OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE

Retarded Children Can Be Helped!

VOL. XXII ISSUE NO 1 JANUARY, 1970

Convention Adopts 16 Point Legislative Program

JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE HOLDS HEARINGS ON LEGISLATION

The Joint Legislative Committee on Mental and Physical Handicap, under the Chairmanship of Dalwin J. Niles (R., Johnstown), has held three hearings on the legislative proposals for the year 1970.

The first hearing was held in Syracuse on November 12th. The program of the Association as reported elsewhere in this issue was presented by Robert J. Hodgson, President of the New York State Association for Retarded Children.

Robert J. Hodgson, Pres. of ARC testifying. L to R. Hodgson, Timothy O'Brien, Research Director of the JLC, J. T. Weingold, Counsel, Senator Dalwin J. Niles, Chairman, and Don Glickman, Rep. of Ways and Means Comm., Assembly.

In addition, Mr. Ian Sagar of Syracuse and Mr. Gil Duguay of Niagara made additional statements.

More than twenty persons testified at this hearing and legislative proposals cutting across numerous departments were proposed to the committee.

Additional hearings have been held in Buffalo on November 19th and in New York City on December 3rd. At the New York City Hearing, Mrs. Helen Kaplan, Executive Director of the Nassau County Chapter made a fervent plea for the restoration of the budget cuts and the amendments to the Mental Hygiene Law as proposed by the Association.

The Joint Legislative Committee will consider the many proposals made and distill a legislative program for the year 1970 that promises to be not only more extensive than any previous program, but also more far ranging and with greater impact.

DELEGATES PROTEST BUDGET CUTS

The more than 200 delegates, representing the 54 chapters of the New York State Association for Retarded Children, unanimously adopted a wide ranging legislative program at the annual convention in Watertown in September 1969.

With more than 300 registrations, this was the largest convention the Association has ever held.

It was evident from the reports of the various committees and the actions of the Board of Governors that the Association is in an extremely healthy state. Some of the chapters, however, are being threatened by the budget cuts, it was unanimously agreed by the delegates.

The 5 per cent across the board cut in funding services that was put through by the legislature in 1969 has affected not only future programs of the ARC in the community but existing programs since these cuts apply ex post facto to existing contracts.

The delegates have appealed to the Legislature and to the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental and Physical handicap to do all in their power to put back the funds to aid local services under the Mental Hygiene Law as well as under Section 4407 of the Education Law.

The delegates also urged the funding of the Aid to Sheltered Workshop bill that was passed in 1969.

At this writing we have been assured by Commissioner Ewald B. Nyquist of Education and Assistant Commissioner for Vocational Rehabilitation, Adrian Levy, that the Board of Regents has requested $1,250,000 for fiscal year 1970-1971 to implement this program.

One of the highlights of the convention was the adoption of a legislative program affecting mental hygiene, education and training, tax law, insurance and finally recommendations for study.

The following is the Legislative Program:

STATE SCHOOLS AND LOCAL SERVICES

A. Elimination of Parental Liability for Fees for Children in the Institutions operated by the Department of Mental Hygiene.

B. Amendment of the Community Mental Health Services Act in the Mental Hygiene Law, a recommendation made in previous years, to include (1) representation of the Association on every mental health board; (2) provide for appeals to the Commissioner from adverse decisions of mental health boards on applications of community agencies for contracts; (3) a direct relationship between the Department of Mental Hygiene and the applying agency for construction funds, especially where no local tax money is involved.

C. Boards of Visitors — (1) That every Board of Visitors include a parent of a mentally retarded child; (2) That the power of the Boards of Visitors be increased to permit them to investigate charges against any employee, now limited to the investigation of charges against directors only.

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

Chartered by the State of New York
February, 1949

Affiliated with National Association for Retarded Children, Inc.

President: **ROBERT J. HODGSON**

Executive Director & Editor: Joseph T. Weingold

THE POWER PUSH

Editorial

It is becoming increasingly evident throughout many areas in the State, that community mental health boards are becoming more and more aware of their powers and with this awareness has grown an appetite for such power.

Thus we have example after example of mental health boards insisting that they operate programs which they are incompetent to operate or which present a danger in the future to programs for the mentally retarded because of the Board's lack of interest.

This editorial is written as a warning to all those who read it to resist with all their powers the efforts to place us in a matrix of services for all the handicapped, in the case of the mental health boards, for the mentally ill and the mentally retarded under a one man aegis, usually that of the mental health board or a new corporation that they will set up.

This is in direct conflict with all we have learned from history about services for the retarded—when combined with services for other handicapped, under an aegis other than that of the parent group, poor or no services for the retarded have resulted.

We wish also to state as a warning here and now that we will resist this with all of our power and efforts, and if this means, finally, that the ARC will go it alone, without State aid, so be it!

HOW TO GET MEMBERSHIP

Editorial

In a recent document sent out by the National Association for Retarded Children the priorities of NARC were listed.

Among these was strengthening NARC and the State and local Associations. "As a membership organization, our future lies in the continued growth in membership" states the NARC. "With increased membership will come vast untapped human resources to contribute innovative leadership as well as a reservoir of volunteer services and expanded opportunities for public education and financial support."

In order to stimulate this growth in membership the NARC also voted in Miami Beach to double the dues from members beginning in 1972. We think that this novel concept of getting more membership should be copied by the transit authority in New York City as it is obvious that by doubling the fare they will get more riders.

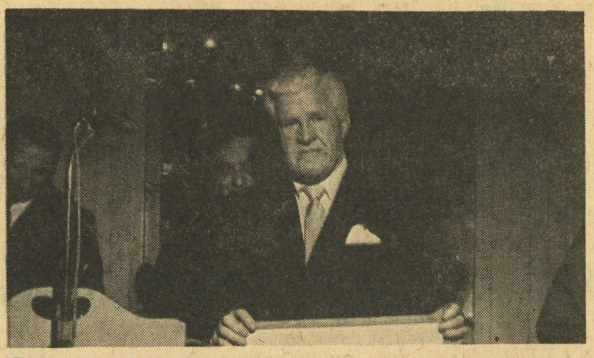
DO YOU WANT A HOSTEL?

Write a letter of intent immediately to Dr. Frederic Grunberg, Deputy Commissioner, Dept. of Mental Hygiene, Div. of Mental Retardation.

The Dept. is soliciting letters of intent immediately to set up hostels for the adult.

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE HONORS REVILLE

In one of the highlights of the Banquet at the Annual Convention of the Association in Watertown, outgoing President, James F. Reville received an unexpected Award from



Out-going President, Jim Reville swearing in newly elected Officers and Board.

the New York State Department of Mental Hygiene, presented by Commissioner Alan D. Miller.

In speaking of Mr. Reville's outstanding efforts in bringing about a closer working relationship between the Association, the Department of Mental Hygiene and others in the field of mental retardation, Commissioner Miller presented Mr. Reville with a handsomely framed Certificate.

HUMAN RIGHTS

("Reprinted from Sept. 29, 1969 weekly church bulletin of the Lutheran Church in America")

"Today there is a great deal of talk, and some action, concerning human rights. Most of it, however, is directed toward people who need only 'opportunity' in order for them to obtain these rights.

Members of one unsung minority group, however, cannot obtain through opportunity the things which we would normally include in basic human rights, because they probably would not recognize an opportunity. This minority group is composed of the mentally retarded. Three out of every hundred persons in the U.S. are presently so classified. We could eliminate 75 per cent of all mental retardation if we could provide the proper opportunity for those individuals living in deprived areas.

Therefore, we must clarify the terms 'opportunity' and 'human rights'. Basic human rights are often referred to as the right of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. We have always looked with approval upon those individuals who were able to achieve success through individual effort. 'Success' is said to represent the degree to which one has been able to take advantage of his basic human rights.

But what about the retarded person? — this person who cannot assure these rights through his own efforts, who probably is incapable of recognizing opportunity when it presents itself? Is he any less deserving than anyone else? Is he any less human? Is he not created in the image of God? Does he fulfill a purpose in God's overall plan for mankind? These are all questions which must be answered and answered positively. Only then will we be truly deserving of the human rights we so easily take for granted.

And, of course, the best way to answer these questions is for us to become personally acquainted with just one retarded child. We will find that he responds to us at least as well as we respond to him. We will find that he is more normal than he is abnormal. Most of all, however, we will find in him what might be the nearest thing to perfect love that we will ever encounter in any human being. It is that unique kind of love which is given without price and without condition. There once was an individual who walked this earth and displayed this kind of love. Wasn't his name Jesus?"

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY STATE CONVENTION

URGES NARC TO PROTECT LEGAL RIGHTS OF RETARDED

The following are the Resolutions adopted unanimously by the delegates at the State Convention:

RESOLVED, That this Association, assembled in Convention at the Holiday Inn, Watertown, N. Y., on September 25 to 28, 1969 . . . expresses its appreciation to the Jefferson County Chapter of the New York State Association for Retarded Children, its officers, directors and committees, for their excellent arrangements and warm hospitality. We particulary commend them for their leadership in the development of program, as exemplified by the Jefferson County ARC Center, and hostel.

RESOLVED, That we mourn the recent loss of Edward Johengen of Niagara County Chapter, a member of our Board of Governors; and we extend our deepest sympathies to his bereaved family.

RESOLVED, That this Association believes it is essential at this time, to establish greatly augmented and improved Statewide information services for the assistance of parents of the retarded seeking advice concerning disabilities, research projects, education, rehabilitation, medical assistance and the development of the human potential of their children. In this connection, we commend the Suffolk County Chapter of this Association for having initiated a promising new program devoted to these purposes.

RESOLVED, That this Association notes with alarm the trend toward diverting or curtailing projects and programs in the field of Special Education. We urge that, instead, every effort be made to intensify these programs, and the recruiting and training of personnel to implement them.

RESOLVED, That the long-standing problems of over crowding and, in many cases, inadequate buildings and unsuitable, unsafe sanitary and medical facilities at the State Schools for the retarded, should be resolved by the Department of Mental Hygiene with the greatest vigor and imagination. We assert that the present critical and oft-times shocking situations in the State Schools mandate such action immediately. We recognize the efforts which are being made, but consider them insufficient. This is the theme of our Convention: "If not now . . . When?"

RESOLVED, That the basic purpose of this Association is to serve the needs of the mentally retarded. In light of this, we are concerned by the present tendency to integrate the education and other requirements of the mentally retarded with the overall programs for the disadvantaged and culturally deprived. While we recognize, and concur in the importance of these programs, we fear that they will tend to diminish, dilute, and divert efforts which must be made in the specific interests of the mentally retarded.

RESOLVED, That it is the policy of this Association to demand the establishment of a seperate Department of Mental Retardation in the New York State government.

RESOLVED, That this Association actively supports every effort being made to provide higher wages and improved housing facilities for employees at State Schools for the retarded. We believe it is essential that these be equal to those of comparable personnel in private industry, with which the State must compete.

RESOLVED, That despite the veto by the Governor of the elimination of parental liability for fees for children under 21 in the State institutions, it is the express intent of this Association to vigorously support legislation to this same effect, until it is adopted.

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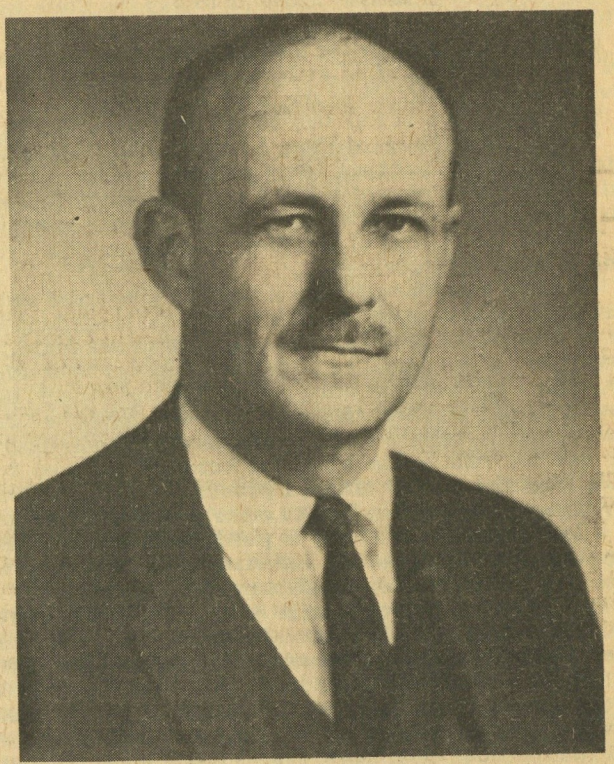
HODGSON ELECTED STATE PRESIDENT

At the Annual Convention of the New York State Association for Retarded Children, held in Watertown, New York, September 25-28, Mr. Robert J. Hodgson, of Buffalo, was elected President of the State Association.

A native of Glens Falls, New York, Mr. Hodgson received his A.B. Degree at Colgate University and his J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School.



ROBERT J. HODGSON

As a member of the Association, Mr. Hodgson has a distinguished background of service dating back to 1960, at which time he became a Director of the Erie County Chapter. He served as Assistant Treasurer and Treasurer of that Chapter, from 1962 through '64 and as its President from 1964 to '66.

He was Erie County's representative to the New York State ARC Board of Governors from 1961 to '63 and again since 1966. He was elected Vice-President of the Western Region in 1966 and served in that capacity until his election as President this year. He was selected by the Board of Governors as Senior Vice-President in 1967, '68 and '69.

Mr. Hodgson has also been very active in the National Association for Retarded Children, serving on the Insurance Committee from 1964 to 1966, and as Chairman of the Guardianship Committee since 1966. He was elected a member of the Board of Directors of the National Association in 1968, a position in which he continues to serve.

With all his ARC work, Mr. Hodgson still finds time to devote to his occupation as Senior partner in the law firm of Ohlin, Damon, Morey, Sawyer and Moot, of Buffalo, New York.

Other Officers elected were James D. Maroon, Vice-President Southeast Region, (Rockland County); Mrs. Henrietta Messier, Vice-President Northeast Region, (Rensselaer County); Thomas A. Coughlin, III, Vice-President Central Region, (Jefferson County); Mrs. Lillian Boyce, Vice-President Western Region, (Monroe County); Mrs. Evelyn Weisenfeld, Secretary, (Benevolent Society); Max W. Schachter, Treasurer, (New York City); Mrs. James F. Reville, Assistant Treasurer, (Welfare League).

Elected to the Executive Committee were Mrs. Karl Ganin, (Nassau County); A. Lawrence Abrams, (Broome County); and Clifford Westfall, (Schenectady County).

A PLEA TO ELIMINATE FEES

PARENT TESTIFIES AT RECODIFICATION HEARING

It was with a great deal of consternation, if not indignation, that representatives of the Association noted that nothing was being done in the recodification to alter the present liability of parents of the mentally retarded and the mentally ill in State Schools under 21 to pay the State fees up to $5700 a year.

Probably the most moving testimony was given by Hildegard Herz, who has a child at Newark State School and is active as a Board member of the ARC in Rochester.

We reprint here in full Mrs. Herz's testimony.

"My name is Hildegard Herz, I have a child at Newark State School, and have been active as board member of the local ARC for a number of years. I speak for many parents with whom I am in constant touch, on the question of financial liability for parents of retarded children under 21, residing in state institutions.

The state today asks $5760 - a year for a retarded child under 21 in an institution. To be sure, this fee is adjusted in case of inability to pay. But just what constitutes inability to pay is left to the discretion of the Commissioner in charge. Now, while Commissioners come and go, the law remains the same. It has to provide safeguards. So the fact that the present administration is an understanding and lenient one, does not remove the threat of increased financial demands from the already afflicted parents. As if the exceedingly high fee were not enough to make a responsible person feel a loss of dignity at having to plead inability to pay, the suggestion before you is that the state have the power to impose a priority lien on a family's home and property.

Having a retarded child is in itself a shattering heartbreak for a family, without our placing on them the additional burden of excessive financial strain. The sisters and brothers of a retarded unavoidably have been under continuous stress. Unavoidably they have had less than their share of their parents' attention, time and assistance because the retarded child needs extra attention and planning and thought. We should not now penalize those children by curtailing their chance for further education because every penny has to be paid for the retarded child, or has to be saved in case it is demanded by a less benevolent administration.

At an expensive university like New York University, where one of my daughters shares a room with one other girl, she pays for room, board and tuition $3500 a year. At Newark, where another of my daughters shares a room with 29 others, the cost is $5760 a year, an increase of over $2200 and that is due for the first 21 years. For our able youngsters we subsidize state education so $2000 pays room, board and tuition at a state university. Our able kids get our assistance. One measure of a civilization is how it cares for its helpless citizens — for those unable to speak for themselves.

Retardation strikes in families regardless of social standing. It comes to Kennedys and Humphreys, it hits the bulk of our population which has not financial means to cope with it, and it strikes where people may have some form of medical insurance coverage. But to care for a child up to age 21, more than $100,000 would be needed, and I know of no insurance that provides that. Locally, even Kodak major medical coverage has stopped admitting new claims for the institutional care of a retarded child, as of last January. If the thought behind the excessive fee is let-the-insurance-companies-pay it, it is not a valid one unless we have compulsory insurance for everyone, to cover this type of contingency.

With the weight of tragedy that comes with having a gravely handicapped child, a family may decide, for purely financial reasons, to keep this youngster home. We know of cases where because of this decision another child became emotionally disturbed; where the mother could not withstand the weight of round the clock care, where the

(Continued next column)

REIMBURSEMENT RATE FOR MENTAL HYGIENE AT HIGHEST IN HISTORY

PROBABLY HIGHEST IN THE NATION

The full rate of reimbursement for a patient in an institution of the Department of Mental Hygiene beginning with July 1, 1969 is $15.70 a day or approximately $5,700 a year.

Of this it is to be noted that something less than 70 cents a day is allocated for food and even a smaller amount for clothing.

Recently a spokesman of the Department of Mental Hygiene said that this is adequate for good nutrition. Mr. Weingold remarked, "If the directors of the State Schools and all professionals and other personnel ate in the dining rooms and partook of the same food, then I would be convinced that the diet is adequate."

HAYES APPOINTED ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER

Robert W. Hayes has been appointed associate commissioner for mental retardation in the New York State Department of Mental Hygiene, Dr. Alan D. Miller, Commissioner of Mental Hygiene, recently announced.

In his new position, Mr. Hayes will serve as the immediate deputy to Dr. Frederic Grunberg, who heads the department's division of mental retardation. Mr. Hayes will have particular responsibility for treatment and education programs in State schools for the retarded and will also direct program analysts in the division.

Mr. Hayes' position was formerly filled by Dr. Philip Roos, now executive director of the National Association for Retarded Children.

Prior to his appointment, Mr. Hayes was for 16 years, hospital administrator for Pacific State Hospital, Pamona, California, an institution for the mentally retarded.

FEES continued

family unit broke under this stress. Surely here the state was the loser in the long run. Whether a child should be placed in an institution should be determined by one criterion only: What is best for this child and his family. Let those who fear that free institutional care will cause a run on institutions have a look at Rome, at Willowbrook, at Newark; let them see 60 beds crowded into one room, where a resident has to climb over two others to get to his own. If you question whether free institutionalization will cause overcrowding, the answer there lies in the policy set for screening admissions. Parents may need assistance in deciding what is best for them and their child, but surely economics should have no place in the weighing of factors.

None of us are free to choose the handicap that may befall our children. It isn't easier to be blind than to be retarded; except perhaps in this state. Because here, if your child is blind, his training is assumed by the state, without financial obligation of the parents. In this area a blind child goes to Batavia, free of charge. If a child is blind and retarded, Batavia does not accept him, and this doubly afflicted family is punished a third time, sends its child to Newark, and assumes whatever expense it can shoulder. If a child in this state is delinquent, the state will carry the burden of preparing him for useful living. If he is only helpless, the state feels justified in discussing the imposing of a lien . . . You can see how a family with a retarded youngster that gets in trouble, may choose to have him sent to reform school — a purely financial consideration, and a disastrous decision for the child.

The revenue from parent fees is less than 1%, actually .55% of state expense for institutions. The book keeping alone costs more than the money collected brings in. I feel strongly that because of an inequitable law we should not allow those stricken by an accident of birth to be twice penalized."

DR. HOWARD RUSK LAUDS WILLOWBROOK STATE SCHOOL

DEPLORES WAITING LISTS

In an article in the New York Times, Sunday, Sept. 28th, Dr. Howard A. Rusk, long a friend of the mentally retarded and Director of the Institute for Physical Rehabilitation in New York City, wrote a searching article on programs at Willowbrook State School.

He commented that despite criticism, Willowbrook State School stands out as a center of excellence.

He could not refrain, however, from deploring that there are 1500 persons on the waiting list, of whom about 200 are under 5 years old.

The waiting list for the younger children averages about 15 months and the waiting list for the mentally retarded over 5 is indefinite. The list has been closed since 1964 and some of those remaining have been listed for more than 5 years.

The waiting list, he stated, is a problem acute in 11 other institutions in New York State for the mentally retarded.

The article is too long to reproduce in full here, but copies are available if readers will communicate with the office.

WEEKEND PARENTS AT CRAIG A SUCCESS

For many youngsters at Craig "the weekend parents program" offers an exciting experience outside the school in a home in the nearby community. The visit becomes a special event, a holiday.

Since June when the program was formalized, eighteen children at Craig have been taken by weekend parents. According to Dominick Martello, director of volunteer services, "many have gone more than once, and many are children who we feel need this type of exposure. Thirty hours is the average amount of time for a visit."

The program is primarily for children, although many older people visit area church groups, clubs and families on shorter excursions.

Most weekend parents are Craig employees, said Mr. Martello. His office is trying to find people in the community who will also participate, but "there is a drawback in finding people who could work with these children on a long-term basis."

"As far as it's gone, the program has been very effective. I think it becomes more effective when the community participates," declared Mr. Martello.

MARY ANDREWS TO BOARD OF VISITORS

Mrs. Edward J. (Mary) Andrews of Dunkirk, New York, was named by Governor Rockefeller to a position on the Board of Visitors of the West Seneca State School. In the unsalaried position, which expires December 31, 1975, Mrs. Andrews succeeds John R. Foster of Dunkirk, New York.

A long time member of the Chautauqua County Chapter of the New York State ARC, Mrs. Andrews supervises the Chapter's Day Training Center operation in Dunkirk. She is a member of the Board of Governors of the New York State ARC, a position which she has held since October, 1968.

In commenting upon the appointment, Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of the New York State ARC, said, "The relationship between the Association and the West Seneca State School have always been outstanding. With the appointment of someone of Mrs. Andrews' capabilities to the Board of Visitors, I am sure that we can look forward to a continuance of the fine spirit of cooperation which has always existed."

12 FROM WILTON COMPLETE TRAINING COURSE

A special graduation ceremony was held on June 17th at the Gideon Putnam Hotel, Saratoga Springs. Certificates were awarded to 12 retarded residents of Wilton State School who have completed a three week food service training program.

Dr. Frederic Grunberg, Deputy Commissioner of Mental Hygiene, presented the certificates. Dr. Grunberg explained that the course is one of the many rehabilitation programs the department conducts for the mentally retarded in State Schools to prepare them to live in the community.

Residents of Wilton State School for the mentally retarded polish silver as part of a three-week food service training program at the Gideon Putnam Hotel, Saratoga Springs. James Moran, right, is a representative of Economics Laboratories, Inc. which administered the course to prepare workers for employment in the food service industry. Residents were paid by the hotel at an hourly rate set by local union scale.

The training program was the first of its kind for residents of the State School for the mentally retarded. Economics Laboratories had prepared food service training programs in other states, but this was the first in New York State.

The course consisted of four days of intensive instruction followed by two weeks of on-the-job experience. Participating residents were paid by the hotel at an hourly rate set by local union scale. The program included classroom instruction at Wilton State School.

Commenting on the program Dr. Emanuel Rechter, director of Wilton State School, said: "Everyone connected with this training course has been most enthusiastic about it."

WILTON — ONCE MORE?

On June 16, 1969 Governor Rockefeller once more announced the award of construction contracts to successful bidders on the "new" Wilton State School for the mentally retarded.

He stated that it is expected the school will be completed by the end of 1971. Previous statements had placed the opening at 1969 and 1970.

The Governor also noted that seven other schools for the mentally retarded are now in various stages of architectural design. They will be located, stated the Governor, in Albany, Bronx, Kings, Monroe, Nassau, New York and Onondaga Counties. Program studies are under way for three more schools to be located in Queens, Broome and Westchester counties.

It is to be noted that the Bronx State School that has been in the planning stage, and for which funds have been appropriated more than five years ago, has not had a spade of earth turned yet.

It is also interesting to note that the waiting lists continue to grow and that the local community services are experiencing the same roadblocks as ever from local government.

SEMINAR AT WILTON STATE SCHOOL

Dr. Emanuel Rechter, Director of Wilton State School, left, makes a point for Mrs. Margaret Van Dusen, President of the Association for Retarded Children, Warren - Washington counties chapter, David Baumstein, Assistant Commissioner for State School Community Affairs, and Harry Gertner, right, of the Division for Vocational Rehabilitation. The gathering followed a seminar on "The State School and its Community" given by Mr. Baumstein.

NORTHEAST REGIONAL INSTITUTIONS COMMITTEE BUSY

The Northeast Region Institutions Committee of the Association, under the Chairmanship of Gertrude Van Dusen of Glens Falls, has certainly proven that community Chapters can, and will take an interest in institutionalized children. Under Mrs. Van Dusen's strong leadership, the Chapters of the Northeast Region have created a Committee to try and provide some services for residents of Wilton State School. The October Newsletter of the group gave some indication as to the broad spectrum of activities in which they have taken part and we repeat here in part, some of them.

These are not all programs handled directly by the Committee, but we know that their influence in interesting the community has had much to do with the activities.

400 residents on summer picnics in July and August, 48 trainables attended a picnic at Saratoga State Park with Helen Hogan's (Saratoga County) special class, Bingo parties twice a month, for 40 residents, sponsored by the town of Moreau Jay-Cees, an Easter Egg Hunt, again by the Moreau Jay-Cees with candy donated by W. T. Grant.

The Newman Club sponsored a Talent Show in March, the South Glens Falls Hy-Y a carnival on June 7th, the Hadley-Luzerne and Corinth Central Schools Summer Theatre presented programs and 200 residents were entertained by members of the Glens Falls Hammond Organ Club.

LAFAVE NAMED DIRECTOR OF NEW STATE SCHOOL

Dr. High G. Lafave, formerly associate commissioner for manpower training with the Department of Mental Hygiene, was recently appointed director of the Capitol District State School for the mentally retarded, it was announced by Alan D. Miller, Commissioner of Mental Hygiene, and Dr. Harold C. Wiggers, dean of Albany Medical College.

The joint announcement also named Dr. Lafave as an associate professor of psychiatry at the medical college. He also will be assigned to plan and establish the Eleanor Roosevelt Developmental Services, a program which will be designed to aid persons of all ages with developmental disabilities.

The concept of serving all developmental disabilities casts some doubt, according to a spokesman for the NYS ARC, on this program. According to the spokesman, a program that is so diffuse may very well scatter its shot instead of concentrating on the mentally retarded.

It was pointed out that in a testimony of HEW on the Developmental Disabilities Bill in Washington, a spokesman for the Administration pointed out that much more has to be done for the mentally retarded than has been done and that with limited funds concentration should be on the retarded rather than on all disabilities.

MILLER LAUDED FOR HYGIENE CAREER DEVELOPMENT

"I am especially proud of Dr. Alan D. Miller, Commissioner, and his staff", stated the Governor, "for the efforts of the Department of Mental Hygiene is making to improve and expand career development programs for its employees."

In addition to the career ladders reported previously, the Department of Mental Hygiene was the first State agency to begin a youth opportunity program for economically disadvantaged high school students. Since its start in 1967, according to Governor Rockefeller, 1600 students have participated in the program. "We believe," said the Governor, it has been a success, not only for the first 241 graduates of the program in 1968, but also for the Department because 117 are continuing their education and 124 are now employed, including 59 who are working fulltime for the Department. 900 students are presently enrolled in the program."

In addition to the youth opportunity program about 1000 college students took part in a summer career incentive program conducted to interest students in careers in mental health and mental retardation.

Last year the Department established career ladders for psychologists and social workers. Other career ladders — were occupational, recreation, physical, and speech and hearing therapists, and for patient-care employees — on various stages of development. There is no career ladder for Teachers.

MENTAL HYGIENE ZEROES IN ON SEVERELY RETARDED

Governor Rockefeller's office recently reported that the Department of Mental Hygiene is making significant progress in its efforts to train so-called "untrainable" severely and profundly retarded residents of State schools.

"More than half the residents of State schools are severely and profundly retarded," the spokesman for the Governor said, "and we are trying to improve their ability to care for themselves, to take part in everyday activities and to communicate with other people."

Among the new programs begun by the Department of Mental Hygiene last year was a pilot training program at Craig State School in Sonyea. It sought to evaluate efforts to teach severely and profoundly retarded adults. Such programs have been successful with retarded children, but the State schools have not yet tried the technique with profoundly retarded adults.

The spokesman said significant improvement were accomplished through a one-to-one training method that offers a reward for successful completion of a task. He explained that of those participating half were destructive and most had to be spoon fed at the beginning of the program. As a result of training only one needs help with eating, all can dress themselves and one-third can wash their faces and brush their teeth. Self-identity has been learned and language skills have improved.

In addition, the Department has reported a $1 million infant center at Willowbrook State Schools and a special program at Suffolk State School for training severely retarded children who do not know how to swallow or how to feed themselves. The 40 children participating at Suffolk State School in the initial program have progressed from being spoon fed to feeding themselves and to eating in a dining room rather than in bed.

DID YOU KNOW

. . . That $1.20 was allocated for food per day for the retarded at the Wilton Camp as against 67 cents a day when the same children are in an institution?

SOCIAL SECURITY FOR RETARDED IN STATE INSTITUTIONS

A great deal of question has been raised recently about how much the State can take out of the Social Security that a retarded person in the State institution gets on the basis of his parent retirement.

When a person retires and has a physically or mentally handicapped child incapable of self-sustaining employment by reason of the disability occurring before the age of 18, that child is eligible for Social Security beyond the age of 18 and for life.

The retarded child receives the same Social Security as would any dependent child under the same circumstances. The money, however, usually is paid to the parent as a "representative payee". The parent may use this, then, for the benefit of the child, such as purchasing clothes, entertainment, medical expenses, etc. There is no problem when the child is at home. The only thing the parent has to do is to be able to account for this to the Social Security Administration.

The problem arises when the child is in the State institution. Since the money the child receives through Social Security is considered an asset of the child, the State Department of Mental Hygiene sets a fee for the service (whether a child is over or under 18) and then proceeds to demand this from the representative payee.

In the past, or until fairly recently, these fees have been reasonable and the parents have been permitted to keep a reasonable amount for travel to and from the institution to visit the child, purchase some clothes, entertainment, vacations, etc.

Recently, however, the Department of Mental Hygiene has become very rigid about these fees and, for example, have almost doubled the reimbursement fee.

One instance will suffice. A parent who received $105 for the child as a representative payee, originally was charged $56 a month. This has been up to $90 a month and nothing that the parent can do seems to change the Department of Mental Hygiene's opinion that $10 a month is enough for the parent to visit the child, buy it clothes, amusements, vacations, etc., etc.

This is in direct contradiction to the pamphlet of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, "Instructions for a Representative Payee". This is document No. 1965 0-790-861 and can be obtained from the U. S. Printing Office.

In this document the following is stated:

"4. How should I use the Social Security benefits of a person who is in a nursing home, hospital, or other institution?

"You should communicate with an official of the institution or the designated State officer and arrange, if required to pay part of the benefits (emphasis ours) to meet the charges for the beneficiary's care and support. You may not be required to use Social Security benefits to pay maintenance charges when:

. The beneficiary's total assets are small, or

. The beneficiary's legally dependent spouse, and or children need to use part of the Social Security benefits for their own support and maintenance charges are waived because of need of the beneficiary's family.

You are not required to use the Social Security benefits to pay maintenance charges when:

. The beneficiary is in a Veteran's hospital, or

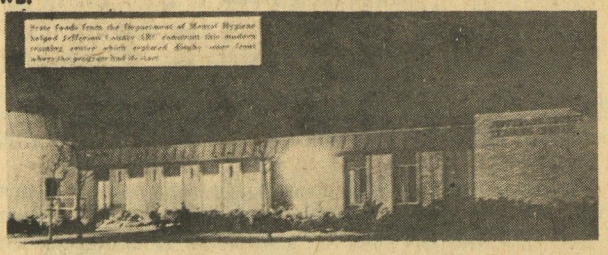
. The beneficiary has insurance or other assets that are being used to meet the charges.

When arranging to pay a certain amount regularly for the beneficiary's care and maintenance, you should make sure you will still have enough money left to pay for some of the things the beneficiary needs that are not customarily provided by the institution. You can find out about these things by talking or writing to the hospital superin-

(Continued next column)

JEFFERSON COUNTY ARC GETS FULL PAGE SPREAD IN MENTAL HYGIENE NEWS

In an article entitled, "Thursday's Child is Full of Woe", the Jefferson County Chapter of the ARC program is described in great detail in a recent issue of Mental Hygiene News.



Jefferson Co. ARC Center

The program has been viewed by hundreds of representatives of the ARC at the Convention in Watertown. The program is now located in a new building constructed with Federal and State aid, with about ⅓ of the funds coming from the ARC directly. The chapter is now planning an $800,000 expansion since already the space is too small for its program.

There are now 50 children enrolled in the day training center and school program and close to 100 clients in the workshop which serve the physically handicapped as well as the mentally retarded in the community. Admissions to State Schools in Jefferson County have been markedly few. In one year 15 children who had been recommended for placement at Rome State School were kept home and cared for by the center; three others were brought home. A hostel run by the center and a colony established by Rome State School provide a home for several clients from the workshop who would have otherwise remained dependent upon institutional care.

Thomas A. Coughlin, III, Vice President of the State ARC is the Executive Director of the Jefferson County Chapter.

SOCIAL SECURITY continued

tendent, the doctor in charge, or the social worker. The following are most often needed by patients in public hospitals and may be paid from Social Security benefits to help them keep up their morale, self respect, and confidence.

A. Personal clothing which is clean, well fitting and in good style.

B. Supplies and articles necessary for personal grooming and care.

C. Other things not supplied by the hospital such as books, magazines, cigarettes and tobacco.

D. Eye glasses, false teeth, hearing aids, medical and dental care.

E. Transportation for trial visits to relatives or to places where the patient can be helped to recover. A little each month may be saved to pay the expense of these visits.

F. Transportation of a close relative or the representative payee to visit the patient in the hospital. Use of benefits for transportation will be allowed when costs are reasonable and necessary and the visits are in the beneficiary's best interests.

G. Supplies and equipment to help the patient learn a trade; such as materials for metal or leather work, needle work, or furniture making."

Parents who have inquired from the State Association as to what they should do when they feel that the request for these funds is unreasonable, have been advised not to pay anything from the representative payee' funds, but to deposit them in-toto in a saving account for the benefit of the child.

The Association has communicated with the Social Security Administration in Washington for a more definite ruling on this, but to date has not had a reply. The local office of the Social Security Administration does not seem to wish to be involved.

KENNEDY SPONSORS NEW "DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES" BILL

"A MIRAGE", STATES WEINGOLD

HEW OPPOSES

In a startling new concept in treatment of mentally retarded which includes many other handicaps under one umbrella, Senator Edward Kennedy introduced a Developmental Disabilities Services and Facilities Construction Act of 1969 (S. 2846).

The measure broadens existing federal mental retardation grant programs to provide a greater range of services, but also includes the handicaps of cerebral palsy, epilepsy, neurological impairment, sensory defects, or any other chronic physical or mental impairment in the same Act.

S. 2846 is co-sponsored by Senator Ralph Yarborough (D., Texas), Chairman of the Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee.

The Act provides grants to States for strengthening services to mentally retarded and other persons with developmental disabilities and for construction of facilities.

Although the Act requires the State to include a range of services for the retarded, it also permits them to include similar services to other persons with developmental disabilities all under the same Act and from the same money.

At hearings held before the Senate Committee, the NARC which helped draft the legislation testified in favor of the bill.

It is noteworthy, however, that Creed D. Black, Assistant Secretary for Legislation, HEW, speaking for the Administration disapproved of the proposal. He suggested the measure held out hoped for vast increase in expenditures, which, because of tight fiscal situations facing the Country were unrealistic. Black, however, did commend provisions in the bill which moved in the direction of unifying grant programs and those which place substantial responsibility on the State.

However, Black expressed very serious concern about the concept of developmental disabilities. He noted that Under S. 2846, the program would "apparently cover any chronic defect or condition", rather than the present focus on mental retardation and associated neurological conditions. He noted that many ailments included under S. 2846 were already covered in other programs, but he indicated it was expansion away from mental retardation, where, he said there was still a great deal to be done.

While recommending against enactment of S. 2846, Black suggested as an alternative, enactment of a consolidated grant approach which would in his view encompass many of the present programs of grants for construction of mental retardation facilities for initial staffing of community mental retardation facilities and a three year program of grants to public and private agencies for facilities and services for the mentally retarded.

In commenting on this legislation, Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of the New York State Association for Retarded Children, at the National Association meeting in Miami Beach stated that the bill was a mirage; that the funds would not be available and would be dissipated over a wide range of disabilities with the mentally retarded in the end getting "the short end of the stick" as they usually do in these combined services.

Mr. Weingold also protested the setting of policy such as this with regard to legislation away from mental retardation without giving the delegates to the convention the opportunity to express what they see from the field.

"This kind of imposition of policy from on high without prior consultation, at least, with the delegates at the National Convention can only lead to an unrealistic approach to field problems with which the Board as a body may or may not have intimate experience."

MENTALLY RETARDED IN GOVERNMENT

So far more than 5,000 mentally retarded men and women have gone to work for the Federal Government under a special hiring program, largest of its kind in the country, according to the special report of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped.

According to a survey made by Mrs. Hedwig Oswald of the D.C. Department of Vocational Rehabilitation in which 3,000 bosses of the retarded were queried, the following facts stand out:

- Half have come from either severely or moderately disadvantaged backgrounds.
- Their parents' jobs are mainly unskilled; some are semi-skilled.
- Forty-one percent had never worked before their Federal employment; 21 percent had worked part-time; only 25 percent had worked full-time.
- Thirty-two percent finished 12 grades of school (mostly special education); thirty-seven percent didn't get past the 9th grade; fourteen percent were in ungraded special classes.
- More than 90 percent were single when they started work; subsequently, some have married since becoming wage-earners.
- They are working at more than 100 different kinds of jobs in government agencies across the country.
- Counselling and training on proper work habits were needed by 77 percent:
- Most received their first taste of work experience in sheltered workshops, a valuable prelude to employment.

According to supervisors, 55 percent of the retarded workers performed "very well" or "satisfactorily" during the first 30 days; 63 percent during the next 60 days; 73 percent afterwards.

Their success rate has been greater than for non-retarded workers in similar jobs, the study noted.

As for failures, most common reasons were inability to perform the tasks, immature behavior, excessive absence or tardiness.

More than 90 percent of personnel officers in agencies encountered full acceptance of the program by operating officials.

INITIAL STAFFING OF COMMUNITY MENTAL RETARDATION FACILITIES MODEL CITIES PROJECTS

During the Fiscal Year 1969 (July 1, 1968 to June 30, 1969) 95 mental retardation initial staffing grants totaling over $4.2 million were approved in Model Cities project areas. Funds for these projects were authorized by Title I, Part D. Public Law 88-164 **Mental Retardation Facilities and Mental Health Centers Construction Act** (as amended).

The law, as a matter of fact, does not earmark any of the staffing grants to model cities. This was done by regulation where 50% of the staffing grants was so allocated.

Model cities are those municipalities (city or county) selected to receive planning funds as the first step of a five-year program to improve physical, social and economic conditions in a large blighted neighborhood. The target area is generally known as a model neighborhood.

For a project application to receive model cities priority consideration it must be certified by the City Demonstration Agency as being part of the Model Neighborhood Plan or satisfactorily linked to it, and must be approved as such by the Regional Director of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

Approved mental retardation staffing applications for model cities as of June 30, 1969 in New York State were Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Yeshiva U., in the Bronx $87,545; Hunts Point Multi-Service Center Corp., Bronx $77,591; Dept. of Recreation-Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, N. Y. $50,335; New York Medical College, N. Y. $104,321; and the Al Sigl Center in Rochester, $127,312.

JACOBS PROTESTS MENTAL HYGIENE NEWS ARTICLE

On October 21, 1969, Mr. Augustus M. Jacobs, Chairman of the Legal and Legislative Committee wrote a letter to the Editor of Mental Hygiene News concerning an article in the Sept. 30th issue of that publication concerning the testimony at the hearings on recodification of the Mental Hygiene Law.

Since the Mental Hygiene News has not seen fit to print Mr. Jacobs' letter, we are reprinting it here in-toto. It follows:

"Dear Sir: May I suggest that your article, page 1, of the September 30, 1969 issue of Mental Hygiene News, is less than accurate.

The statement 'comments offered by various individuals in New York City at the hearing were generally favorable toward recodification of the existing law . . .', just does not jibe with the facts.

I suppose everyone hears what he wants to hear, but being as objective as I can be, my impression was that although all were agreed that the Mental Hygiene Law needs substantial revision, no one was unreservedly in favor of the recodification, and everyone voiced more or less strong objections to various sections of the proposed bill.

I have no pride of authorship, but wonder why, since you cited some of those who appeared at the hearing, you did not mention that I appeared as Chairman of the Legal and Legislative Committee on behalf of the NYS ARC, INC. and its 54 chapters, including Suffolk County Chapter, whom you mentioned specifically.

I am submitting to you once more, the statement that I made before this committee and suggest that it might serve a very useful purpose if it were reprinted **in toto** in Mental Hygiene News. I might also add that your article in the last sentence gives the impression a Statewide Advisory Committee was representative of all interests in the State. You should be aware that that is not so. The State Advisory Committee was made up almost entirely of official members, and did not include representatives of the consumers of the services on any formal basis that I know of.

DISABLED TO BENEFIT FROM GOVERNOR'S PROGRAM

Governor Rockefeller's office recently announced that the Governor will recommend legislation to channel more than $9 million in additional funds to elderly, disabled, and blind recipients of public assistance in New York State.

Mentally retarded adults may qualify for aid to the disabled.

The proposal would permit such recipients to keep up to $7.50 a month of any outside income, such as social security, without having their monthly public assistance allowance reduced by that amount.

"Unless we change the State law," Governor Rockefeller said, "local social services departments in New York State must withhold from assistance recipients who also receive social security benefits, the total amount of any social security increases that are expected in the near future."

"The Federal Social Security Act now permits aged, disabled, and blind assistance recipients to keep up to $7.50 of their income without having their assistance grants reduced by a like amount," Governor Rockfeller said.

"We want to be sure that these needy citizens get the full benefit of the federal law, especially if social security allowances are increased. By changing our law to take advantage of the federal law, these people will be sure of retaining any increase up to $7.50."

None of these funds will be coming from the State of New York. This is merely an effort to get the New York State Social services law, frequently far behind the Federal law, in line with federal legislation and regulations in this respect.

In another article in this issue of OCV the failure of Social Services to implement a law for aid to the mentally retarded who are disabled in private institutions is discussed.

MENTALLY RETARDED MOST DISABLED AND DISADVANTAGED

SAYS GOVERNOR ROCKEFELLER

In a recent release enumerating the progress of New York State in the field of community mental health and mental retardation, Governor Rockefeller stated with regard to the development of community mental health boards, that the "ultimate goal is to coordinate State and local, public and voluntary programs into a single system that will enable all the mentally ill and retarded to receive continuous and comprehensive services in their own communities with as little disruption of family life as possible."

Representatives of NY State ARC discuss 1970 Budget and legislation with Gov. Nelson E. Rockefeller. L. to R. Joseph T. Weingold, Exec. Dir., NYS ARC, Gov. Rockefeller, James F. Reville, Pres., ARC and Shirley Epstein, Chrm. of Institutions Committee.

The governor went on to state that program priorities for State and local services have been set up and that "the basic thrust of these priorities is to direct service emphasis toward the needs of the most disabled and disadvantaged. One major priority is to increase the availability of community facilities and services for the mentally retarded."

The Governor commented that State aid to local governments for operating community mental health and retardation programs has increased from $11 million to $65.5 million appropriated for the 1969-1970 fiscal year.

The Governor, however, failed to note that of this $65.5 million, less than 6% has been used for the mentally retarded in the community.

Some confusion also seems to exist with regard to community mental health centers. Listing the number of operational community mental health centers at the end of the release, the Governor includes Nassau, Monroe County, Rensselaer, and Jefferson County ARC's as mental health centers.

We are gratified, however, by the Governor's statement that the progress made in the last decade reflects great credit upon the "dedicated, hard working members of such voluntary groups as the New York State Association for Retarded Children."

GARRISON TO GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

Governor Rockefeller recently announced the appointment of John R. Garrison as Special Assistant to the Governor

Mr. Garrison, a Program Associate on the Governor's staff since 1966, has specialized in narcotic control, welfare, health, the aging and youth. In his new position, he will undertake special projects for the Governor designed to increase cooperation between State government and the private sector, and to insure maximum participation of private enterprise in seeking solutions to social problems.

Mr. Garrison has been the liaison between the ARC and the Governor's Office on a number of occasions.

STATE ASSAILED FOR AID DELAY TO MENTALLY RETARDED

A lack of federal funds has forced a lengthy delay in implementing a state law providing special funds for mentally retarded disabled in private institutions.

Failure to implement the law after its enactment in May was cited by Democratic Assembly leaders as an affront to the legislative process.

Assembly Minority Leader Stanley Steingut and Assemblyman Harry Kraf, Democrat Bronx, said they have received complaints from patients' families that aid is not available under the program although the law has been on the books for six months.

The law in question provides State financial aid for the totally disabled mentally retarded who are being cared for in private residential facilities licensed by the State of New York.

A spokesman for the Dept. of Social Services confirmed that no money had been paid out under the program and none would probably be paid out until early next year.

Assistant Commissioner Edward Philips said lack of approval of federal funds, which pay half the cost of the program, was the reason for the delay. Mr. Philips said the State and local government involved, each paid 25 per cent of the cost.

He noted the program was to aid persons who are disabled by reason of mental retardation between the ages of 18 and 64 who were in private facilities licensed by the State. He said only about 300 persons would be eligible under this category.

Assemblymen Steingut and Kraf called the State's failure to pay the aid an "outrageous" situation.

"A law is a law and when a State Department can decide, apparently on its own initiative, whether or not — or when — it will carry out the directives of the legislature, it is making a mockery of the legislative process," the two Democrats said in a joint statement.

Mr. Philips said, however, the bill specifically states that New York cannot pay funds under the program until it is certain Federal aid is available.

At the office of the State Association for Retarded Children, Mr. Weingold, Executive Director, commented that the provision on the availablity of Federal funds was put in on the insistence of the Social Services Dept. when the law was passed last year.

He also noted that aid to the disabled, when the mentally retarded or physically handicapped who are not in institutions, is not dependent on Federal aid under the law. "It is our belief," said Mr. Weingold, "that this part of the law is unconstitutional because it deprives the mentally retarded disabled in private institutions of their constitutional right to equal protection of the laws. It puts them, in fact, in an inferior category to those who are not in institutions."

Mr. Augustus Jacobs, Chairman of the Legal and Legislative Committee, New York State Association for Retarded Children said, "It is becoming increasingly clear that administrative departments are not implementing the laws passed by the legislature."

"It may be necessary," said Mr. Jacobs, "for the State Association to appeal to the courts to force the executive departments to implement laws passed by the legislature. This is a sorry state of affairs, but we can see no other recourse."

The New York State Association for Retarded Children is soon to test the constitutionality of the law requiring parents of minor children in the institutions of the Department of Mental Hygiene to pay fees to the State.

ORGANIZATION NOTE

The NARC Residential Care Committee has unanimously voted to change the name of the committee to Residential Services Committee.

RECODIFICATION UNDER ATTACK AT HEARINGS

At three hearings of the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental and Physical Handicap, under the Chairmanship of Dalwin J. Niles, (R., Johnstown), the recodification of the Mental Hygiene Law was under severe attack by more than 100 persons testifying.

At the very first hearing, Sept. 16, 1969, in New York City, more than 70 major objections were listed.

Augustus M. Jacobs, Chairman of the Legal and Legislative Committee of the ARC presented the viewpoint of the New York State Association for Retarded Children in document.

Criticizing the procedure by which recodification bill was drafted Mr. Jacobs pointed out that "This Association is particularly competent in this area because of its history in helping to shape legislation, especially for the mentally retarded and even in other areas for the mentally ill and the physically handicapped."

One of the major thrusts of his testimony was "we reiterate and want to make it crystal clear that we do not believe that mental retardation should be lumped with mental illness, alcoholism, narcotics in one Act. We feel quite strongly that there should be a separate Mental Retardation Law. Failing this, however, we feel very strongly that there should be a separate Article on mental retardation, even though in some respects sections may overlap with others, just as there are separate articles on alcoholism and narcotics." Criticism included the name of the Act which he urged should be the "Mental Health and Mental Retardation Law", definition of mental retardation, the organization of the department and the department's responsibilities, the boards of visitors, regulation and quality control of the mentally disabled, the general provisions relating to in-patient facilities, referral of the mentally retarded to State Schools, the rights of patients, fees, and finally, the services part of the law.

In some respects, said Mr. Jacobs, this Law does not do as well as the present law. He cited, for example, the fact that under the present law hearing tests for all those suspected of being deaf or hard of hearing in the State schools is mandatory. In the new recodification, however, this is eliminated.

A spokesman for the Department said, "We are doing it anyhow and we don't need the law."

The answer to this is what is inherent in all the thrust of the Association for legislation: we must not depend on men, no matter how much good-will they show, and how much confidence we have in them. We must depend on laws because we do not know who will come after those with whom we are working so well at present.

FEDERAL FUND CUTS IMPAIRED NARC-OJT PROJECT

N. Y. STATE ELIMINATED

Due to the drastic cuts made by the Department of Labor in aid to the handicapped and training them for jobs, the grant request of the National Association for Retarded Children for the On-The-Job-Training Project which has been in existence for several years was seriously impaired.

Only four States are now involved, and New York is not one of the four States selected.

According to a letter from Dr. Philip Roos, Executive Director of NARC to Mr. Leopold Lippman, Director of Mental Retardation Services in the City of New York "We are attempting to develop some geographic representation, and New Jersey was the State selected in the Northeast Region."

We in New York State, we must confess, are beginning to feel that we do not belong in the United States. Well, there is a time when everyone more or less starts to appear paranoid. You, too?

WORKSHOP DIRECTORS' SALARY SURVEY

A recent survey of salaries of sheltered workshop directors conducted by the National Association of Sheltered Workshops and Homebound Programs brought forth information that should be extremely valuable in planning future operations.

According to Antonio C. Suazo, Director of the Association, surveys were sent to over 300 workshops nationally. More than one-half or 166 surveys were returned.

The survey indicated the following:

Salaries of workshop directors are not notably high. However, several workshops, mainly the larger workshops, offer attractive salaries and benefits. Several offer up to $20,000.

Workshops are being run by persons with substantial work experience and educational background. Most directors have not taken a formal course of study in management of workshops, but almost three-quarters have a Bachelors degree or a Masters degree. Fully one-third have a Masters degree. Several have a Ph.D. It is interesting to note that several have no degrees at all.

The average workshop budget in this survey totaled $275,000, with several over a million dollars. Based on the responses tabulated, the average annual current income of workshop directors was slightly under $11,000, the average minimum below $9,000, and the average maximum at nearly $12,500. For the Mid-Atlantic States, of which New York State is one, the national average was exceeded with the minimum average at $11,300 and the maximum close to $13,-500, and ranked below the Mid-West.

This survey may be obtained by writing to the N.A.S.-W.H.P., 1522 K. Street, N.W., Wash., D.C.

REHABILITATION PICTURE IN 1968-1969

A record total of 241,390 disabled men, women and youths were rehabilitated to gainful occupations during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1969 through the State-Federal program of vocational rehabilitation, it was announced by Mary E. Switzer, Federal Social and Rehabilitation Administrator.

For the eighth year in succession, Pennsylvania was first in the nation in the number of people rehabilitated, with 16,544. California was second, with 14,450; followed by Illinois, 13,410; Texas, 11,861; New York 10,250.

In the rate of rehabilitation, expressed in terms of the number of rehabilitations per 100,000 of State population, the District of Columbia ranked first, with 339 per 100,000. West Virginia was second, with 323, followed by South Carolina, 290. New York State ranked last or 53rd in the number rehabilitated per 100,000, 57.

NEW HEAD OF FEDERAL VOC. REHAB.

Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, Robert H. Finch recently announced the appointment of Edward Newman as Commissioner, Rehabilitation Services Administration, (previously known as Office of Vocational Rehabilitation), Social and Rehabilitation Service, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

Rehabilitation Services Administration handles the Department's program of vocational rehabilitation which serves the Nation's physically and mentally disabled.

Mr. Newman has worked and written extensively in the fields of vocational rehabilitation, mental retardation, and community planning for social welfare and vocational rehabilitation programs.

He has served as coordinator of the Massachusetts Mental Retardation Planning Project and Executive Director of the Massachusetts Vocational Rehabilitation Planning Commission. Most recently, he was Assistant for Program Planning and Coordination of the Human Resources Program Planning and Coordination of the Human Resources Program Division of the Bureau of the Budget in Washington, D.C.

HOSPITAL FIRST "EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR"

St. Agnes Hospital of White Plains was named the winner of the Employer of the Year Competition sponsored by the New York State Association for Retarded Children, Inc. A joint effort of the Vocational Rehabilitation Committee and the Scholarship and Awards Committee the presentation was made to that Employer who had offered the most outstanding opportunities to the mentally retarded within the State.

John Bertrand, Assistant to the Executive Director, New York State ARC, looks on as Sister M. Frances Magdalen, Administrator of St. Agnes Hospital, White Plains, admires the Award Plaque presented by Mrs. Evelyn Weisenfeld.

Working in close cooperation with the Westchester County Chapter of the New York State ARC, St. Agnes has begun accepting the mentally retarded on a full time basis in several positions including general helpers in the housekeeping department, and dishwasher in the dietary department. At the time that the award was made to the Hospital, an additional number of placements were under consideration by the Hospital's administration.

A plaque commemorating the Award was presented by Mrs. Evelyn Weisenfeld, Chairman of the Scholarship and Awards Committee at the Annual Convention of the New York State ARC. The plaque was presented to Anthony Lombardo, Executive Director of the Westchester County Chapter on behalf of St. Agnes Hospital. The Award was subsequently presented to the Hospital and particularly to Administrator, Sister M. Frances Magdalen.

MENTAL RETARDATION AND POVERTY

WEINGOLD WARNS AGAINST NECESSARY CONNECTION

The following is a summary of the statement made by Mr. Weingold at a full scale meeting of the delegates of NARC in Miami Beach on the subject of poverty and mental retardation.

So much has been written about this and so many conferences have been held that it was high time, thought Mr. Weingold, that this be put into perspective.

The summary follows:

"The poor are not necessarily retarded. To equate mental retardation, under any definition, with poverty, is doing an injustice to the poor by stigmatizing them in a world not ready for this kind of acceptance.

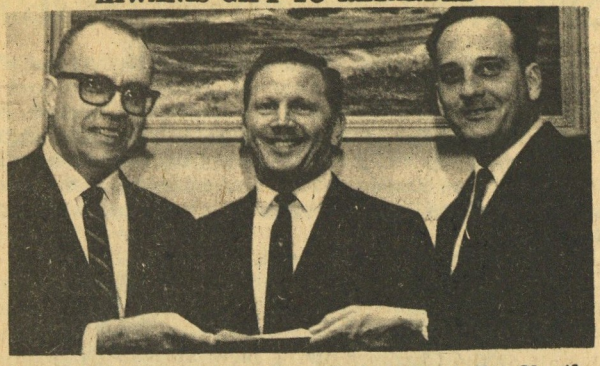
Any educational lag of the poor is not mental retardation. It is a function of the ills of our society due to poor housing, economic deprivation, broken homes because of these pressures, and many other factors beyond the power of NARC to do anything about.

Operation Head Start is a band-aid applied to a cancer. The special classes in urban areas are full of Negroes and Puerto Ricans, not because they are mentally retarded but because our educational systems have failed to deal adequately with them, sweeping them under the rug, as it were.

Cultural deprivation is an egocentric, patronizing phrase coined by a white society. Whose culture are we talking about?

The National Association for Retarded Children does not belong in this field. It is presumptuous and patronizing."

KIWANIS GIFT TO RETARDED



Marc C. T. Andreae, left, Chairman of the Youth Activities Committee of the Amsterdam Kiwanis Club, presents $400 check to officials of the Montgomery Co. Chapter to aid the chapter in its work. Accepting the gift are William Albertin, right, ARC president and Wesley E. Linquist, vice president.

REGULATIONS FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION ISSUED

After a great deal of discussion and meetings of the Advisory Committee, the State Department of Education and the Board of Regents has issued new regulations of the Commissioner of Education with regard to special education.

Included in this are definitions of handicapped children, home teaching, special classes, special class teacher, etc.

It is noteworthy that the regulations require that each school district shall provide for each handicapped child, both a physical examination and an individual psychological examination by approved psychologists, social history and other suitable examinations and evaluations as necessary, etc. In commenting on the regulations, Mr. Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of the State Association for Retarded Children, and a member of the Advisory Committee that helped draft the regulations, said, "These regulations, in effect, put back into the law which the Speno-McCloskey Law took out of it. Under the Speno-McCloskey Law, the handicapped were lumped into one, but the regulations had to specify all over again."

Copies of these regulations may be obtained by writing to the Division for Handicapped Children, State Department of Education, 55 Elk Street, Albany, N.Y. 12224.

NO EARLY CHILDHOOD GRANTS TO ARC UNITS

Grants totaling approximately $1 million were awarded during fiscal 1969 to 24 public and non-profit private organizations for the establishment of model preschool programs for handicapped children, the U.S. Office of Education said recently.

"This new program represents a major breakthrough in providing for preschool children, as young as a few days old, their first chance to keep up with children who do not have handicaps," said James J. Gallagher, Associate Commissioner for the Education of the Handicapped.

The program is authorized under Public Law 90-538, the Handicapped Children's Early Education Assistance Act. The legislation requires that each program be coordinated with the school system in the community being served.

Although Mr. Gallagher's statement says that the program will make it possible to serve young children who are mentally retarded, hard of hearing, deaf, speech impaired, etc., the list of projects indicates no operational grants for mental retardation and from all we can see one planning grant for mental retardation identified as such.

Although several of the ARC's in New York State applied for these grants, none was approved.

TRAINING PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL IN EDUCATION OF MENTALLY RETARDED

In 1958, Public Law 85-926 authorized an appropriation of $1 million per year for the preparation of professional personnel in the education of the mentally retarded. This legislation was directed at preparing college and university personnel to staff then-existing programs, and much needed new programs for preparing personnel to work with the handicapped in State and local school systems. Between academic years 1959-60 and 1963-64, 692 graduate fellowships were granted to 484 individuals. The majority of these individuals became college and university professors while others became State and local special education leadership personnel. A recent survey made of the fellowship recipients indicated that approximately 75 per cent of all programs in mental retardation at colleges and universities are directed or coordinated by these individuals.

P.L. 85-926 has been amended by P.L. 88-164 and further by 89-105 and 90-170. These amendments expanded and extended the program through fiscal year 1970, with $55 million for fiscal year 1970.

It will be a number of years before there will be a great reduction in the gap between the number of trained teachers and "leadership personnel" needed in the area of mental retardation and the number available. This legislation has begun to provide the effort to close this gap.

This training program is administered by the Mental Retardation Branch, Division of Training Programs, Bureau of Education for the Handicapped, in the Office of Education.

Information may be obtained from Dr. Harold W. Heller, at the U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, 7th and D streets, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20201.

For the fiscal year 1969, 184 institutions in the U.S. participated in this program with 6,366 fellowships being granted for an expenditure of $9,482,084.

New York State institutions have received grants of $555,700. They are Columbia U. Teachers College; Fordham University; Hofstra University; Mary Mount Manhattan; NYU; SUNY Buffalo; SUNY Geneseo; Syracuse, and Yeshiva.

PROGRESS REPORT OF TITLE I OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL EDUCATION ACT (P.L. 89-313)

"Programs for the Handicapped" a publication of the Secretary's Committee on Mental Retardation of the U.S. Department of Health, Education Welfare, has put out a resume of the progress of education programs for handicapped children in state-operated or supported schools — for the fiscal year 1968.

Some highlights of the report are:

Nearly 104,000 handicapped children receive direct education and other related services representing every type of handicapped named in the Act.

—Almost 60 per cent of the handicapped children served were classified as mentally retarded.

—Over 70 per cent of the eligible handicapped children were included in P.L. 89-313 project.

—Over one-half of the handicapped children served participated in P.L. 89-313 projects during both the regular and Summer terms.

—Nearly 23,000,000 dollars were expended in P.L. 89-313 projects.

—Over 33 per cent of monies was expended by State Departments of mental health or hygiene.

In New York State 7,660 pupils participated in programs that cost $3,191,922. Of these 484 were visually handicapped, 1,525 deaf, 172 crippled with special health programs, 1,844 emotionally disturbed, 3,635 were mentally retarded.

PR AWARD TO SUE MORSE

Marden D. Paru, Exec. Dir. of the Retarded Children's Center in Syracuse, and public relations director Sue Morse shown with Theta Sigma Phi Gold cup trophy given for best PR effort for 1968.

NEW FILM STRIPS AVAILABLE

The Harris County Center for the Retarded, Inc., P. O. Box 13403, Houston, Texas 77019, has available a new group of film strips on "Teaching Good Conduct And Personal Hygiene To Retarded Teenagers".

A series of 35mm color filmstrips are from 30 to 45 frames in length and each strip has a special Teacher's Guidebook.

There are five filmstrips for boys on shaving, taking a shower, washing face and hands, proper clothing, and a personal talk to young men. The set for girls contains six filmstrips on bathing, care of hair, washing face and hands, proper clothing, menstruation, and a personal talk to young women.

The cost of the filmstrips is $40 for the boys set, $50 for the girls set or $85 for the complete set.

Assistant to the Executive Director, John Bertrand, has previewed the films and states that they are generally well suited to their purpose, but cautions that they should be screened before showing to groups as they are most frank, and, in his opinion, sometimes too much so.

RETARDED IN GHETTOS RECEIVE PRIORITY FOR VOC. REHAB.

Thousands of mentally retarded persons in ghetto areas will be served by specialized community facilities as a result of regulations published recently in the **Federal Register**, by Social and Rehabilitation Service.

The new Federal Social and Rehabilitation Service regulations will make grants available to State and local governments and nonprofit organizations to assist in the staffing of facilities under the Mental Retardation Amendments of 1967. Over 250 applicants are expected to file applications for the $8.3 million which is available.

Federal Social and Rehabilitation Administrator, Mary E. Switzer said, "These regulations give ghetto and poor rural areas of our country priority in meeting their needs for facilities and services for the mentally retarded."

Since it is obvious that the ARC chapters in New York State service a great number of clients and children from the ghetto and poor areas, it is anticipated that the chapters in New York State will make application for such staffing grants in facilities to rehabilitate vocationally these mentally retarded adults.

Copies of the regulations are available from the press office, Social and Rehabilitation Service, U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Room 5121 South Building, 330 C. Street, S.W., Washington, D. C. 20201.

ARC PROTESTS CUT IN 4407 FUNDS

James F. Reville, then President of the New York State Association for Retarded Children protested strongly to Acting Commissioner of Education, Ewald Nyquist and Governor Rockefeller the 5 per cent cut in Section 4407 funds.

This is the program by which the State Department of Education subsidizes the education of children, mentally retarded or physically handicapped, who cannot be educated in public schools by the payment of up to $2,000 a year per child in private institutions, including the ARC.

The budget cut brought the sum down to $1900. In addition, public school districts are required to contribute to this program sums ranging from $100 to $400 depending upon size, wealth, etc.

The telegram follows:

"On behalf of the Chapters of the New York State Association for Retarded Children, Inc. and the parents of the many retarded we are serving under Section 4407 of the Education Law, we protest most strenuously the order to cut State reimbursement under this program by 5 per cent. This is a direct tax that hits the voluntary agencies particularly. Private schools can raise their fees and make the parents pay the $100 difference. We will not and cannot.

We are in many cases providing services for the mentally retarded that are rightfully the duty of local school districts who are not doing their job under mandated law. To penalize us for taking up this slack as well as preventing institutionalization of many of these children is short sighted and unconscionable.

We urge that this cut be rescinded now."

In answer to the telegram, Commissioner of Education, Nyquist stated his sympathies with the efforts of the Association and added "It is our earnest hope that the reduction be limited to the current fiscal year only, and that these funds will be restored to the State budget for the 1970-1971 fiscal year."

Some $9 million had been appropriated for the 4407 program for 1969.

EARLY RETURNS ON STATEWIDE REHABILITATION PLANS

Would you believe that . . . ?

. . . Between 5 per cent and 30 per cent of the U.S. population are disabled.

. . . Between 0.9 per cent and 10.4 per cent of the population are both disabled and eligible for VR services.

. . . The total client caseload of approximately 570,000 persons is estimated to reach 3.2 million persons by 1975.

. . . Caseloads in individual states will probably increase between 200 per cent and 800 per cent by 1975.

. . . Thus a total of 25,000 VR counselors will be needed in 1975 — verses the 5,000 existing in 1967

. . . States are recommending 300 per cent to 1400 per cent increases in VR budgets for 1975.

. . . Total dollars needed for VR in 1975 will be approximately $2.4 billion — versus the 1967 total budget of $303 million.

These highlights emerged from a preliminary evaluation of 14 final state reports on Statewide Planning for Vocational Rehabilitation. The reports were the result of 2-year RSA grants to each state to plan for VR needs and fulfillments in 1975.

"It is interesting to note", comments, Tom Coughlin, Chairman of the Vocational Rehabilitation Committee of the NYS ARC, "that the Senate has cut $35 million from the Administration's request of $475 million for vocational rehabilitation direct services (Title 2). The $475 million is $125 million less than the Johnson Administration had proposed.

A. GREENBERG, FOUNDER OF N.Y. ARC HONORED

J. T. Weingold presenting award to Ann Greenberg, founder of the State Association at annual dinner of the New York City Chapter.

NEW YORK YOUNGSTERS WIN AT SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Youngsters from both the community and the institutions of New York State, came home winners from the Northeast Special Olympics, held at Boston College, August 22-24. The Special Olympics are held under the sponsorship of the Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation and were operated this year with the assistance of the Massachusetts Jaycees.

Cortland County's Team in the Northeast Special Olympics proudly displaying their medals and insignias are left to right: Albert Chandler, Gary Davis, Bruce Gilbert and David Price. Mrs. Marilyn Tier and Miss Mary J. Engels admire the medals while Sharon Webster (extreme left) looks on.

The Northeast Special Olympics were opened with greetings by Mrs. Robert F. Kennedy and greetings from Senator Edward Kennedy. A morning parade took place after which former Olympics decathlon gold medalist Rafer Johnson led the youngsters in the Olympic Oath

Youngsters competed in events at four different age levels in various track and field and swimming events.

Five New York State Schools were represented at the Special Olympics by four man teams. These were, Syracuse, Wassaic, Newark, Letchworth Village & Rome State School.

22 of the 120 available medals were brought home by the teams from the State Schools with 8 each going to the Syracuse and Wassaic Teams, 3 to Newark, 2 to Letchworth Village and 1 to Rome. Syracuse State School won five first place gold medals with wins in the division three 300-yard run and division 2, soft-ball throw, the division 2 300-yard run and a boy & girl winner in the Division 2 50-yard dash.

In addition to the winners from the Institutions the Cortland County Chapter of the Association, sponsored a trip for four youngsters from the Special Classes in their County. Accompanied by Director of Special Education Miss Mary J. Engels, and Miss Sharon J. Webster, the boys representing Cortland County brought home 1 gold and 3 silver medals. Mrs. Marilyn Tier, Recreation Director for the Cortland County Chapter Summer Program, worked with the youngsters to help prepare them for the events.

A Broome County resident Kevin Jurena also brought home 2 gold medals in free style swimming events.

VFW WALK FOR RETARDED IN MASSACHUSETTS

Three Veterans of Foreign Wars began a "Walk for the Retarded" from the steps of the Capitol in Albany and then across the State of Massachusetts, beginning in July 1969.

The three men left Governor Rockefeller's office to walk from Albany across the State of Massachusetts to Boston and on to New Bedford.

L. to R. Second from left Dr. Fred Grunberg, Deputy Comm. of Mental Retardation; Mary Caniano, Albany ARC, Alton Marshall, Exec. Assist. to Governor Rockefeller, Henry DeGrace, VFW, John D. Lopes, VFW, Henry Kosior, VFW and Manuel J. Mello, Exec. Dir., Mass. ARC.

The purpose of the march was to draw attention to the cause of retarded children and draw financial support for the Massachusetts Association for Retarded Children. They hoped to obtain 10 cents a foot for the total distance, which is over 1,250,000 feet.

The men, Hank DeGrace of New Bedford, John D. Lopes of Fall River and Henry Kosior of Fall River, were greeted on the steps by a representative of the Governor's Office Alton Marshall, Executive Assistant to the Governor and Mary Caniano of our Albany County Chapter, in addition to Fred Grunberg, Deputy Commissioner for Mental Retardation. In a letter to Governor Sargent of Massachusetts, Governor Rockefeller greeted the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and expressed his approval and support, especially in community services for the mentally retarded.

WEINGOLD RECEIVES JAYCEE COMMENDATION

Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of the New York State ARC, was the recent recipient of a Certificate of Recognition and Appreciation from the New York State Jaycee Mental Health — Mental Retardation Committee. The Award was given Mr. Weingold by Mr. James A. Labenski State Chairman of the Jaycees Mental Health — Mental Retardation Program.

In his letter to Mr. Weingold, Mr. Labenski said:

"Dear Mr. Weingold:

Here is a small token of my appreciation for the cooperation you have given me this past year to make my program a little more successful.

Your help has enabled me to be chosen Outstanding State Chairman and Outstanding Achievement in the field of Mental Health and Mental Retardation nationally.

Feel free to call on me if for some reason you need my help or would like my assistance.

Yours in Jaycees,
James A. Labenski
MH-MR Chairman
New York State Jaycees"

TO BRIDGE A GAP

Perhaps some light can be shed on the misunderstanding which sometimes exists between the Association and local United Funds, by a comparison of figures such as those received from the Erie County United Fund.

It has long been the contention of the Association, that United Funds attempt to over control Chapter activities when they do not contribute a sufficient portion of the Chapter's budget to be meaningful. The funds on the other hand, find themselves in a position of generally being the largest source of revenue for many agencies, in which case, it would seem appropriate that they have some controls over expenditures.

Erie County was a particularly interesting subject for the illustration of this situation because according to the information received, while the ARC received the largest dollar amount of any other so-called "Health Agencies" from the Fund, the percentage of the Chapter budget which the Fund contributed was much smaller than for many other agencies.

The dollar amounts received by agencies were as follows: (1) ARC $74,292; (2) Hearing & Speech $65,491; (3) Multiple Sclerosis $64,500; (4) Blind $64,270; (5) UCP $44,130; (6) Epilepsy $22,061; (7) Kidney Foundation $12,511; (8) Arthritis $10,951; (9) Mental Health $5,780; (10) Hemophilia $5,761.

The percentage of agency budget represented by their dollar amounts was quite different, as the following shows:

	Agency	Budget	Amount	% Of Budget
1.	Mult. Scler.	64,700	64,500	99.7
2.	Epilepsy	22,281	22.061	98.5
3.	Kidney Found.	14,686	12,511	85.2
4.	Mental Health	7,145	5,780	80.9
5.	Arthritis	18,034	10,951	60.4
6.	Hearing & Spch.	130,491	65,491	50.
7.	ARC	268,798	74,292	24.3
8.	Blind	341,740	64,270	18.8
9.	UCP	219,134	44,130	15.5
10.	Hemophilia	44,081	5,761	13.3

MENTAL HEALTH COMPLEX IN ROCKLAND COUNTY

MRS. DOLAN HEADS DEDICATION COMMITTEE

In October of last year, the new Mental Health Complex or Center in Rockland County was dedicated with Mrs. Louis Dolan, Executive Director of Rockland County Chapter acting as Chairman of the dedication ceremonies.

The Center is primarily constructed to provide a broad spectrum of mental health services in the county.

Dr. Alan Miller, Commissioner of Mental Hygiene pointed out that the center represents a "milestone in the entire State", and is the first community center in New York and one of only three in the Nation.

The ARC operates a program Pomona funded through Section 4407 of the Education Law, an adult program outside the center, and a program for pre-school children in the mental health complex. It is our understanding that the ARC is being permitted to rent space for this purpose in the center. The center was constructed entirely with federal, state and local tax money.

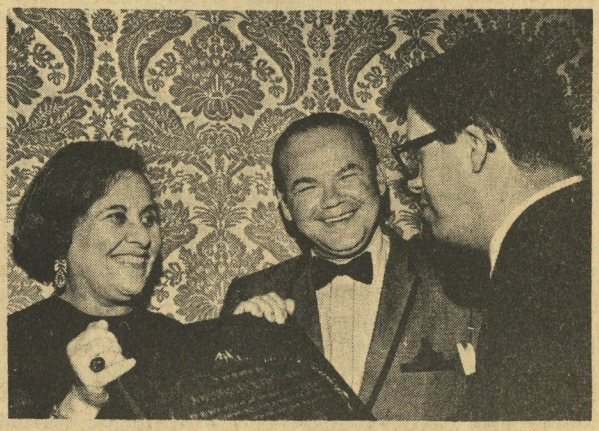
It has recently been learned that the budget of the Rockland County Chapter, some $120 odd thousand for their triple program although accepted by the Community Mental Health Board it has been rejected by the County Board of Supervisors and cut to something around $40,000. This is being appealed to the State Department of Mental Hygiene. The State Department of Mental Hygiene, however, in spite of Governor Rockefeller's statement that they do have the power to enter into contracts directly with voluntary agencies, has taken the position that they have no authority over local mental health boards.

HONORED AT 20TH ROSEBALL

JONNY WEINGOLD SYMBOL OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE

It was "go all the way, every way" at the gala Roseball of Nassau 20th anniversary celebration last June. The Roseball surpassed all previous events as did the net receipts of over $100,000.

Award recipient Jonathan Weingold blowing out birthday candles with m.c. Ray Heatherton.



Nassau County Exec. Dir. Mrs. Helen Kaplan, and Pres., Nathan M. Roth with Jonny and his plaque.

The high spot of the evening was a presentation by AHRC Executive Director, Mrs. Helen Kaplan of a special award to Jonathan Weingold which paid tribute to him as "the symbol of all the young people who inspired the establishment of this organization and its service programs."

STATE CAMPS FOR COMMUNITY KIDS AT WILTON, SULLIVAN

The State office has received from the Department of Mental Hygiene, a brochure outlining with considerable pleasure their newly expanded summer camp program.

The program, which began in 1968 at the State camp in Wilton, was designed primarily to provide a summer camp experience for institutionalized retarded individuals, but was also held open for a number of community campers, approximately 1/5 of the weekly total, in an attempt to offer a free camp experience to retarded youngsters who might otherwise be unable to afford it.

This past summer, 1969, the program was expanded to include a camp which was purchased intact in Sullivan County to provide a second facility for such camp programs.

There seems to be a great deal of emphasis by the Department in stressing the program as it relates to the community children. We had hoped to be able to present in this issue of OCV a report of how many community children had an opportunity to participate in the program this past summer, but all attempts to obtain this information from the Department, have been unavailing.

Chapter News

We will let our Award winning ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY, start off this month's News . . . The Chapter going full speed ahead . . . They are working hard at present to accept and place new trainees from Sunmount State School who have been placed in foster homes in the Hermon area . . . Chapter was the recipient of silverware service for 30 for use at the Center presented by Bigelow Progress Club, for which

Trainee Ivan Matice completes work on the St. Lawrence-Seaway Rehabilitation Facility's new sign as Donald Donally, center, and Richard Laurin, Executive Director looks on.

we thank them . . . Wish we could have attended ROME STATE SCHOOL's Annual Picnic — it sounded delicious . . . CAYUGA COUNTY's Newsletter revealing the fact that the Chapter anticipates no less than 4 separate Christmas parties to be provided for the trainees at their facility. Interesting to read the Chapter's December Newsletter which contains facets of their many activities including International Holiday for the Handicapped, Boy Scouts, Camp Columbus, Institutional Committee, Staff Training, Visit to Newark State School, etc. . . . Thanks also due to the members of the Painters District Council 4 who volunteered their services to paint our ERIE COUNTY CHAPTER's Center during Buffalo's annual Clean-Up, Paint-up, Fix-up Campaign . . . Paul Nigra, Executive Director of the FULTON COUNTY CHAPTER writes that "The Lexington Training Center has filled a position provided for us via a DVR grant for Evaluator-Trainee with Gerald Matthews . . . Welcome aboard Mr. Matthews! . . . The AHRC Staff Report brings good news of Anne Greenberg being honored at the 20th Anniversary Celebration of NEW YORK CITY CHAPTER with a gold watch as the "Outstanding Service Award" in the field of mental retardation. Mrs. Greenberg is the founder of the New York City Chapter . . . ALBANY COUNTY CHAPTER's Executive Director, Steven Goldstein, seen smiling in a recent newspaper photograph as he accepts a check for $2,509.70 from the profits of the Capital Newspapers circulation telephone subscription campaign of which the Association was the recipient . . . The Chapter also very happy about their recent prize winning booth. Each year the non-profit agencies in the area are invited to have a booth on display at the Colonie Center's Flea Market. The two best booth designs receive a prize from the Merchants Association. Albany County Chapter won second prize and with it a $50.00 check . . . Speaking of contributions, WESTCHESTER COUNTY CHAPTER received an unusual gift when the 12 Counselors of Camp Croton, the Westchester Camp for the Handicapped, contributed all of their tips to the Chapter to help defray the cost of sending a trainee to the Camp . . . ROCKLAND COUNTY CHAPTER literally swooning over their new Center . . . County has dedicated a new mental health complex in which the Chapter is now located . . . Mrs. Marion Dolan, Executive Director of the Rockland County Chapter served as Chairman of the Dedication Day Ceremonies . . . Working through local legislator, Assemblyman Levy, and the State office, the Chapter was most active in helping obtain a new Summer Day Camp "Camp Venture" . . . The camp combined the program for the mentally retarded and the Parent Teacher Association for Exceptional Children in Rockland County . . . There is great news of course from NASSAU COUNTY, where the Chapter is moving toward the construction of new buildings. The December 1969 Newsletter featured pictures of the groundbreaking of their two new buildings which will accommodate 750 adolescents and adults. 500 young people are expected to be operating in the Steinberg Training Center and Workshop in Freeport by 1970, and a new building for 250 will be constructed on the grounds of the present AHRC Center . . . Order your tickets now for the 1970 Roseball under the Chairmanship of Mrs. H. E. Schueler . . . BROOME COUNTY, going through the growing pains of planning for a building, a rapidly expanding program much in evidence in Broome . . . Newsletter containing news of a Christmas Square Dance, Swimming and bowling for their young people . . . ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER becoming active in many areas . . . Sent a delegate to the National Youth Conference in Miami, Florida. The Port Jervis Youth Group was honored in the October issue of Parents Magazine as one of five groups in New York State receiving a National Youth Group Achievement Award . . OSWEGO COUNTY reports an interesting new activity with Mrs. Betty Lieb teaching knitting to youngsters in the BOCES School . . . Congratulations to Frances Levine of the BENEVOLENT SOCIETY who will have been re-elected to the office of President by the time this reaches you . . . Chapter still buzzing over the success with the sale of Christmas Cards particularly the Bruce Shaw design which the Chapter handled. We understand they sold every box they ordered . . . CLINTON COUNTY CHAPTER enjoying a fine annual Dinner November 25th, at the Holiday Inn in Plattsburgh with State Executive Director Joseph T. Weingold as the Speaker . . . CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY planning a bake Sale and making plans for buildings . . .Always good news . . . For one of the real success stories in the Association we return to the activity of STEUBEN COUNTY CHAPTER . . . A recent report for OCV included the news that the Chapter sponsored a Christmas Card Design Contest to obtain entries for the State and National Contest. Chapter divided entrants into four divisions of primary, intermediate, junior and senior high with prizes of $5.00 for first place, $3.00 for second, $1.00 for third place in each division. All entries were sent to the State competition and provided the largest single group of paintings received from any area, 70 . . . Chapter is having another learn-to-swim class and planning on forming a Youth Auxiliary . . . Chapter ordered 25 cases of Flame of Hope Candles for sale and has just received a charter for the first retarded boy scout troop in the area, hoping to have another soon . . . Keep it up Steuben! . . . WAYNE COUNTY CHAPTER continuing its active life in their new Center at 15 Lawrence Street, in Lyons. They have added a speech therapist to the staff. Fine expansion in Wayne County . . . SCHENECTADY welcomes new program director Mr. Ronald Gates . . .

Mr. Andrew MacLeod, Pres. of the Rockland County Chapter, is shown presenting a check for $10,500 to Mrs. John Lukens, Pres. of the Exceptional Child PTA. Pictured from L. to R. are: Mr. Ray Bader, Camp Director; Mrs. Murray Fogel, ARC member and Camp Administrator; Mrs. George Jamieson, PTA Secretary; Mrs. Louis Dolan, Exec. Dir., ARC; Mrs. John Lukens, Pres. of the Exceptional Child PTA and Mr. Andrew MacLeod, Pres. of the Rockland County Chapter.

CHAPTER NEWS continued from page 16

Welcome aboard, Mr. Gates . . . Like so many others, Schenectady busy with plans for a building . . . Good to see our MONROE COUNTY CHAPTER advertising for house-parents for its hostel . . . A fine new addition to the Chapter's broad program . . .Pushing hard now for Phase II, a "Balance of Needs" Campaign for the Al Sigl Center . . . HERKIMER COUNTY CHAPTER writes to indicate that they received a $500 check from the Rotary Club of Herkimer . . . Ran a four week session of Day Camp using the girl scout lodge as their camp base, with average daily attendance of 18 . . . Had a county wide paper drive which raised over $400 . . . had a booth at the county fair with slides of special classes and a display of things made by the special class . . . The topper, however, was the Chapter's recent door-to-door fund raising campaign where they were kept out of some of the larger communities in the County by the presence of a United Fund and were still able to raise some $8,000

President Doyle Van Dusen presenting Mrs. Robert Wood of Cooperstown with a plaque for her efforts as Summer Day School Program Chairman. Frederic A. Morris of Oneonta, Program's Teacher-Director looking on. Took place in Cooperstown First Presbyterian Church September 12th.

. . . Way to sock-it-to 'em Herkimer . . . OTSEGO COUNTY CHAPTER now printing a regular monthly Newsletter which is a most interesting sheet . . . I hope that by this time, we have completed the long and tedious fight to get a Mental Health Board Contract approved for them for their summer recreation program . . . The Chapter has undertaken the project of helping locate a farm home for a retarded boy from Long Island. We certainly hope that works out . . . Also had a fair booth at the Fair sponsored an annual summer picnic. It was very nostalgic to see the write-up about the first meeting of the Otsego County Chapter in the November Newsletter . . . November 19, 1964 was the date of the Chapter's first meeting . . . MONTGOMERY COUNTY CHAPTER continuing to move forward in the activities at their "Liberty House" . . . Very much involved in the new joint BOCES project which will serve the entire Montgomery County area. We are sure more will be heard about that in future issues . . . Congratulations to the Welfare League - Letchworth Village Chapter on their 30th Birthday — by far the oldest Chapter in the State Association . . . Congratulations also to Mrs. James F. (Frances) Reville, who will have been elected the new President of the Welfare League by the time this paper reaches you . . . COLUMBIA COUNTY CHAPTER being one of our more active Chapters sending out collection boxes to raise funds for the Chapter. Once again operated their summer camp, Camp Mohican with 41 campers this past year . . . We hear that there is a strong possibility that Columbia and Greene County may soon be getting their heads together on sheltered workshops. Good luck on that one . . . And finally, who can offer anything but bouquets to the ONONDAGA COUNTY CHAPTER upon the breaking of grounds for their new facility on the grounds of Syracuse State School . . . We are sure this wonderful event is covered in detail elsewhere in this issue, but just couldn't pass up the opportunity to mention this here . . . Congratulations to the Chapter on the tremendous coverage they have been receiving in the press, thanks to PR Director Sue Morse, particularly impressive was the large spread with many pictures in the November second issue of Empire Magazine, a Sunday Newspaper filler . . . Workshop enrollment at Onondaga is at highest peak with 33 people involved in the program . . . Will close this column by saying we hope you all have a Very Happy New Year . . .

RENSSELAER HOSTS 100 FROM 13-COUNTY REGION

Rensselaer County Chapter played host to over 100 members of the Northeast Region of the Association at its meeting last Fall. Addressing the gathering was Dr. Judith Rettig, Assistant Commissioner, Division of Mental Retardation of the New York State Department of Mental Hygiene. Dr. Rettig spoke on "The changing world of retardation".

Standing are Mrs. James Reville, left, and Mrs. Ernest Messier, Rensselaer County Chapter President. Seated, from the left, are James Reville, New York State President; Dr. Judith Rettig guest speaker from the New York State Dept. of Mental Hygiene, and Clifford Westfall, Vice President of the northeastern region.

Mrs. Ernest Messier (Henrietta to us), President of Rensselaer Chapter, pointed out that for many members of the 13-Chapter Region, it was a first-hand opportunity to view the modern facilities at the four-month old center.

The Center is equipped to care for mentally retarded persons in most of Rensselaer County, along with Cohoes, Green Island and Watervliet.

In addition to members of Rensselaer Chapter, Albany, Clinton, Essex, Columbia, Fulton, Greene, Montgomery, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Warren and Washington Counties were also represented at the annual region affair.

Clifford Westfall, then Northeast Regional Vice President, presided.

GROUND BROKEN FOR NEW NASSAU WORKSHOP

Construction will soon be started on a $2 million Steinberg Vocational Training and Sheltered Workshop center which is being built by the Nassau County Chapter of the ARC.

Groundbreaking ceremonies took place in September. It is hoped that the 125,000 square foot facility will be operational by late 1970.

The Steinberg Vocational Training Center, explained Mr. John L. Sinn, Chairman of the AHRC Development Program in Nassau County, has been named to honor Paul P. Steinberg of Hewlett Bay Park, Chairman of Leasco Data Processing, "recognizing the early support and strong leadership which our program has received from Mr. and Mrs. Steinberg."

The new center, which will include, in addition to vocational training facilities, a sheltered workshop and a job evaluation and counseling department, will service 500 retardates as well as those in the community who, because of socio-cultural reasons, are functioning subnormally.

Located in an industrial park in southeastern Freeport, the Steinberg Center will be the largest facility of its kind in the United States.

An instructional program will be available to those in special education who want institute similar facilities and programs.

Y.O.U.T.H. — N.Y.S.A.R.C. BEING FORMED

ORGANIZING CONVENTION IN APRIL

The N. Y. State ARC has begun taking new steps forward with an effort currently being directed at organizing a State-wide Y.O.U.T.H. group. This will be New York's part in a nation-wide program launched by the N.A.R.C. in Portland, Oregon in 1967

At that time, an organizational meeting of young people wanting to help the mentally retarded on an organized basis was held. The name Y.O.U.T.H. — N.A.R.C. (Youth Organized and United To Help) was adopted, and has been subsequently picked up by the various states

L. to R. Mrs. Ruth Schueler, Mrs. Jo Iovino Co-Chairman, Youth Committee, Debbie Rhatigan of Suffolk at Youth Workshop.

State President Robert J. Hodgson, re-appointed Mrs. Anthony (Jo) Iovino of Suffolk County and Mrs. Hassan (Ruth) Schueler of Nassau County as co-chairmen of our State Youth Committee and placed Mrs. Schueler in charge of the opening Conference.

A planning session was held January 10th, at the State office to which representatives of existing Youth groups in Nassau, Suffolk, Orange and Cattaraugus Counties and New York City were invited to send representatives. From this, it is hoped plans will come for a first State-Wide Organizational Conference at the Belmont-Plaza Hotel in New York City, April 17 and 18, 1970.

In addition to the groups mentioned previously, there are also active youth groups in Livingston-Wyoming and Chemung Counties, and both Steuben and Westchester have indicated a readiness to proceed.

Materials on organizing a local Y.O.U.T.H. group have been distributed to all Chapter Presidents and Executive Directors. Any Chapter having further questions is urged to contact the State Office.

POODLE AIDS RETARDED CHILDREN?

A dog aids retarded children?

Well here is the article from the Onondaga County Chapter Newsletter and apparently it is so.

" 'Gigi' is a three-year-old silver grey, miniature toy poodle. She's not too different from other run-of-the-mill poodles except Gigi has donated $600 to retarded children.

Gigi's first litter of baby poodles yielded five, and a second brought another five into the world.

Today she stands guard over a plastic swimming pool which is home to her latest litter of six little poodles with tiny curls resembling Persian lamb.

Gigi's babies have been sold for $50 a piece. Benefitting from the sales have been: McCarthy School, $50; Oneida-Herkimer ARC, $50; Sister Angelis' Montessori School for pre-school retarded, $150; and our Center, $350.

Gigi lives at 514 Bradford Parkway at the home of Dr. Alfred Falcone." (Dr. Falcone is President of the Onondaga County Chapter)

The above article is written by Dianne Martiny, an intern in public relations at the Onondaga County Chapter.

Our only comment is: "Is dogs more generous than people?"

YOUTH IN NASSAU

Nassau County Chapter's second annual Teen Drive was really second to none—twice as many teen workers as last year more than doubled the amount of money collected. Four thousand youngsters, covering approximately 24 communities in Nassau County, raised over $40,000 for the capital drive toward the Chapter's proposed new Vocational Training Center!

Top Teen Winners are pictured with Nassau County Chapter's Immediate Past President, Edward B. Licence and at his right in photo, Emmy award winner Billy Schulman, All County Teen Nancy Denker and Chairman Mrs. H. E. Schueler.

Chapter Vice President, Mrs. H. E. Schueler, the inspiring leader who originated and chaired the Teen Drive last year, was once again the enthusiastic director of this second annual Teen Drive for Retarded Children. Mrs. Schueler's praise of the young people who worked so hard is unbounded, as is the gratitude and admiration AHRC has for her. "These young people really want to make a positive contribution toward helping other people. This is their way of doing it", Mrs. Schueler commented.

The teen workers were feted at a gala party attended by more than 1,500 youngsters, held at the Chapter's Educational Center in Brookville, Long Island. Forty five outstanding boys and girls were presented with awards naming them "Top Teens" in their communities and one teen worker, Nancy Denker of Plainview, was voted All County Top Teen for her extraordinary work during the Drive. Held under a huge tent, the party featured fried chicken and several rock groups to entertain. Among the dignitaries attending were New York State Supreme Court Justice Sol Wachtler, Congressman Lester Wolff, Assemblymen Vincent Balletta, Martin Ginsberg and Stanley Harwood.

NASSAU COUNTY ARC IN CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

Honorable Lester Wolff, member of the House of Representatives of Nassau County, inserted into the Congressional Record a story about the Nassau County ARC and especially the efforts of 3500 youth who gave their time and effort toward raising funds for the new vocational training center to be built in Freeport.

"More than 3500 hundred youths offered their time and effort to raise $14,000, said Representative Wolff, "for a proposed $2 million vocational rehabilitation center to be built by 1970 in Freeport, New York."

"Certainly," continued Representative Wolff, "each one of the 3500 young canvassers deserves recognition for helping this goal become a reality." And subsequently they did receive a delightful thank you from the AHRC.

"Mr. Speaker, Cervantes once said," continued Congressman Wolff, " 'great persons are able to do great kindnesses.' Although I am unable to include the 3500 persons who showed such great kindnesses in the Record, I would like to include the top 45 teenagers cited at this occasion." The Congressman then proceeded to cite the Chairman, Mrs. H. E. Schueler, Mrs. Karl Ganin, Mrs. Stuart Larick, Co-Chairmen and the all county Top Teen, Nancy Denker. In addition he cited forty some-odd others.

GROUND BREAKING IN SYRACUSE

After years of dreaming, planning and capital fund raising, construction began in July for the one million dollar new Retarded Children's Center in Syracuse to serve Onondaga County. Instructional and vocational departments and offices will hopefully be moved in by May of 1970. The facility is being built on a three acre tract adjacent to the Syracuse State School, and certain facilities will be shared. The land is a lovely spot located by one of Syracuse's most beautiful parks.

GROUND BREAKING IN SYRACUSE

L. to R. Joseph Weingold, Exec. Dir., NYS ARC; the Rev. M. Dennis Lee, Chrm., Onondaga County Mental Health Advisory Board; Hon. John Mulroy, Onondaga County Executive; Alfred Cappuccilli, Past Pres. Onondaga County ARC; Joey Belge, ARC national poster boy 1968; Mrs. Margaret Daly, Deputy Comm., Onondaga County Dept. of Mental Health; Dr. George Buchholtz, Director, Syracuse State School; Dr. Ivan Vasey, Consulting Psychiatrist, Retarded Children's Center; Marden D. Paru, Exec. Dir., Retarded Children's Center.

At the dedication ceremonies, Joseph T. Weingold, executive director represented the State Association. A recent visit to Syracuse by Mr. Weingold revealed that the steel structure is already up.

ARC CHAPTER PRESIDENT NAMED "WOMAN OF THE YEAR"

Mrs. C. V. (Henrietta) Latimer, was recently selected as 1969 Woman of the Year in her home community of Hudson Falls. The selection was made by the Hudson Falls Business and Professional Women's Club. A dinner was held in honor of Mrs. Latimer's selection.

The Chairman of the Selection Committee typifies Mrs. Latimer's activities in the community in stating that "Mrs. Latimer is receiving this honor in recognition of her extensive contributions to the community and to the area, particularly in the field of programs for handicapped and retarded children."

Currently serving as President of the Warren-Washington County Chapter of the Association, Mrs. Latimer had previously served as Secretary, and Vice-President of the organization. She is a member of the Advisory Committee of Prospect Programs a combined ARC-CP Operation in Hudson Falls, and is a volunteer worker in the program.

In addition to these activities on behalf of the Association, Mrs. Latimer has formerly been a volunteer worker at the Wilton State School and counts among her many activities several posts in the Presbyterian Church in Hudson Falls, co-chairman of volunteer and records and also historian of the Hudson Falls Branch of the Glens Falls Hospital Guild, a member of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Medical Society of Warren-Washington County, the Crown Star Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, and has served as a girl scout and cub scout leader as well as being active in PTA.

WARREN COUNTY SENDS TREE, CHILD TO WASHINGTON

The United Commercial Travelers of America, Glens Falls Council 417 under the leadership of Senior Counselor Carl Roblee is going to sponsor a trip to Washington, D.C. for Miss Patricia Normandin of Glens Lake, New York, and her parents as part of the council's program for retarded children. The Council is hopeful that Patricia will be involved in the Program of helping light the National Christmas Tree. This year's Tree, was cut in Warren County.

Presenting the check for the trip to Washington are left to right: Mr. Carl Roblee, Senior Counselor, United Commercial Travelers, Glens Falls, Sidney Van Dusen, New York State ARC, Board of Governors, Mrs. Normandin and Patricia.

In sponsoring the trip, Mr. Roblee said "We are pleased to have the opportunity to sponsor this trip for Patricia. It is our hope to focus more and more attention on the work done by our organization, but it is of most importance to point out the work that is being done in the field of help to the retarded".

REVILLE AT ROME STATE SCHOOL CEREMONY

Andrew T. Spelicy was introduced as the 1969 outstanding employee of the Rome State School during the annual dinner meeting of the Rome State School Chapter of the ARC at the School last Fall.

Mrs. Charles F. Tracy, President of the Rome State School Chap. is shown with Andrew T. Spellicy, left, recipient of the group's outstanding employee award, and James F. Reville, president of the State Association for Retarded Children.

A social worker at the school, Spelicy was presented a $25 check on behalf of the chapter by Dr. Charles Greenberg of Rome State School Director. He has been employed in the Social Service Department for 19 years. Commended for his work with residents who are preparing for community placement, Spelicy is unit leader of Ward K-1, where young men receive their final training before going out. He has developed a working unit described as exceptional in the enthusiastic participation of all employees involved.

James F. Reville, then President of the State ARC represented the Association at the ceremonies.

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY CHAPTER WINS NARC MEMBERSHIP AWARD

The St. Lawrence County Chapter of the New York State ARC, was the recipient of an award for outstanding membership growth in 1969, at the Convention of the National Association for Retarded Children, held in Miami Beach Florida. The Chapter's award, was given for the highest percentage increase in membership of all Chapters its size in 1969. Competing against all other Chapters of the Association in the country with 1968 memberships between 50 and 100 members, St Lawrence County Chapter came up with a final total of 289 members.

James F. Reville, immediate past president, New York State ARC, (1); Thomas A. Coughlin, III, Central Regional Vice-President, New York State ARC, (r), accept the St. Lawrence County Chapter Membership Award from Mrs. Geoffrey A. Oelsner, Chairman, Membership Development Committee, National Association for Retarded Children.

In winning the award, the St. Lawrence County Chapter kept alive a string of five (5) consecutive years, during which a Chapter of the New York State Association for Retarded Children has won at least one (1) membership award.

In taking the top award, the St. Lawrence County Chapter nosed out another Chapter of the New York State ARC, which received honorable mention among Chapters with 1968 memberships between 50 and 100. The Albany County Chapter, which began the year with a membership of 88, increased their membership to 200 members. Mrs. Jack Weiss was Chairman of the Albany County Membership Campaign.

Other Chapters receiving honorable mention in their respective membership categories, were Chautauqua County in the 100-150 member category, and the Monroe County Chapter and the Benevolent Society - Willowbrook Chapter, in the 500 plus membership category.

ROCKLAND ARC SPONSORS CAMPING FOR ALL MENTALLY HANDICAPPED

Since the Clark Recreation Center in Ramapo agreed to open its doors to 100 mentally handicapped children in search of a Summer camp, the Rockland County ARC has agreed to sponsor this camping program.

The camp is being organized by the Rockland County Exceptional Children's PTA.

It operated successfully this past Summer with over 100 mentally handicapped children in attendance. It was operated in cooperation with the town of Ramapo and partially supported by the towns of Orangetown and Clarkstown, the village of West Haverstraw, some money from the State Department of Mental Hygiene and county business and service organizations. The total cost was approximately $21,000.

According to Mrs. Kathleen Lukens, the president of the Exceptional Child PTA, this is the first time four of the five towns have pooled recreational services to enrich the lives of children. Included with the mentally retarded were, brain injured and children with learning disability.

Extremely active in getting this program going was Assemblyman Eugene Levy who worked closely with the State office of the ARC.

NO MERGERS SAYS NARC

RESOLUTION AGAINST MERGING WITH ORGANIZATIONS SERVING MENTALLY ILL

At the NARC Convention in Miami Beach in October 1969, the National Association for Retarded Children representatives unanimously passed the following resolution forbidding the merger of ARC units with organizations serving the mentally ill.

The resolution follows:

"WHEREAS, the Associations for the retarded are concerned with the problems of mental retardation and with the well being of the retarded, and

WHEREAS, the Associations for Mental Health are concerned with the problems of the mentally ill, and

WHEREAS, there seems to be a growing tendency in communities throughout the nation to effect a merger of mental health and mental retardation services, and

WHEREAS, such mergers may jeopardize the ability of State and Local associations to effectively provide needed services to the mentally retarded;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the 20th Annual Convention of the National Association for Retarded Children, duly assembled in Miami Beach, Florida this 11th day of October, 1969, that NARC reaffirms its opposition to any attempt to merge organizations serving the mentally ill with those serving the mentally retarded."

In a pamphlet recently issued by the U.S. Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare, "The Problem of Mental Retardation", the statement is again made "mental illness is not the same as mental retardation. They are separate and distinct conditions. Mental illness is often temporary and may strike at any time during the life of the individual, mental illness can be treated and often cured."

At the office of the Association, Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director for the Association said: "Although this difference between mental retardation and mental illness and the treatment of the two disabilities have been stressed over and over again, we are still being forced through the psychiatric domination of community mental health and retardation services into a matrix in which we do not fit. In this bed we are supposed to serve the mentally ill and the mentally retarded in the same programs and if the ARC feels it cannot and should not do so, mental health boards then say 'we will do so' ".

NARC SETS PRIORITIES

RAISES DUES

In September 1969, the National Association for Retarded Children distributed a one-page leaflet describing the NARC priorities for the year 1969-1970. They follow: 1. poverty, 2. residential services to implement NARC's policy statements to eradicate immediately the dehumanizing conditions in institutions, 3. education—the improvement of educational and vocational training and rehabilitation and finally, 4. strengthening NARC and its State and local associations, the priority being the organization and funding structure of National, State and local Associations. On the later point, the leaflet reads:

"Since its beginning the National Association for Retarded Children has had its roots deeply imbedded in the local communities. Its continued growth and effectiveness on the national scene on behalf of the mentally retarded has been inextricably tied to the corresponding growth and effectiveness of its state and local associations in the communities."

"As a membership organization our future lies in the continued growth in membership. With increased membership will come vast untapped human resources to contribute innovative leadership as well as a reservoir of volunteer services and expanded opportunities for public education and financial support."

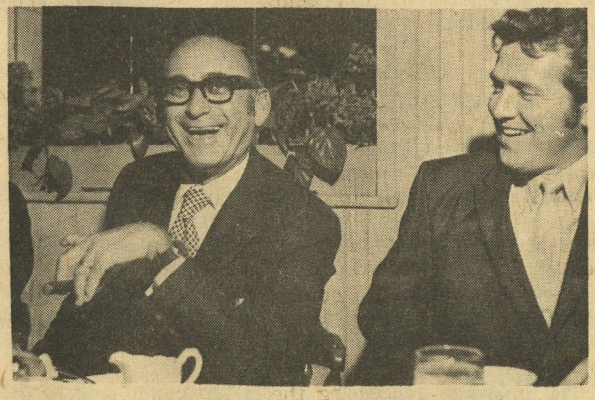
As one means of increasing the membership of NARC, the delegates, by a close vote, moved to double the membership dues for individuals beginning the year 1971.

SEEN AT STATE CONVENTION

Out-going President, James F. Reville accepts Dept. of Mental Hygiene award in a very solemn mood.

Discovered at last. Weingold and Reville after State Award to Jim, out-going President.

Julie Banner captures pretty girl (as usual) at Saturday Banquet (ah, there, Julie!)



Jerry Weingold finds proceedings amusing. Tom Coughlin shares the fun.

L. to R. Jan Swander, Hilda Weirich, Convention Chairman, Joan Coughlin, Shirley Booth, Reg. Chrm.

Phil Roos, Exec. Dir., NARC, showing NY State ARC the correct road. Flanked by Frances Reville and Bob Hodgson, newly elected President.

Yes, the Board works. Max Schachter tells Board about swiss accounts. L. to R. Tom Coughlin, V.P., Bob Hodgson, Pres. Elect, Jim Reville, Pres.

Jim Reville presiding at General Session — L. to R. Rita McHugh, Jefferson County President, Tom Coughlin, Bob Hodgson, Jim Reville, Jerry Weingold, Cliff Westfall, and Gus Jacobs.

SENATOR CONKLIN HONORED

State Senator William T. Conklin has been named "Man of the Year" of the Community Mayors of New York State and received the award at a dinner in his honor at the New York Hilton Hotel, October 4, 1969, it was announced by Dominick Dellla Rocca, executive chief mayor. The award is being presented in recognition of Senator Conklin's many years of service to the handicapped and his community achievements. The Senator, a Republican, served for many years as Chairman of the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental and Physical Handicap. The Mayors' Organization is composed of community leaders who work for neighborhood improvement and aid the indigent and the handicapped.

LEXINGTON CENTER INCLUDES PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED

Since Lexington Training Center for the Mentally Retarded in Fulton County represented the only vocational rehabilitation agency in the community, the Board of Directors of the Fulton County Chapter decided recently to open the doors of the training center to the physically handicapped as well as the mentally retarded.

New program at Lexington Training Center has provided employment for George Kazala, center, a physically handicapped Amsterdam resident. He dips doughnuts at Dunkin' Donuts, 129 South Main Street, under the supervision of Gene Cunningham, owner, right and Thomas Pemrick, supervisor at the Lexington Avenue Center.

This is in keeping with the policy of the State Board of Governors for small counties which cannot support more than one vocational rehabilitation center. In those cases, the chapter is permitted to serve all handicaps that can be served under one roof, provided the chapter maintains control and direction of the program. The later proviso is solely for the purpose of protecting the rights of the mentally retarded who under other situations may well be cut out when a budget stringency is experienced.

Similar programs are being carried out by other counties, notably Jefferson as well as Warren-Washington, and others. The two new programs that have been created in the Lexington Center are Industrial Training Outreach and Housing Maintenance. Both programs are in their infancy.

Financing is through the State Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, which allows $40 a week per trainee, Department of Mental Hygiene through the Division of Local Services, $20,000 a year, and Community Chest, about $2600 a year, and a few donations.

It is interesting to note that the chapter recently has been forced to approach a bank for a loan to continue its operation. It is quite apparent, therefore, that the sources of funds enumerated above are not sufficient to support this important program in Fulton County.

The program is under the direction of Mr. Paul Nigra, Executive Director of the Chapter.

FIGHT AGAINST GERMAN MEASLES

Governor Rockefeller recently announced an intensive medical campaign for 1969-70 which is intended to protect all children below the age of puberty against German measles (rubella).

The State Health Department, in cooperation with local health departments and private physicians, will vaccinate an additional 300,000 children a year under this program, according to the Governor's announcement.

To advance this program, the State Health Department has been awarded a Federal grant of $284,000, including $87,550 for 58,000 doses of rubella vaccine for Upstate New York. The New York City Health Department, under a separate grant, has been awarded approximately $68,000 for 45,000 doses of vaccine.

The State is making available $300,000 for the purpose of additional doses of vaccine needed to vaccinate the initial target population.

In addition to the immunization of 300,000 children, the program will conduct surveillance of vaccine effectiveness by means of laboratory tests, and will initiate appropriate control measures to aid in evaluating its effectiveness.

"If the vaccine is as effective as has been reported, the occurrence of rubella should become as rare in future years as the occurrence of whooping cough, diphtheria and polio," the Governor stated.

Senator Dalwin J. Niles, Chairman of the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental and Physical Handicap has announced that the Joint Legislative Committee will consider legislation to make immunization against German measles mandatory for all children entering public schools.

RADIATION LINKED TO RETARDATION

U. N. REPORT WARNS OF EVEN LOW DOSES IN PREGNANCY

A panel of 15 scientists warned in a United Nations report on October 11th that even low doses of radiation on pregnant women might possibly result in mental retardation of the unborn.

The warning was given by a group of radiologists and other specialists serving on a scientific committee created by the General Assembly in 1955 to examine and report on the effects of atomic radiation.

The United States member of the panel was Dr. R. H. Chamberlain, a professor of radiology at the University of Pennsylvania.

The conclusions were based in large measure on recent studies made of children born to women who survived the bomb blasts at Hiroshima and Nagasaki. These studies were made by the Atomic Bomb Casualty Commission, supported by the United States and Japanese governments.

In their report, the scientists noted that there was clear evidence that high radiation doses, such as those experienced by pregnant women who survived the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings, could result in mentally retarded offspring.

Evidence of the effects of low doses is still "extremely tenuous," the specialists said, but they cautioned that low-range radiation could not be excluded as causing some damaging effects. As a group, they called for more intensive study of the matter.

The risk of mental retardation seems to be much higher in the second to the sixth month of intra-uterine life.

The scientists also noted that retardation is not the only serious effect associated with pre-natal radiation and cited surveys showing that children exposed to radiation in early childhood had a 40 percent higher incidence of malignancies of the central nervous system.

In its overall conclusion, the report said:

"The evidence available induces the committee to draw attention to the particular hazards that may result from irradiation of the fetus and of children."

RESOLUTION continued from page 3

RESOLVED, That this Association recognizes with deep appreciation the wholehearted, dedicated efforts being made on behalf of the retarded by the New York State Department of Mental Hygiene and its Commissioner, Dr. Alan D. Miller; and particularly, by its Deputy Director, Dr. Frederic Grunberg.

RESOLVED, That this Association recognizes the devotion of the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental and Physical Handicap, particularly of its Chairman, Senator Dalwin J. Niles, toward the continuing support of our programs for the mentally retarded.

RESOLVED, That we commend the thought and planning which have been given to proposed legislation in the New York State legislature during the past several years by knowledgeable groups, including the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental and Physical Handicap, the Department of Mental Hygiene; our own Association, and others, all with the aim of implementing the State Plan, and developing and improving services and facilities for the retarded. This Association expresses its disappointment to the Governor, and requests him to review the Comprehensive State Plan with the Department of Mental Hygiene, and to consider carefully the legislation proposed and enacted by the Joint Legislative Committee and the legislature. We urge the Governor to request the Department of Mental Hygiene to budget, and the legislature to appropriate sufficient funds to enact an immediate and realistic program which will result in true progress to be made for all the mentally retarded in New York State, both in institutions and in their own communities.

RESOLVED, That the National Association for Retarded Children re-assess its role in the field of mental retardation with a view to rendering its services on the national level most appropriately for the protection of the mentally retarded, and the obtaining of their rights.

The policy of obtaining, rather than providing, seems more suitable for a national association, than one which is State or local.

We urge NARC, therefore, to consider setting up a legal apparatus to obtain through the courts the rights for the mentally retarded that are being denied them by administrative agencies on a Federal, State and local level, including, but not limited to free public education for all levels, rights under the various criminal codes, equal protection of the laws under various reimbursement statutes for institutionalization, etc.

We urge that the re-assessment include such an apparatus, if possible under the existing budget, and with emphasis upon those areas which obtain, rather than provide, services.

RESOLVED, That this Association recognizes the need for greatly increased funds in order to accelerate research in medicine and education, to improve communications among the many disciplines involved, and to define and interpret the significance of retardation, to business, government and community leaders, and to the public. We recognize the partnership in such activities between the NARC and other parallel organizations throughout the United States. Therefore, we urge that the National Association for Retarded Children intensify and broaden the scope of its fund raising endeavors, not through the increasing of membership dues, but by imaginative aggressive new measures such as the establishment of a National Citizens Fund, now being considered, which would provide an opportunity for all member organizations of the NARC to cooperate in playing an active role.

RESOLVED, That we recognize the importance of youth groups and activities on behalf of the retarded, and we applaud their enthusiasm and initiative in this direction.

RESOLVED, That we express our earnest gratitude to the American Legion, the Jaycees, the Knights of Columbus, and many other enlightened organizations and their auxiliaries, who have adopted our children as the objects of their support and affection.

RESOLVED, That this Association conveys its admiration and esteem to those dedicated employees and volunteers, in programs throughout the State, who are unstintingly devoting their efforts toward a better life for the retarded. We hold them up as an example of what can be accomplished in the field of mental retardation when the sincere desire exists to be of service to humanity.

CONVENTION continued from page 1

D. To Amend the Mental Hygiene Law to Deal with the Waiting Lists by Providing the Power to the Department to Place Anyone on the Waiting List (now limited to those under 5) **in Private Institutions Pending an Opening.**

E. Education and Training — (1) Increase State aid for special classes by weighting the average daily attendance of all handicapped children. (2) To permit local school districts to set up pre-school classes for the handicapped as now permitted for the gifted with 50 per cent State aid for such programs. (3) To mandate services under Section 4407 of the Education Law.

Other items that were included in the program are:

Health Insurance — Amendment to the Insurance Law to Extend Health Insurance Coverage by Requiring Private Insurance Companies to Include Handicapped Dependents in Family Policies. This bill was passed last year and vetoed by the Governor. We are happy to say that we have consulted with the State Department of Insurance and we will have a bill ready that will meet with their approval.

Life Insurance — To re-introduce the bill requiring life insurance companies to issue policies on the lives of the mentally retarded children to an aggregate limit of $1500, the sum to be used for burial and terminal illness expenses.

One of the most important amendments proposed, was to amend the **Executive Law** to establish a Statewide information service for the handicapped under the auspices of the Executive Department with a listing of diagnostic, medical, institutional, educational, transportation, hospital and all other services for the handicapped, public dissemination of the same, and provisions for referral of patients.

Finally, the delegates urged again the establishment of **a Revolving Loan Account** in the Department of Mental Hygiene for construction. This would permit the Department to make non-interest advances to voluntary agencies for community mental health centers or retardation facilities construction. This is a self-liquidating fund and will require first-instance money only.

In addition to the Legislative proposals, the delegates also urged the following matters for study:

A. The Practice of the Department of Social Service in Fee Setting in the Department of Mental Hygiene.

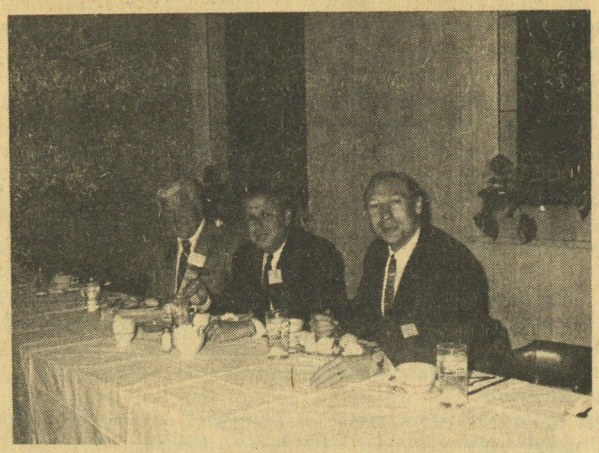
B. Implementation of the State Education Law and urging action by the State Department of Education to accomplish this.

There was a great deal of discussion on the question of whether we should urge once more a **separate department on mental retardation.** After a great deal of debate, it was finally unanimously agreed that this course should be taken by the Association for Retarded Children in the light of the failure of the Department of Mental Hygiene to agree to those changes in the Mental Hygiene Law for the programs for the mentally retarded that we have been urging for years.

This line does not indicate dissatisfaction with the personnel of the Department of Mental Hygiene or a lack of confidence in the Commissioner or his deputies. It merely reflects the impatience of the parents and the Association with the progress of events due in no small part, we feel, because mental retardation in the Department of Mental Hygiene is submerged both in budget and otherwise under the much larger problem, and apparently more popular appeal, that of mental illness and mental health.

Hearings on the Legislative Program are being held by the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental and Physical Handicap and are reported elsewhere in this issue.

ECUMENISM



L. to R. James F. Reville, Pres., Dr. Frederic Grunberg, Depty. Comm. of Mental Hygiene for retardation and Phil Roos mugging.

DAILY NEWS PIC HELPS FIND LOST GIRL

An attractive, 25 year old mentally retarded Brooklyn girl who disappeared in the East Village one evening in September was found in a Jamaica, Queens, eatery the following night about an hour after her picture and plight were publicized by The Daily News.

The publicity came about through the intervention of Senator William T. Conklin, formerly Chairman of the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental and Physical Handicap and himself a parent of a mentally retarded son.

Arlene Rogan, of 54 Boerum Street, was the subject of a citywide police search following her disappearance after a day-long job training session at the rehabilitation center.

The attention of the police was called to Miss Rogan when she ordered a soda at a fountain and had only 12 cents to pay for it. She looked so pathetic, however, that the cashier gave her the soda. The two patrolmen who were called in tried to question her but she seemed not to understand, and repeated their questions back to them while staring rather vacantly.

On leaving the diner, however, the patrolman saw a copy of The News carrying the story of the missing girl and recognized her picture.

A note of thanks was offered to The Daily News and to Senator Conklin for his intervention.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

We are making an appeal for volunteers to help the State Office in some of its activities. Of necessity these will have to come from the Metropolitan area.

What we need are as follows:

(1) Persons trained in writing and periodical work to help with O.C.V.

(2) A librarian to put the State Office library into useable form with a decent library system

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