribution of 20 acres of land in the Cazenovia area by Mr. Robert Reidel . . . Goals and plans for 1969-70 are also set down calling for a school age class, a sheltered workshop, a County-wide recreation program, a full-time program Director, an increase of membership to 200 and the development of the land for summer camping. Keep up the good work **MADISON** . . . I think this is the fourth or fifth year in a row we have had the pleasure of noting that the Albany Fort Orangemen Chapter of the Society for the Preservation of Barber Shop Quartet Singing in America was contributing the proceeds of its Annual Concert to our **ALBANY COUNTY CHAPTER** . . . We make beautiful music together . . . **CORTLAND COUNTY CHAPTER** embarked upon a rather unusual project with the assistance of Mrs. Samuel Hendrickson and the experienced staff of the 5-H Acres School of Riding . . . Retarded Children being given a clinic and demonstration in horseback riding followed by actual riding with an introduction to grooming, bridling and saddling. Over 52 youngsters have registered for the program . . . **SCHENECTADY COUNTY CHAPTER** indicating some interesting meetings cropping up including one recently where the Director of the State Summer Camp in Wilton showed colored slides of last year's activities . . . A quick look through the Chapter Newsletter gives an indication of how busy they are in Schenectady as topics on Parents' Night, Social Night, Swimming Program,

Summer Day School, etc., all appear . . . Cannot leave Schenectady without thanking the Rotterdam Kiwanis Club for contribution of \$200.00 and the Mohawk Valley Kennel Club for contributions of \$1100 to Schenectady County Chapter . . . Congratulations to **WELFARE LEAGUE — LETCHWORTH VILLAGE CHAPTER** on "The Year of the Pearl" as they call it — their 30th Anniversary . . . Having an outstanding Year, boosting their membership over 1500 to celebrate the event . . . Enjoyed the article in the June Newsletter deploring the lack of air-conditioners in the infirm Cottages at Letchworth Village — maybe this is where we could take hold in providing some equipment for the State . . . **LEWIS COUNTY CHAPTER** recently was involved in a presentation to Dr. Glyn Morris retiring Superintendent of Curriculum and Guidance in Lewis County. Dr. Morris had served the area since 1951 . . . **CLINTON COUNTY CHAPTER** now the home of the Dynamic Duo . . . No, not Batman



Mr. and Mrs. Carl Lang of Plattsburgh, assist their daughter Carol, at cutting the cake in observance of Open House at Clinton County Chapter's Lakeside School.

and Robin, Executive Director John West and President Gil Duken . . . Working hard to get the Chapter's workshop going full tilt and 4407 monies into the program at the Chapter School . . . Held an open house at the School recently which some 65 attended . . . Our thanks to the Adirondacks Hairdressers Association for a contribution of \$142 to the Chapter . . . Thanks to the Union men in **ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY** who donated their time to refurbish the old Hermon High School which has become the new headquarters for our **ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY CHAPTER**. We are sure that the Chapter is doing well in these new quarters . . . After a long struggle, the **ULSTER COUNTY CHAPTER** has finally agreed to go into a full day program for their youngsters and will hope to see them in 4407 very soon . . . Ulster has also opened a new program in which evening classes in physical education for the mentally retarded are being taught. The City of Kingston Recreation Department has provided the facilities of a local school gymnasium for the program . . . Can't forget the ladies auxiliary of the United Commercial Travelers who presented an automatic phonograph to the Chapter recently . . . **SARATOGA COUNTY CHAPTER** preparing for its 7th Annual Summer Program to be conducted daily for 6 weeks at Kayderofs Park with 30 retardates enrolled as of the end of May. Hats off to Helen Hogan . . . Helen is retiring from the Presidency of Saratoga County Chapter after six years. Much has been accomplished through efforts and perseverance. Mr. Robert Bunyan, Ballston Spa, New York, will be the new President . . . It will certainly take a Bunyanesque figure to replace a hard-working gal like Helen . . . **COLUMBIA COUNTY CHAPTER** busy as can be preparing for their summer camp

# Chapter News

at Camp Mahican. Received profits of sales of school record books handled by the Hudson Jaynees. Also held their own rummage sale to keep the pot boiling . . . Viewed with interest the full page of pictures which SUFFOLK COUNTY recently received on some of their activities and on the presentation of a plaque to Walter Kaner, a Long Island Press Columnist, for his work on behalf of the Chapter . . . The AHRC Staff reports brings news about NEW YORK CITY CHAPTER'S activities . . . 45 youngsters graduating from their program into public school classes this year, a year in which ARC served 289 youngsters . . . 60 trainees from the workshop placed in regular jobs this year . . . Anne Greenberg, founder of New York City Chapter, was honored with a gold watch as the Outstanding Service Award in the field of mental retardation at the Chapter Dinner, May 17th . . . OTSEGO COUNTY CHAPTER writes that they are once again planning a Day Training Program this year. Ten youngsters will be enrolled at the Cooperstown Presbyterian Church beginning July 7th and running to August 15th . . .



**Margery Klahr, (L) President of Schoharie County Chapter and Elizabeth Southard (R), Program Director assists youngsters in chapter program into the Chapter's new station wagon.**

the program will be taught by a certified special ed teacher, Frederick Morris of Oneonta . . . Our hats are certainly off to the Cooperstown Presbyterian Church which has not only donated the use of space for the program, but contributed \$650.00 to help with the cost of the program . . . As of this writing, everyone will be putting on their best shoes for the Round and Square Dance to be held June 21st for the benefit of the Summer Day Program . . . CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY'S Newsletter coming out regularly fiddled with information on a busy Chapter. Note with interest the addition of student nurses from Jamestown Community College spending two mornings a week at Chapter Programs as a part of their training . . . Thanks to the Fredonia Grange who ran a baked goods and rummage sale for the Chapter . . . The adult center in Jamestown working on several new jobs and was paid a high compliment when they sold some of their handmade paper flowers to a local florist . . . BROOME COUNTY'S Newsletter also filled with information on the Chapter's planned summer camp as well as the Camp Shepherd Program so well known to our people from previous years . . . Chapter taking a very special interest in the special Olympics being supported by the Kennedy Foundation since the film "A Dream to Grow On" was shown at the Chapter's banquet . . . SULLIVAN COUNTY CHAPTER recently honored Dr. Bernard Kalina of Liberty, who had been Director of the Sullivan County Mental Health Clinic since its inception. Dr. Kalina left the County to take a similar post full-time in Delaware County, where he had been serving on a part-time basis previously . . . We know that MONTGOMERY COUNTY CHAPTER must be making progress as their Newsletter now comes to us in black and white instead of (dittoed?) in purple, which we always find difficult to read . . . The Chapter's busy workshop, Liberty House, working on Contracts from Collette Manufacturing Company and the Amsterdam Pen Company held open house at the Program in May and it was a great success. Continued



**Julia Davoy, President of Lewis County Chapter, gives ARC Award to Dr. Glyn Morris, retiring Assistant Superintendent in Curriculum and Guidance in Lewis County School District.**

to receive fine community support . . . We here at the State Office extend a special thanks for a job well done to Outgoing President William Albertin, under whom so much of this activity has started in a Chapter which was considered dead only a few years ago . . . ROCKLAND COUNTY CHAPTER working hard with the Exceptional Children's PTA of Rockland County to provide a new Summer Camp Program in that area . . . Margery Klahr, President of SCHOHARIE COUNTY CHAPTER, writes another milestone has been achieved by Schoharie County Chapter. Chapter is the proud owner of a 1969 9-passenger station wagon, which is used daily in transporting students within the Day Training Center located in Cobleskill. The full-time Center has now completed its first year of operation and making tremendous strides with pre-school and school exempt children. Schoharie is again sponsoring a 6 week summer program with the County trainables. This is the fourth year of operation and this year the first day camping program is being offered to the educables for two weeks being a total program of eight weeks. Supervised sports; cookouts; nature study and games will be enjoyed . . . MONROE COUNTY CHAPTER thanking the volunteers who have devoted almost 6500 hours of time to the Chapter during the past year. What wonderful people . . . Good news from Executive Director John Regan that the State Department of Mental Hygiene has purchased property for a Hostel for MONROE

. . . CAYUGA COUNTY CHAPTER throwing the entire State Association with word that they will probably be the first Chapter to have a Mental Retardation Facility constructed with County money . . . WAYNE COUNTY CHAPTER continues to be busy in all areas. Received \$50.00 from the Youth Fellowship of the United Third Methodist Church of Sodus and \$550.00 from the Clyde Rotarians. Chapter's Annual Fund Drive brought in over \$5,000; a splendid undertaking . . . Had Assistant John Bertrand as Speaker at the Annual Dinner; am closing with news from our newest Chapter HERKIMER — Mrs. Clifford Perkins, new President writes, "we are happy to inform readers of OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE the following, Herkimer County now is a new Chapter of ARC. Just held first election of officers; already heading for near 50 membership; progress is underway for a summer day camp for this year; with the building being donated by the Girl Scouts . . . Village of Herkimer Rotary Club already has held a benefit play "Finian's Rainbow", with the proceeds going to the Chapter . . . Response all over the County is excellent for our new Chapter . . . Various organizations expressed their desire to help, before we officially became a Chapter . . . We welcome Herkimer and are looking forward to continued good news from this and other Chapters now and in the near future.

## MENTAL HEALTH BOARDS HEAR NEED OF MENTALLY RETARDED IN THE COMMUNITY

Less than 5 per cent of all the money spent in the State of New York on community services under the Community Mental Health Services Act of the Mental Hygiene Law is spent on the mentally retarded, said Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of the New York State Association for Retarded Children at the Annual meeting of the New York State Association of Community Mental Health Boards in Albany on Monday, May 26th, 1969.

"Under the law the State and the community are supposed to be partners. It is significant, however," said Mr. Weingold, "that of the community share of the funds 95 per cent is put up by local government and only 5 per cent by voluntary agencies for mental health, but the complete reverse is true for the mentally retarded where the voluntary agency such as the ARC put up 95 per cent of the matching money."

Mr. Weingold addressed the session at the invitation of Murray Thompson, President of the Mental Health Boards Association at an all day meeting reviewing the program under the Community Mental Health Services Act.

Mr. Weingold pointed out that in 1960 he was asked to make a similar talk to the Association of Mental Health Boards and that in reviewing the 1960 talk he could almost repeat it verbatim nine years later as to the needs of the mentally retarded.

Discussion after this talk brought out the fact that some of the Mental Health Boards felt that there was not enough communication between the Mental Health Boards and the Association for Retarded Children Chapters. Weingold suggested that an effort be made on the part of the Mental Health Board to get at least one member of the Board to be a member of an ARC chapter in that locality. He further urged the Board to get local government to put up local tax money as part of the matching funds for services as well as for construction.

"With the exception of the Al Sigl Center in Rochester," said Mr. Weingold, "only part of which is for mental retardation not a single county or city has built a single facility or spent 5 cents of its money for such building for the mentally retarded. On the other hand — millions of dollars have been spent by local government to construct mental health centers."

## A TINY BIT OF PROGRESS

The fantastic fact that a tiny bit of brain tissue the size of a pinhead, is being kept alive and "fed" in the laboratory at the Institute for Basic Research in Mental Retardation at Willowbrook is another indication of the wonders that have eventually become commonplace in our age.

A little more than a decade ago, the news that doctors at the U.S. Public Health Service Hospital were able to take a rib from a patient who suffered cancer of the jaw and keep it in refrigeration until he recovered sufficiently to have the rib implanted as a new jawbone was amazing news.

Since science has not only learned how to maintain life in tissue, but to transplant tissues of the most vital sort — hearts, lung, livers and kidneys, from one human to another.

Through keeping brain tissue alive, scientists at the Island Research Center may be able to ascertain what damage certain substances and certain conditions cause to the brain, and thus take another step on the way to cutting down the incidence of mental retardation one of the afflictions of humankind. And it may also be that in their experiments they will unlock other secrets that will avert or alleviate other brain damage as well.

## SHARP DECLINE IN STATE HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS

### APPLICANTS FOR STATE SCHOOLS CONTINUE TO RISE

Sharp declines in both admissions and total patient population were recorded last year at state hospitals operated by the Department of Mental Hygiene.

At the same time admissions and resident population at State schools for the mentally retarded declined, according to the Department of Mental Hygiene, but this does not take into consideration the fact that admissions have been cut off and that the waiting lists are growing at the rate of between 500 and 700 every year.

Figures released by the Department's Office of Statistical and Clinical Information Systems show admissions to State Hospitals (for the mentally ill) during the last fiscal year which ended March 31st at 39,907 compared with 44,073 during fiscal year 1967-1968, a drop of nearly 10 per cent.

During the period, according to Mr. Abbot Weinstein, Director of the Office of Statistical and Clinical Information Systems, State Hospital population decreased from 78,011 to 70,225, a drop of 7,286.

Commenting on the drop in admissions, Mr. Weinstein said it could partly be explained by the new Department policy which went into effect last year restricting geriatric admission to the State Hospitals for those elderly people with a need for the kind of psychiatric treatment and care provided best in a State Mental Hospital.

As a result of the new policy the number of geriatric admissions increased nearly 28 per cent or more than 2300 below the previous years admissions of over 65 patients.

As of March 31st the resident populations at schools for the mentally retarded operated by the Department totalled 26,726, a decrease of 626 or 2.3 per cent during the year.

Statistics, however, do not include how many were added to the waiting list.

## WEINGOLD SCHOLARSHIP TO GENESEÖ STUDENT

Mr. Thomas J. Stringing, a student at the State University College at Geneseo, will be the recipient of the Joseph T. Weingold Scholarship for the 1969-70 School Year.

A resident of Lynbrook, Long Island, Mr. Stringing was selected not only in view of his excellent recommendations, including one from a long-time member of our Livingston-Wyoming County Chapter, now an Associate Professor of Education at Geneseo, Mr. Arthur N. Gray, but because of his apparent interest in the field of mental retardation including volunteer work at Craig State School.

In addition to his volunteer work at Craig, Mr. Stringing works two hours a week as a tutor with an autistic child and participates in a special program for rural children which is held monthly in the area of the College.

In speaking on his qualifications for the Weingold Scholarship, Mr. Gray wrote, "Thomas is rather a brilliant student having received a cumulative point average much above the student average in the College. But beyond that, he shows signs of great interest and drive in the area of mental retardation. Thomas has done volunteer work in the field and has appeared to use every opportunity possible to acquaint himself with the needs of the handicapped and to offer his services where they are needed.

Mr. Stringing will begin receiving the award in the amount of \$125.00 per semester in the Fall of 1969 during his Junior and Senior Years.

Mr. Stringing joins Miss Jacqueline Scibetta of the State University College at Buffalo as the current recipient of the Weingold Scholarship. Miss Scibetta who was the 1968 winner will be receiving the last half of the Scholarship during her Senior Year beginning in the Fall of 1969.

## Rx FOR A WILLOWBROOK CHILD: FAMILY LOVE AND STIMULATION

We are taking the liberty of reprinting in full the following article in a Staten Island Advance by Maxine Sitts. We find it a most heartwarming and stimulating article.

"There are children who have never seen the moon or the stars and have never smelled a cake baking in a kitchen oven.

The clinical word for them is "underexposed," a term psychologists and social workers use when they talk about institutionalized youngsters.

When you experience a kid clinging to your legs two minutes after he's met you — a 6-year old who's spent the better part of his life in a home, a good home — that's when you realize that all the stuffed animals in the world can't make up for the lack of a family.

Foster home care can be the answer for many of these youngsters. No institution — no matter how top-rate — can replace a family situation.

Needing the stimulation and love that only a home can give are thousands of children at Willowbrook State School. Because they're retarded, the stimulation means more to them — more than just affection or comfort. Family life becomes a real learning process — a step in their drive to make the most of themselves.

Gerard O'Regan, head of Willowbrook's social services department, says many retarded children don't differ from "normal" children in a home environment.

"They're loving, warm. They have the same needs as other kids. But they lack intellect."

A big hangup in getting Island families to take on a retarded child, he says is the notion that retarded kids are basically "different".

They aren't, O'Regan contends.

"Whenever I hear someone remark that one of our children doesn't act retarded, I have to laugh," the director says. "There's no set way of acting retarded."

There are youngsters, unfortunately, whose retardation is so great and involves so many physical handicaps that they fare better in an institution.

But the largest number of Willowbrook children would fit nicely into a home, causing no more disruption than a "normal" child.

O'Regan's comments were aimed at recruiting Island homes for them. About 50 youngsters are in the community now, after being matched with families.

"With a patient population of 5,700, the possibilities for more placements are vast," he says.

The school pays \$150 a month per child and supplies all clothing and medical needs. Some children can be placed in a one-parent situation, O'Regan points out.

For the uncertain parent, Willowbrook offers a preliminary program. A family can "try out" a child for a day or a weekend at a time."

## STATE OWNED LAND TO SUFFOLK COUNTY CHAPTER

### GOVERNOR SIGNS BILL

Governor Rockefeller has signed a bill (S. 5472) giving the Commissioner of General Services permission to sell and convey to the New York State Association upon written consent of the Commissioner of Mental Hygiene, land in Suffolk County. The land consists of 3.2 acres owned by the State which is part of the land of the Suffolk State School.

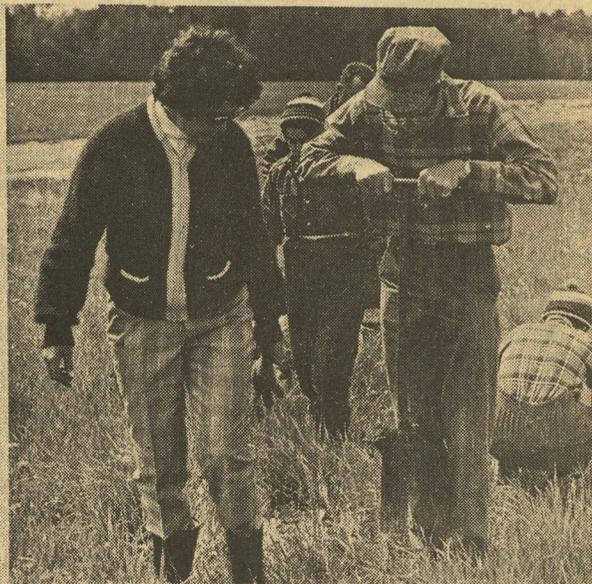
Subject to the approval of the Board of Governors of the New York State Association, the terms and conditions of such sale will be set with the Commissioner of General Services.

It is assumed that Suffolk County Chapter will plan construction of a mental retardation facility on this land.

## JOB TRAINING AT WILTON

State Departments of Mental Hygiene and Conservation are cooperating in a unique project designed to provide mentally retarded residents at Wilton State School with work training job experience.

The announcement was made by Lieutenant Governor and Acting Governor Malcolm Wilson that twenty-eight residents worked at the Saratoga State Tree Nursery, where 12 to 14 million seedlings are grown annually for reforestation around the State. They received four weeks of work experience, beginning April 10th and learned such things as how to remove soil from the seedlings and how to grade and bunch the small trees.



Working six hours a day, the 28 men and women, who ranged in age from 24 to 56 years, were paid the going salary for nursery workers of \$1.78 an hour. They deposited their paychecks in their own personal accounts at the school. From their salaries, they paid \$5.00 a week for transportation from the school to the nursery and back.

"This project demonstrates very effectively that mentally retarded individuals can learn and can hold jobs in the community if given the opportunity," Governor Wilson said.

"I hope other State agencies as well as private industries will join together to explore ways in which the mentally retarded and other handicapped individuals can be helped," he said.

So successful was the nursery project, he said, that plans are already underway to expand the program next spring.

Dr. Emanuel Rechter, director of Wilton State School, commented that the Conservation Department is also helping the school in a reforestation project. Eleven thousand seedlings will be planted on the grounds of the future site of the school. About 16 residents will participate in this project.

Wilton is located, ten miles North of Saratoga Springs. There are 400 residents at the school now.

It was recalled by our Executive Director that some years ago our Chautauqua County Chapter proposed a vocational rehabilitation project in Chautauqua for the mentally retarded around the project of reforestation. We could not get support then from the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation or other agencies in the State.

WATERTOWN — SEPT. 25 - 28

## HIP AT WORK IN 1968

Six institutions in New York State received grants for projects under the Hospital Improvement Program for institutions for the mentally retarded during the year 1968. Grants totalled almost \$600,000.

They included Craig Colony, Newark State School, Rome State School, Wassaic, West Seneca, and Willowbrook.

The Mental Retardation Hospital Improvement Program is a direct grant program specifically designed to stimulate improved services for the mentally retarded in State institutions by demonstrating innovative techniques which can be replicated in that institution or in others.

Public institutions for the mentally retarded are often isolated from the larger community, geographically and otherwise. This results in barriers to adequate staffing, communication, understanding, and acceptance by the community.

Fiscal resources are often restricted, which hampers the employment of adequate and properly trained personnel to staff the institution. Low salaries for direct-care personnel result in frequent staff turnover.

Huge institutional populations, housed in large, antiquated and understaffed buildings, have made it difficult to develop better methods of training and habilitation. ("Changing Patterns in Residential Services for the Mentally Retarded," President's Committee on Mental Retardation, Washington, D.C. 20201, Jan. 10, 1969.)

A recent report by the President's Committee on Mental Retardation states, "The dilemma of how to improve the Nation's institutions for the mentally retarded is a tough and tangled one. The essence of the problem is what to do about buildings, budgets, programs and populations that have existed in neglect and decay for many years with little or no thought being given to their needs by either State officials or the public".

Out of this dilemma came the HIP legislation to initiate assistance to State institutions in order to improve the plight of the mentally retarded residing in them.

All State institutions for the mentally retarded are eligible to apply for the maximum of \$100,000 per year for an accumulated total of ten years. Applications are submitted to two non-governmental review committees for judgments as to their relative quality, based on the appropriateness of the objectives of the project, innovativeness of the institution, appropriateness of the listed personnel, integration with the total institutional program, estimated cost, priority program need for that institution, and the plan for evaluation of the project.

These projects are not meant to meet all of the unmet needs of a given institution, but to concentrate on one high priority program area at a time, in order to establish an effective approach to that problem. An institution may have several HIP grants running concurrently so long as they total less than the maximum level (\$100,000 per year). It is expected that successful demonstrations in an institution will be further implemented by State monies so that other demonstrations can be devised.

The purpose of the HIP grants is to break through the traditional patterns of providing care by devising new patterns of service which:

... humanize, individualize, and make meaningful the care of the resident population;

... bring stature, skill, and pride to direct-care personnel staffing the institution;

... apply techniques and interventions which will increase the effectiveness of the training, education, and habilitation of the residents; and

... streamline administrative patterns, new modes of delivery of service and methods to effectively extend personnel ability and potential.

(Continued Next Column)

## COMMUNITY LEAGUE LUNCHEON HONORS GRUNBERG AND VOLUNTEERS.



L to R. Dr. Frederic Grunberg, Deputy Commissioner for Mental Retardation and Dr. George Etling, Director, Wassaic State School.



Mrs. Harriet H. Naylor, Director of Volunteer Services of the Department of Mental Hygiene, presents on behalf of Community League at their April luncheon, a special citation to Marjorie Young, Coordinator of Volunteer Services at the Wassaic State School, for the outstanding quality of her programs for community participation in the vicinity of the school. Mr. and Mrs. Sam Cook Digges approve.

### HIP (Continued)

Essentially these grants are being used to bring desperately needed personnel to the institution. These are people with special skills, fresh ideas, and a desire to help. In some cases, the grant adds a number of staff in a single profession, e.g., recreation therapists or clinical psychologists. In other cases, a multidisciplinary team of professional personnel is employed to implement the program.

The foci of grant activities vary greatly, based on the needs of the institution.

One of the most pressing needs felt by institutions today is for innovative habilitation programs for multiply-handicapped residents.

There are HIP programs designed to mobilize, motivate, and habilitate these handicapped residents. Grant monies are used to devise and individualize self-help devices, equipment, and appliances to expedite independence, prevent further handicapping conditions, and restore a feeling of self-worth to residents who have known only total dependency.

In one unique HIP program, a plastic surgeon was added to the staff's rehabilitation team. The faces of residents grossly disfigured from birth were reconstructed to the point where the residents were able to anticipate return to a community setting. The surgeon's skills were also used to make hands functional by removing deformities; he surgically reduced muscular contractures so that children could walk with a more normal gait.

In a large segment of the HIP programs, the skills of a variety of specialists have been called upon to awaken response in individuals who have been unstimulated for long periods of time, and to find effective means of communication with the mentally retarded who are hard of hearing, deaf, blind, or have other sensory and learning disabilities.

In the past four years HIP funds totaling \$20 million have been utilized by 90 of the 165 eligible State institutions for initiating innovative program services. These programs are setting new directions in the prevention of dehumanization, the stimulation of self-help skills, and habilitation for life outside the institutional gates.

## FILM ON INSTITUTIONALIZED RETARDED WINS AWARD

A film on institutionalized retarded persons won the Blue Ribbon Award in the Mental Health category at the 1969 American Film Festival held at the New York Hilton Hotel, New York City, May 13-17. The American Film Festival is the largest 16 mm. film festival in the U.S. and the Blue Ribbon Award given in over 30 categories, is to the 16 mm. field what the Academy Award is to the 35 mm. field.

The film, "A Way Out of the Wilderness", shows the care and training given retarded persons at two institutions — one a small private institution (the Christian Home in Columbus, Mo.) and the other a large state facility (Plymouth State in Michigan).

This film is produced by John Sutherland Productions, distributed by the Division of Mental Retardation, Department of Health, Education and Welfare, 4040 N. Fairfax Drive, Arlington, Va. 22203. The narrator is Lorne Greene of "Bonanza" fame.

Mr. LeRoy S. McMorris, a member of the Benevolent Society for Retarded Children — Willowbrook Chapter of the ARC and a former Vice-President and member of the Board of Directors of that organization, who attended the American Film Festival as a juror in a different category and who has had review published in "Film News" magazine, says of the film:

"'A Way Out of the Wilderness' is a very powerful look at what has been too often the fate of retarded persons in large institutions, the changes taking place in the institutions, and what institutions should be. The focussing on individual persons — a blind retardate, a retardate moved from a large institution to the one at Columbus, a cheerful wheel-chair bound retardate — heightens the drama and effectiveness of this truly great half-hour film on the institutionalized retarded.

Mr. McMorris praised the fact that of the films reaching the Festival in the Mental Health category were on the retarded, and, filmwise, of such high quality. He pointed out, however, that mental retardation and mental health are not the same. Mr. James Warren of the National Association of Mental Health concurred and said that he would recommend that beginning next year the American Film Festival have a separate category for film on mental retardation.

## SOMEBODY ELSE CARES

A "Ray of Sunshine" has brightened the lives of mentally retarded children at Sunmount State Hospital near Lake Placid.

Thanks to the efforts of their chaplain, Rabbi Selig Auerbach, and the "Ray of Sunshine" project of the Lake Placid Lions Club, the children enjoy cookies, crackers, books, toys and clothing donated by people from 12 States.

The program began almost a year ago when Rabbi Auerbach spoke to the Lions Club about "the need to demonstrate to children at Sunmount that someone cared." Since then, cash contributions and gifts have exceeded \$2,600.

The Lake Placid Central School home economics class and Future Nurses group make a monthly contribution of cookies and other goodies. The Kiwanis Club endorsed the project by sending the children a carton of candy every month. And a wholesale bakery in Plattsburgh, the Bouyea Baking Co.; donates 30 dozen doughnuts every other month.

The Lions Club secretary, Ralph Gellner, who has contributed much to the success of the program, has received a letter of commendation from President Nixon. Others who have expressed interest include Governor Rockefeller, Representative Carlton King of Saratoga Springs, the President's Committee on Mental Retardation on behalf of former President Johnson, Representative Robert McEwen of Ogdensburg, the Essex County Chapter, Association for Retarded Children, Senator Ronal Stafford and Assemblyman Glen H. Harris, Canada Lake

## CAPITOL FLAG FOR SCHENECTADY COUNTY CHAPTER



**Rocco Matricardi, a student at the Vocational Rehabilitation Facility, 819 Kings Road, Rotterdam, raises a flag sent to the facility by Mrs. Hubert Humphrey, wife of the former Vice President. The flag flew for one day above the U.S. Capitol at Washington.**

## HERKIMER IN — FRANKLIN, ORLEANS SOON

At the meeting of the Board of Governors of the State Association on May 3rd, our 53rd Chapter, Herkimer County, was admitted to the Association. While this adds another Chapter to the Association, it does not increase the territory covered as the County had formerly been a part of the Oneida-Herkimer combination.

The need of a Chapter in areas such as Herkimer was highlighted by Executive Director Joseph T. Weingold in his report to the Board of Governors in the Fall of 1968, at which time, he pointed out that although, many of our Chapters feel that they are doing a good job of servicing their territory, we still receive many requests at the State office, sometimes from outlying areas of Counties with major cities, and other times from those portions of dual County Chapters where the Chapter headquarters is not located, where parents are in complete consternation as to where to turn for help, indicating rather clearly that more work needs to be done in the area of public relations and for parent information.

Herkimer County Chapter has held their first Annual Election and Mrs. Leona Perkins of Dolgeville, New York, has been elected President, succeeding Mrs. Squire S. Kaye of Little Falls, who had served as Temporary Chairman of the group since its pre-organizational meetings last Fall. The new group is actively engaged in trying to begin a program, most likely for a post-school age group, within the County.

In other developments, requests have been received from two new areas for the possibility of forming Chapters. On June 17th, Assistant to the Executive Director John W. Bertrand, met with a new group in Franklin County for a pre-organizational meeting, at which time, it was decided that they would proceed to organize a Chapter. It is anticipated that the group will be ready to consider admission to the State Association by the Fall Meeting of the Board.

A second meeting was scheduled on June 23rd, at which time, an already existing parent's group in Orleans County will consider entering the Association.

## MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMEN, YOU'RE TERRIFIC

The above headline should very well reflect the attitude of the chapters of the Association in response to what has probably been the most outstanding year for membership we have had. Chapters of the Association under the guidance of a number of excellent membership chairman have already submitted membership of 21,947 members, a gain of 1100 over the 1968-1969 final figure. This splendid increase is based on first membership reports, with four chapters still not reported as of this writing, and of course many names would be added along the way.

The outstanding efforts of the year were turned in by Madison County Chapter, Mr. A. Strauss, Chairman, which showed an increase of 222 per cent in membership, Nassau County (Mrs. Dorothy Ganin) and Suffolk County (no chairman) turned in the greatest numerical increases, 320 and 314 members respectively. Another outstanding effort was from Monroe County which topped the 1000 member figure for the first time.

The listing of chapters acquiring 100 per cent of their membership goal follows:

CHAPTER	NUMBER INCREASED	% OF GOAL
MADISON	86	222%
JEFFERSON	82	146
CHAUTAUQUA	103	139
ST. LAWRENCE	189	138
ALBANY	98	134
MONTGOMERY	28	132
RENSSELAER	93	128
BENEVOLENT SOCIETY	226	122
SUFFOLK	314	117
COLUMBIA	57	114
MONROE	186	109
COMMUNITY LEAGUE	53	107
NASSAU	320	103
ROCKLAND	34	103
NIAGARA	68	100
WELFARE LEAGUE	92	100

## \$5,000 GIFT TO CLINTON COUNTY CHAPTER

A gift of \$5,000 from the Roman Catholic Diocese of Ogdensburg has been given to the Clinton County Chapter of the Association for Retarded Children.

The Rev. Joseph Aubin, Director of the Plattsburgh office of Catholic Charities made the presentation recently to Gilbert Duken, President of the Association, during special ceremonies at the Clinton County Sheltered Workshop on Pine Street.

The New York State Council of the Knights of Columbus has allocated a total of \$500,000 to be used during the next ten years for programs benefitting retarded children.

The \$5,000 gift is part of a \$10,000 grant given to Bishop Stanislaus J. Brzana of the Diocese of Ogdensburg by the Council. It was the Bishop who decided that half of the grant would go to the Association for Retarded Children in Clinton County.

The State Council of the Knights of Columbus will be giving yearly grants to the eight dioceses of the State of New York.

Rather than establish a program for the retarded in the Diocese of Ogdensburg, Bishop Brzana decided to transfer the grant to full-time programs for the retarded in Clinton and St. Lawrence counties.

Attending the presentation were John West, Executive Director of the Association and John Kourofsky, and Albert LaFountain, both district deputies of the Knights of Columbus.

## A BUS FOR SUFFOLK COUNTY



Mr. John Lucas, representing the North Fork Auxiliary, Suffolk Association for Retarded Children presents note to Mr. Reginald Minor, President, Board of Directors of Suffolk County Chapter. The cancelled note represents full payment of \$5,865 for a 24 adult passenger bus financed by concerned North Fork residents through the North Fork Auxiliary.

## VOC.-REHAB. FOR RESIDENTS OF WASSAIC STATE SCHOOL

Mildly retarded residents of Wassaic State School will soon be offered a new opportunity to relate their aptitudes, skills and interests to realistic vocational objectives, Governor Rockefeller announced recently.

Contracts have been awarded and work is under way on a \$348,689 project to provide a vocational training center for 50 retarded adult males at the Valatie Colony unit of Wassaic State School at Valatie, Columbia County. Valatie is 25 miles South of Albany.

The goal of the Valatie Colony Vocational Training Center is to prepare each trainee to take his place as a contributing member of society. The program will teach vocational skills and the necessary related social and personal skills. Work situations that will prepare the trainee for gainful employment may include contract work for nearby manufacturers and assisting selected apple growers in harvesting their apples. In addition, selected trainees will be offered instruction in preparing and serving food in anticipation of jobs as cooks and waiters at hotels and restaurants.

In another aspect of their training, the retardates will be responsible for the housekeeping chores of their living units. They will be taught to use standard laundry equipment, and will do their own laundry using this equipment.

The training center will be operated by the Department of Mental Hygiene.

In commenting on this, Mr. Thomas Coughlin, Chairman of the ARC Vocational Rehabilitation Committee, said, "we wonder whether the State Department of Mental Hygiene attempted to explore the involvement of the community in the vocational training of these youngsters."

"Many question arise," he continued "about the involvement of the State facilities in contract work for manufacturers and industry in the community. This may be a direct competition with the existing rehabilitation workshops serving the handicapped in the State. It would seem to me that this was a golden opportunity to develop a community workshop in the area."

"It is interesting to note," he continued, "that although \$350,000 is available for such a center, it is difficult if not impossible to get equal sums from the State for community facilities for vocational rehabilitation of the mentally retarded."

## HONORS CONTINUE FOR BRUCE SHAW

Readers of OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE will recall an article in our last issue, indicating that Bruce Shaw, a 16-year-old resident of Willowbrook State School, was the winner of second place, in the Northeast Region of NARC, in the National Christmas Card Design Contest for mentally retarded individuals.

With his design one of those being entered in the National Finals by virtue of his second place finish in the Regional, Bruce was awarded second place nationally in the competition.

Having won second place, Bruce's design will be one of those on the Christmas Cards which will be made available by the National Association for Retarded Children for their Christmas Card Fund-Raising Promotion this year.

And as for Bruce? By this time he should be fairly well inundated under the series of awards which he will have received. Not only will he have the pleasure of knowing that his design was shown to many Americans on the "Today" Show on television and was on display at the National Society of Illustrators in New York City, and hopefully, will be available at the NARC Convention in Miami, but he should receive an embossed Certificate of Recognition as a State Winner from NARC, a trophy with a kit of artist's supplies as a Regional winner from NARC, plus a \$50.00 United States Savings Bond as the second place winner nationally, from NARC. In addition, as one of our State winners, Bruce was presented with a \$25.00 Savings Bond from the New York State ARC, at the Luncheon of the Benevolent Society, Willowbrook Chapter, in May. The presentation was made by Chairman of the Scholarship and Awards Committee, Mrs. Evelyn Weisenfeld, a State Board Member from Willowbrook.

We understand that the National Association is making plans to get information out on the Christmas Card Design Contest much earlier for the 1970 Competition. In speaking on behalf of the New York State ARC, President James F. Reville said "We think that it is marvelous that the talents of the youngster in a state institution can be recognized in this way. We are, of course, thrilled that a resident of New York did so well in the National Competition. We hope this will be a spur to ARC'S all over the State and that the 1970 competition, will find many more entries coming in and a repeat winner from New York."

## PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE HANDICAPPED

In April of 1969 President Nixon issued two documents relating to Federal Government policy with regard to the handicapped.

The first, dated April 18, 1969, urged a greater effort by the Federal Government in employing the handicapped.

In this document he urged all Civil Service Departments "to make a commitment to remove any remaining barriers to the Federal employment of the mentally retarded who can demonstrate ability to perform the simple and routine tasks that need doing in all organizations, regardless of size."

The second document dealt with the establishment of the Office of Child Development and the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare and is dated April 9, 1969.

In this he stated, "I called for a national commitment to provide all American children an opportunity for healthful and stimulating development during the first five years of life." To effect this, the program of Headstart has been delegated to the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The second step is the creation of an Office of Child Development reporting directly to Secretary Finch's office.

## OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER HONORED BY NASSAU



Mrs. H. E. Schueler of Great Neck, (second from left), chairman of the 11th Annual Spring Luncheon and Fashion Show for the benefit of the Nassau County Chapter, is pictured with (l. to r.) singing star Allan Jones; guest of honor Mrs. Charles Merinoff and stage star Robert Alda, who was Master of Ceremonies at the event. Recognition for her outstanding devotion to retarded children was expressed in the original sculpture presented by the Nassau County Chapter to Mrs. Merinoff and sculptured by Chapter Member Monte Beldin. One thousand Nassau County women, members and friends of AHRC attended the glamour packed event on March 24 in the grand ballroom of the New York Hilton to see the latest in fashion from Geoffrey Been, Seymour Fox, John Moore, Pauline Trigere, Zelinka-Matlick, Chester Weinberg, Malcolm Starr and others. A special showing of furs featured the newest designs by master furriers Kahn Bros. & Pinto.

## THE FIRST FOUR HUNDRED

The following highlight of information was gleaned from placement enclosure forms returned to the Office of the On-The-Job-Training Program of NARC by January 20, 1969.

It analyses the first 400 placed under this project.

Age — ranged from 16 to 57 with 54 per cent being 19 years or younger at time of placement

Sex — 71 per cent males; 29 per cent females

I.Q. — recognizing the limitation of an IQ figure: 5 per cent of total 50 or below; 47 per cent of total 69 or below; 85 per cent of total 79 or below

Other — 29 per cent had other handicaps; 42 per cent had workshop experience; 11 per cent were welfare recipients; 39 per cent were previously employed; 15 per cent were primary wage earners; 6 per cent were heads of households

Number Completing Training — about 2/3rds completed ten weeks of training and were employed; 1/4th of those who didn't complete training were terminated for reasons not related to trainee's capability as an employee.

## STATE CONVENTION — IT'S FOR YOU

— SEPT. 25 - 28 —

## AID TO HANDICAPPED URGED BY OUTGOING PERSONNEL

### FEDERAL BUDGETS FOR RETARDATION POSE INCREASES

Among Secretary Wilbur Cohen's last reports to Congress was one recommending that Medicare be extended to the disabled. The recommendation was based on a report of the Council on Medicare for the Disabled, which has been authorized by the 90th Congress.

Even more important than this is a report of Secretary of Labor, Wirtz, to Congress in late 1967 recommending that the wages earned by handicapped individuals in workshops be supplemented by federal grants to bring them up to specified minimum. This recommendation was a part of a report on the effects of the amendments to the Wage and Hours legislation specifying minimums for handicapped workers.

The estimated appropriation for the year 1970 show approximately a \$9 million increase for the mentally retarded. In the area of research there are only \$126,000 it is estimated was spent in 1969, and only \$126,000 again will be appropriated, it is predicted.

The total of \$8,972,000 for hospital improvement remains the same for both years, 1969 and 1970. Rehabilitation service grants, however, increased from zero to \$4½ million, community service facilities construction from \$6 million to \$8,031,000 and initial staffing from \$8,358,000 to \$12 million.

Construction of university affiliated facilities from \$9,100,000 in 1969 is not included in the 1970 budget pending evaluation of the program. In spite of this decrease of \$9,100,000 there is over a \$10 million increase in mental retardation programs.

Although this is inadequate, said Mr. James F. Reville, President of the NYS Association for Retarded Children, it certainly represents a forward movement in the thinking for such programs.

It is to be noted these budgets are for mental retardation specifically, and do not include the other services for the retarded under vocational rehabilitation, rehabilitation, research and training, as well as other related programs. The President's Committee on Mental Retardation is having its budget upped, on a tentative basis from \$580,000 to \$602,000.

Senator Yarborough of Texas succeeds Senator Lister Hill as chairman of the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare. Mr. Yarborough will also head the Subcommittee on Health, which is a subcommittee which ordinarily handles rehabilitation and closely related legislation.

## BROOME COUNTY SITE FINALLY CHOSEN FOR STATE SCHOOL

A 500 bed State school for the mentally retarded will be built in the Town of Dickinson, Gov. Nelson Rockefeller announced.

The possibility of this site was reported in our last issue of *Our Children's Voice*.

Peter Knauss, a site affairs specialist with the State Department of Mental Hygiene, said construction at the site probably will begin in the Spring of 1971.

The announcement placed the cost of the facility at \$13 million, substantially more than earlier estimates. Occupancy is expected by late 1973 or early 1974, the statement added.

The State school will serve the counties of Broome, Chenango, Delaware, Otsego, Tioga, and Tompkins which are presently served by the Rome State School. The school provides services close to the population it serves and at the same time will reduce overcrowding at Rome.

## STATE LAGS SERIOUSLY IN COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR M.R.

### EUROPEAN VISIT REVEALS

Community Mental Retardation Services must be expanded if New York State is to make further progress in meeting its obligations to retarded persons, according to a group of authorities from the Department of Mental Hygiene who recently took a comparative look at European services for the retarded.

The group said, "The deep-seated concern that strikes home all the more after the visits abroad is that we are seriously lagging in the very area we stress is the key to planning — that is, in the development of community services beyond the residential institutions."

As matters now stand in New York State, it is reported, "We must be concerned with maintaining the balance between the development of institutional programs and community programs if we are to fulfill the recommendations" of the State mental retardation plan with its emphasis upon the community as the key to services for the mentally retarded. It concluded that "we will not make the intended and needed progress in meeting our obligations to the retarded . . . unless government, Federal, State and local, meet the costs of community mental retardation services fully as the State has met institutional costs."

The three-week trip to Denmark, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom was financed by a grant from the Association for the Aid of Crippled Children.

After observing facilities of the mentally retarded, the group headed by Charles I. McAllister, Assistant Commissioner, Division of Mental Retardation in the Department made four significant points in his report:

The National governments of two of the countries (Denmark and Holland) completely finance local community as well as residential program. In New York State, local government must meet in the main, half the costs of local programs. The development of community programs in New York State has been seriously impeded by the failure of most local governments to provide sufficient matching local tax funds for mental retardation.

There is a growing trend in the three European countries toward using residential institutions for temporary periods of intensive treatment and the coincident use of hostels, or community residences, to allow the retarded to live in the community.

Sheltered workshops are widely used in the European countries to provide the mentally retarded with therapy and a chance to earn money. In New York State, workshops have not been developed to the extent they are needed.

The Europeans place great emphasis on living quarters within the institution and in the community, which give the residents a homelike and humanized atmosphere.

The group noted that the extensive community services that have been developed in Denmark and the Netherlands over the past decade could only have been realized "because the National government was prepared to meet all costs".

Mr. James F. Reville, President of the New York State Association for Retarded Children took issue with some of the conclusions, especially funding aspects of programs: noted that although the State was willing to spend millions of dollars on the construction of new institutions for the mentally retarded, it was most niggardly in the amount of money it is willing to put up for community services.

It goes without saying that the Federal government has been most niggardly, said Mr. Reville, in the money it has allocated. Everyone is pointing the finger at everyone else like the old tweed ring saying he is guilty. In my opinion, no segment of government is putting up nearly enough money for what is needed in the community, has buried its head in the sand of institutional construction of questionable design and value."

# SKY-HIGH FASHION SHOW FOR RETARDED

## CLIPPED WINGS OVER NIAGARA FALLS

Niagara Falls figured in a recent fashion show, sky-high one. Residents of the area didn't know about it, and unfortunately those attending the flying fashion show couldn't see Niagara Falls for the cumulus clouds.



Members of Clipped Wings, United Air Lines Stewardess Alumnae Organization were models at the Flying Fashion Show — from New York to Niagara Falls and return. High-in-the-sky models found the quarters were rather crowded.

But it was a novel idea for a fund-raising event. The two-hour trip from LaGuardia Airport to Niagara Falls and back was sponsored by the New York Chapter of Clipped Wings, stewardess alumnae organization of United Air Lines.

During the trip former stewardesses modeled mostly cotton dresses and pants outfits from Bonwit Teller, in the up-to-\$75 range.

At \$15 a person, the 84 guests on the noon flight were entitled to luncheon of champagne and filet mignon. On a later flight guests were served only champagne and hors d'oeuvre.

According to Mrs. Alvin Napack, President of the New York Chapter of Clipped Wings, proceeds of a series of flights should bring about \$2,000 for the group's charity, the Association for the Help of Retarded Children, New York City Chapter. She said the only major expense was to United for the use of the Boeing 727 tri-jet for the flights.

Four models said they felt "in home territory" as they tripped down the narrow aisle, neatly side-stepping working stewardesses serving filet mignon.

Nationally, the alumnae association has about 2,500 former stewardess members.

Of the 84 guests on the first flight, one was a man, a sales engineer. And apparently he came as a one-man fashion show — he was wearing a home-made medallion decorated with nuts, bolts, screws, safety pin, paper clip and a soft drink bottle cap.

# BATTLE OF THE BANDS IN SUFFOLK



A dance sponsored recently by the Math Club of Newfield High School in Selden added up to \$185 for the Suffolk Association for Retarded Children. Shown here at the presentation of the check are, left to right, from Newfield High School Math Club, Faculty Adviser Mrs. Eleanor Heisler of Centereach, and student members Michael Foy, Vice-President; Theresa Spena, President, and Helen Shrader, Treasurer, all of Centereach. Accepting the check for the Association for Retarded Children is Mrs. Rochelle Schermer, the Director of Community Relations.

## RATING THE MENTALLY RETARDED

(From the April 1969 report of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped).

Here's a rating scale for you to measure your own attitudes toward the retarded as compared with the non-retarded. For each pair of characteristics (weak-strong, ugly-beautiful, etc.), put a dot where you would place the retarded and a star where you would place the non-retarded.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Weak								Strong
Ugly								Beautiful
Inferior								Superior
Insane								Sane
Cruel								Kind
Useless								Useful
Dirty								Clean
Ignorant								Educated

Now compare your attitudes with those of a sampling of 900 Minnesota residents in a study conducted by the Minnesota Department of Public Welfare and the Minnesota Association for Retarded Children:

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Weak				•	*			Strong
Ugly				•	*			Beautiful
Inferior			•		*			Superior
Insane				•				Sane
Cruel				•		*		Kind
Useless			•			*		Useful
Dirty				•		*		Clean
Ignorant			•		*			Educated

One-half believed the retarded look differed from others; two-thirds felt the retarded could learn to lead normal lives; one-fifth confused mental retardation with other mental and physical disabilities. Most got their information about the retarded from TV; personal contacts ranked second; newspapers, third. Special pamphlets and direct mail hardly rated at all.

"SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER"

— 25 - 28 STATE CONVENTION

## ASSOCIATION MAKES AWARDS TO JAYCEES

At the Annual Convention of the New York State Jaycees, which was held in Buffalo, New York on May 24th, the New York State ARC awarded two Community Service Awards to local Chapters of the New York State Jaycees.

The Award, sponsored by the National Association for Retarded Children, is to go to the Jaycee Unit in each State which has shown an outstanding effort for a project which will be of far reaching impact, and long range development, on behalf of the mentally retarded.

Mrs. Evelyn Weisenfeld, Chairman of the Association's Scholarship and Awards Committee, worked diligently with Mr. James A. Labenski, Chairman of the Mental Retardation Committee of the New York State Jaycees to gather the various Jaycee Units Records and Recognition Forms, on which the Jaycee locals outlined their projects.

The Scholarship and Awards Committee gave the various entrants close scrutiny, but in the end, were unable to choose between the work which had been done by the North Syracuse Jaycees on behalf of a building program for our Onondaga County Chapter, and the Utica Jaycees on behalf of work for which also had been done on a building project for our Oneida County Chapter.

"The similarity between the two forms was quite amazing", said Mrs. Weisenfeld, "both groups really had put forth many man hours and had goals that were quite similar both in terms of dollars which they hoped to raise, and the effect that it would have upon their respective communities . . . It really seemed that to choose just one would have been to do the other a great disservice."

Under the circumstances it was the decision of the Scholarship and Awards Committee that the New York State ARC should make dual awards to the Utica and No. Syracuse groups. The two awards were presented to Mr. Labenski by Assistant to the Executive Director John W. Bertrand at the Jaycees Convention in Buffalo, and Mr. Labenski in turn, presented the Awards to representatives of the respective Jaycee Units.

## SCHENECTADY TEACHER CITED BY COLLEAGUES

Professional colleagues of Mrs. Victoria Colton, Special Education Teacher at the Oneida Junior High School, have established the Victoria Colton Fund in recognition of her teaching service. The fund will be used to give an annual award to the Oneida Junior High School special education graduating student.

The fund was presented to Mrs. Colton by Mrs. Jayne B. Rycheck, Director of Special Education for the Schenectady City Schools on January 15th. The fund will be administered by Mrs. Rycheck and Oneida Junior High School Principal, John Murtha.

Mrs. Colton began her teaching career in Schenectady in 1945 and since 1946 she has been in special education. Twenty-two years have been at Oneida Junior High School. She has been active in the Council for Exceptional Children and served as co-chairman in the New York State Teacher's Association Zone Section on Exceptional Children.

## OUT ON THE TOWN

### WATERTOWN

## JAYCEE BOWLING TOURNEY FOR RETARDED



Charles Fuller, left, chairman of the Middletown Jaycees' Handicap Bowling Tournament, and Dennis Ruppert, right, Second Vice President of the Jaycees, discuss plans for the tourney with Ed Tangney, Director of the Association for the Help of Retarded Children, to which proceeds of the tournament will be donated.

## NATIONAL MENTAL RETARDATION INFORMATION AND RESOURCE CENTER RECOMMENDED

An HEW Secretary's task force, following a year-long study of a President's Committee on Mental Retardation 1967 report recommendation that a national mental retardation information and resource center be established, has found that such a center is feasible and should be developed.

The proposed center, which the task force suggested be established in the office of the HEW Secretary, "must stimulate free exchange among existing information activities, improve the resources and activities of related information centers, and develop a nationwide network for mental retardation information."

Other task force recommendations called for the center to be advised by a board of regents whose members are "sensitive to the information needs of the mental retardation community" and to maintain close liaison with mental retardation programs, both public and private, at national, state and local levels. A 3-5 years development period, with periodic evaluation of effectiveness, was suggested.

The President's Committee on Mental Retardation pointed out, however, that its original recommendation had been for a center developed as a public-private partnership. At present trends toward greater involvement of private organizations and individuals in human service activities make exploration of partnership possibilities with private companies and foundations even more timely today. The Committee's information center work group chaired by Patrick J. Doyle, M.D. has several possibilities under study.

A system of information and referral centers for the State of New York was proposed in 1967 by the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental and Physical Handicap. In fact, a bill to this effect was introduced by Senator Conklin but did not receive administration support.

The Association for Retarded Children backs unreservedly the idea of such centers but questions very strongly whether they can be implemented. The basis for such implementation is a public-private partnership. In the opinion of the Association it should be one or the other.

The Association also recommends that any Board of Regents or Board that controls such a Center should include the representatives of the consumers of the services not just those "sensitive to the information needs of the mental retardation community", whatever that means.

## KISS FOR PLAYMATE OF THE MONTH



When Mayor Sidney Sakofsky proclaimed "Wanna Help A Bunny" Day for the Junior Association for Retarded of Orange County, he received a pair of love beads and a kiss from Charlene Byrne and a proclamation from JAR designating him as "Playmate of the Month".

## MOTHER'S NUTRITION AFFECTS CHILD'S IQ?

Malnutrition in a pregnant woman may endanger the mental development of a child, research at the National Institute of Health suggests.

Three types of circumstantial evidence have been found, which indicate that a mother's nutritional problems may be adversely reflected in her child's IQ.

The evidence was described during a briefing by scientists of the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness, a unit of the National Institute of Health.

The Institute manages a huge research study, usually called the prenatal project, in which about 60,000 American women have been studied through pregnancy. Their children are now being studied and tested periodically, a process that will continue through their seventh year at least.

The purpose is to determine some of the causes of birth defects, mental retardation, and problems of the central nervous system. The study is believed to be the largest and most thorough of its kind ever attempted.

The evidence concerning IQ described recently has emerged from portions of the huge overall study. Dr. John A. Churchill, a visiting scientist at the Institute, said it was preliminary, but worthy of further attention.

One set of observations concerned mothers who had diabetes. Some of these showed a chemical abnormality suggesting nutritional problems. On the average their children showed IQ's nearly 10 points below those of other, closely comparable, diabetic mothers who did not show the chemical characteristic. The characteristic, Dr. Churchill said, was that of excreting a chemical called acetone — a breakdown product of protein and fat. Any person put on a starvation diet even briefly will begin to excrete acetone as his body begins to break down its own protein and fat to supply energy needs.

The third line of evidence concerned women who had been given an antibiotic during pregnancy. The drug may have affected the bacteria in their digestive tracts. Their children showed IQ's higher than those of comparable women not so treated.

## NORMAL CHILDREN AND RETARDATEES IN INTEGRATED GROUPS

### VALUES QUESTIONED

In an article in the April issue of *Social Work Journal* of the National Association of Social Workers, David R. Preininger, Program Director, Bethesda; United Presbyterian Church Community Center, Pittsburgh, Penn., raises a question regarding the use of integrated groups, consisting of mentally retarded and normal children. The purpose of the study in which these questions are raised is to see whether previous conclusions from such integration were valid.

For example, attitudes and the reactions of normal children in integrated groups were reported in the proceedings of the 1963 Institute conducted by the New York City Chapter of the Association as follows: "The initial reactions of the normal children were reported to be fear, curiosity, derision and pity . . . derision was quickly passed. The feeling of pity for the retarded lingered on . . .

"Regarding the effect of the retarded group on the normal group, the word 'indifferent' came up in most responses. (Tolerance and indifference were seen as synonymous) . . . Friendship did not develop." Of the groups studied were a woodshop group, a cooking class, crafts class, game room group, and club group. They were comprised of both boys and girls, ages 8-12.

Two main conclusions were drawn from the data: (1) Although curiosity, derision, and pity on the part of the normal children toward the retarded members were present in the earlier stages of the group's life these gradually diminished. (2) When the group had been together for a longer period of time the normal children became indifferent toward the mentally retarded members, or came to tolerate their presence in the groups.

After the first few meetings the normal children became aware that the retarded members could not function at their level and they saw no reason to slow themselves down or to curtail their activities for the benefit of the handicapped group members. They moved along with their programs without regard for whether the retarded kept up, paying attention only when he held the group back.

It is interesting to note that in projects such as craft class, cooking class, and wood working group, individual projects were initiated, the final product of which did not depend to any great extent on what any other group member was doing. In the game room and club group, however, the activities demanded that the members help each other. For instance, in a hockey game the retarded member was unable to understand the game and function fast enough, which meant that at times he would be a handicap to his team.

The type of group is therefore important to the relationship the retarded child will have in the group.

The conclusions discussed raised questions regarding the use of integrated groups. It must be asked whether it is enough simply to expect indifference toward or tolerance of the retarded group member, or whether programs should not be designed to deal more specifically with the attitudes and reactions that will appear in these groups. The role of the worker in integrated groups needs careful consideration to see what part he might or should play in helping the retarded member to become more than just tolerated. This holds great implications for the professional worker with these groups and for agencies serving the mentally retarded.

protection of public and that care and treatment can be effectively administered to defendant without necessity of such order.

**Health Insurance — Mentally Retarded and Physically Handicapped** — S. 2718 Gordon; A. 4913 Harris (Veto message No. 106) To amend Sections 164, 221, and 253 of the Insurance Law by requiring health and accident carriers to include in any family or group policy any unmarried child of the member who is incapable of self-sustaining employment by reason of mental retardation or physical handicap, whether such child is under or over the age of 19.

The veto message on the Insurance bill states that this bill will be considered favorably when redrafted with the Department of Insurance to meet technical objections.

In addition, as previously reported, the Governor signed — S. 4787 A. Rules; A. 6502 McCloskey (Chapter 1034, Laws of 1969) this bill permits non-profit corporations to borrow community share for construction from the Household Finance Corporation.

S. 4790 Rules; A. 6514 McCloskey (Chapter 1033, Laws of 1969) this bill provides that the Health and Mental Hygiene Facilities Improvement Corporation may itself construct such facilities approved by the Commissioner of Mental Hygiene and contract with voluntary agencies for the operation of the services.

S. 3712 B Donovan (Chapter 513, Laws of 1969) opens up the possibility of hostels for the mentally ill as well as the mentally retarded.

S. 5472 Rules (Chapter 931, Laws of 1969) authorizes the State to sell certain lands on the grounds of Suffolk State School to the Suffolk County Chapter.

Of the 17 bills introduced to the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental and Physical Handicap six were passed, three signed and three were vetoed.

The following bills of the program failed to pass: S. 2758 Niles; A. 5066 Mercorella (not reported out in either House).

#### **Architectural Barriers**

To amend the Public Buildings Law by adding a new article 4 requiring buildings of the state, public authorities, municipalities, or state or municipal aided, to be so constructed as to give access and facilities to handicapped persons, and to amend Section 374 Executive Law to require state building construction code to be amended accordingly. S. 2789 Conklin; A. 5063 McCloskey (not reported out in either House)

#### **Special Education, State Aid for Special Classes**

To amend Section 3602 Education Law by providing for weighting of average daily special class attendance by factors adjusted to pupil-teacher relationship.

S. 2717 Gordon; A. 4927 Kelleher (not reported out in either House)

#### **Mentally Retarded on State-School Waiting List**

To amend Section 22, subdivision 2, Mental Hygiene Law by allowing Commissioner in case of overcrowding to refer mental defectives of all ages to a designated hospital, institution, school, or other facility at state expense. Appropriates \$180,000.

S. 2672 Griffin; A. 4973 Mercorella (not reported out in either House)

#### **Physically Handicapped Persons**

To amend the Social Services Law by adding a new section 310 authorizing the Commissioner to aid for transportation to and from work to the extent of \$1500 per annum employed handicapped persons unable to use public transportation, whose income is unreasonably affected by transportation expense.

S. 2785 Adams; A. 5057 Gunning (not reported out in either House)

#### **Handicapped Persons**

To amend sections 210, 192a, 219-rr-1, 351-j, Tax Law by providing for additional credit against tax of 4½ per cent to any employer habilitating a handicapped person for employment.

(Continued Next Column)

S. 2719 Gordon; A. 4964 Mercorella (passed the Assembly, not reported out in the Senate)

#### **Life Insurance for Mentally Retarded**

Amends Section 209, Insurance Law, to provide that no life insurance company doing business in state nor savings and insurance bank, shall reject application for life insurance policy issued and sold by it, and to provide for death benefits in such sums as together with other insurance upon life of proposed insured, shall not exceed \$2,500 or refuse to issue such policy, nor reduce fees or commissions of agents, solely because proposed insured be mentally retarded person; makes other changes to prevent discrimination.

S. 2760 Ohrenstein; A. 5058 Harris (not reported in either House)

#### **Special Education, Article 89 Education Law**

To amend Section 3602 of the Education Law by providing for state-aid to approved experimental programs of school districts for the admission of handicapped children between age 2 and the age of normal compulsory attendance of ordinary kindergarten.

S. 2731 Niles; A. 4928 Kelleher (reported in the Senate and recommitted. Not reported in the Assembly)

#### **Community Mental Health — Appeals to Commissioner**

Amends Section 190-c, Mental Hygiene Law, to provide that if community mental health board refuses to contract with non-profit agency for rendition of services, agency shall have right to appeal to mental hygiene commissioner, and if commissioner upholds appeal, departments may enter into contract directly with such agency.

S. 2730 Niles; A. 4914 Harris (reported in the Senate and recommitted. Not reported in the Assembly)

#### **Community Mental Health — Revision of Mental Hygiene Law**

Amends Sections 190, 190-a-g, i, 191, 191-a-b, Mental Hygiene Law, to include mental retardation services in provisions applying to community mental health services, which cities and counties may authorize, and to change provisions as to membership of boards; makes it duty to contract for establishment of hospitals for mentally retarded and for day training centers for certain mentally retarded.

S. 3774 Niles; A. 5429 McCloskey (not reported in either House)

#### **Community Mental Health — "Transitional" Services — 75 Per Cent Reimbursement**

Amends Sections 190-i, 191-a, Mental Hygiene Law, to provide that cities and counties may be reimbursed at rate of 75 per cent for transitional services at day centers for social and vocational rehabilitation, day hospitals, night hospitals, summer rehabilitation programs, sheltered workshops, halfway houses, hospitals and such other mental health services as may be deemed by mental hygiene commissioner to provide suitable alternative to state institution care; applies to cities and counties of 200,000 or more.

The Committee was continued by Resolution No. 107 in the Senate with an appropriation of \$75,000, and the unexpended portion of the previous year's appropriation.

STATE CONVENTION —

TAKES THE CAKE —

SEPT. 25 - 28

# HOW SIGNIFICANT IS ENVIRONMENT TO I.Q.

The old controversy of nature versus nurture is being revived through accelerated experiments in memory transfer.

Beginning with the classic experiments by Dr. James V. McConnell in the 1950's that first suggested that animal memory was physically stored, probably in the genetic material called DNA and RNA, in a manner which could be transferred from one individual to another by transferring these nucleic acids, memory-transfer research has grown enormously in the last dozen years.

The first experiments trained some flatworms to respond to light. These worms were then ground up and fed to untrained flatworms. The worms-turned-cannibal were more readily trainable than others on standard diets.

Since then, these experiments have been made with squid, gold fish, and finally mammals. Lately, Baylor's Dr. George Ungar has reported transferring a learned fear between rodents by a brain extract which seems to be a peptide — a chain of amino acids and a much simpler and smaller molecule than RNA or DNA.

The doubts cast on this by other experiments still do not leave explained that much can be done to elevate I.Q.'s and to improve memory.

In all this there is no doubt that environment is immeasurably significant.

There is, for example, the case of the fluid I.Q.'s of the Iowa orphans. Thirty years ago, in an experiment that was scorned into oblivion at the time, psychologist, Dr. Harold M. Skeels sent 13 orphans under 3 who were judged to be mentally retarded to live as house guests in women's wards of the state institution for the retarded.

The first two placements were made by reluctant chance because the orphanage was full. The rest were by design after the first two had gained an I.Q. from 35 and to 46 to 88 and 100 and had become adoptable. The other 11 all showed similar gains, in contrast to children left in the orphanage who consistently deteriorated. The difference, Skeels decided, was that each had the constant and stimulating love and attention of a proxy mother and a flock of fond proxy aunts.

Recently traced, all 13 were found to be self-supporting, a few quite successful. Most had married. They have 28 children among them with I.Q.'s testing from 85 to a superior 125. The two least successful — they'd become domestics — were the only two who had returned to the orphanage and not adopted.

# TEENS MAKE ARC FUND DRIVE A SUCCESS IN ORANGE

Teenagers were vastly responsible for the smashing success of the ARC last fund drive in Orange County according to Mrs. Henry Holley who noted that the Port Jervis area contacted more than any other community in Orange County — \$2600.

The same group of teenagers again asked if they could help; the result was forming of JAR (Junior Association for Retarded).

In a pre-Easter parade through the business district JAR solicited gifts for the retarded and severely handicapped in Letchworth Village in Rockland County.

Climbing on the support bandwagon, the Common Council approved the parade at its meeting with Mayor Sidney Sakofsky proclaimed the day "Wanna Help a Bunny Day", the JAR campaign slogan.

Edward Tangney, executive director of the County ARC gave the budding junior group an indoctrination Monday night with a film featuring the programs and activities available to the 7,000 mentally retarded in the county.

Based on this, JAR has set a main goal of "Educating Youth in Relation to Mental Retardation."

The group will be run by the teenagers with Mrs. Holley and Mrs. Dorothy McKeon, both mothers of retarded children, acting as advisors. Mrs. Charles Baumgardner, an original founder of the local ARC will assist in major projects.

In addition to promoting benefit projects for the retarded, JAR will assist during fund drives, provide educational programs, sponsor county-wide essay contests and organize social activities and trips for group members.

## HOW SIGNIFICANT (Continued)

Gradually, we are learning that animals of every sort need loving mothers (or adequate substitutes) and stimulating environment if they are to develop their inborn mental capacities and normal social skills.

Food seems to rival love and experience as a brain influence. Rats born to mothers deliberately deprived nutritionally during pregnancy, for example, have smaller, less mature brains than those born to well-fed mothers. The critical period is while the brain starts its greatest spurt in size (about 7½ months after conception in the human).

There are about 100 known physical causes of mental retardation but together they so far explain fewer than half of the cases and only a minority of them are now treatable.

### ADVANCE REGISTRATION — CONVENTION

NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION FOR RETARDED CHILDREN, INC.

WATERTOWN, NEW YORK

SEPTEMBER 25, 26, 27, 28, 1969

TO: MRS. SHIRLEY BOOTH  
Registration Chairman  
Jefferson County Chapter, NYS ARC  
P. O. Box 41  
Watertown, N. Y. 13601

I wish to register in advance for the following events. My Check/money order for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.

- Registration  \$ 3.00
- Tours, Friday, September 26  \$ 3.00
- Sunmount State School  4.00
- Thousand Island Boat Tour  4.00
- Jefferson County ARC Center  1.00
- Luncheon, Saturday, September 27  3.25
- Reception, Saturday, September 27  1.00
- Banquet, Saturday, September 27  6.00
- TOTAL \$22.00**

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(Name)

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(Address)

NOTE: All hotel reservations should be made directly with Holiday Inn, 312 Washington St., Watertown, N. Y., 13601

