

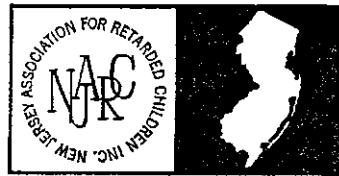
a study
in
progress



*the history
of the
new jersey
association
for
retarded children*

*To the mentally retarded
who have given us an opportunity
to be greater than ourselves.*

a study in progress



*the history
of the
new jersey
association
for
retarded children*

*Published by the New Jersey Association
For Retarded Children which this year —
nineteen hundred and sixty-nine — observes
its Twentieth Anniversary.*

foreword

Over the past 20 years, one of the most significant events in American social justice has been the work of parents on behalf of the mentally retarded. This effort is often referred to as the Parents' Movement. The Parents' Movement has been the national grass-roots crusade to bring the securing of the human rights of the mentally retarded to a level of concern in the public awareness and, thence, to a level of action in the public forum. The movement began in 1947 in New Jersey with a small band of Bergen and Passaic County parents who called themselves The New Jersey Parents' Group for Retarded Children. In 1949, the Group incorporated under the statutes of the State of New Jersey. Members of the New Jersey Parents Group were among the "founders" of the National Association for Retarded Children in 1950. In 1953, The New Jersey Parents Group changed its name to The New Jersey Association for Retarded Children.

On the occasion of its 20th anniversary, the Association has printed and deposited in the Library of Congress and other leading libraries the complete history of the first 20 years of the Parents' Movement in New Jersey. This volume, an abbreviated version of the complete history, highlights memorable events and outstanding achievements of these 20 years.

This history has been written by Mrs. John R. Clark, of Nutley, New Jersey. Mrs. Clark, a history teacher on the faculty of the Passaic High School, has been a member of the Essex County Unit of the New Jersey Association for Retarded Children since 1950. The Association expresses its most profound gratitude to Mrs. Clark whose selfless gift of scholarship and time has produced this splendid work. The Association also thanks the following Jersey men of Passaic High School who carried out special research projects in conjunction with the preparation of this document:

Marla Broitman	Howard Osofsky
Wendy Einhom	Peter Pontos
Phoebe Haddon	Jan Rasin
Robert Klein	Anthony Scialli
Robert Korngold	John Scialli
Kenneth Krug	Alan Weinberger

continued

The Association gratefully acknowledges the editorial assistance of Mrs. Elizabeth M. Boggs, Mrs. Bernard Koechlin, Mrs. Ralph Sundy, Henry W. Gould, Robert H. Weir and the secretarial assistance of Mrs. Marie J. Kelley, Mrs. Marguerite Flock, Mrs. Catherine Tobiasson, Miss Janet McGowan and Miss Patricia McGowan.

A special thanks is due Karl Greiner, the public relations officer of the New Jersey Association for Retarded Children, who guided the project through all the wickets to completion.

Charles R. Kelley

president
new jersey association for
retarded children
november 15, 1969

introduction

In the years following World War II, Americans became aware of a large group of persons who previously received little or no public recognition. These are the mentally retarded. Interest was aroused by their parents in a movement that has given "dignity of each individual" new meaning and that became one of the most successful social developments in the country.

New Jersey was a leader in a nationwide phenomenon of parent organization and action. Here, parents first began working together to obtain for their retarded children recognition and services that had been accepted as birthrights for most children. Consequently, from the disgrace which for generations had been associated with a retarded person, the years after 1947 brought remarkable changes. Many new services became available and existing programs were immensely improved and expanded.

"Mentally retarded," "deficient," or "defective" often were used interchangeably to designate a condition of impaired mental development originating early in life. The term "children" was often used when referring to mentally retarded persons of all ages.

As a potent crusader for pertinent legislation and increased private services, as a source of information for parents, as a mold of public attitudes, as a tireless fund-raiser, and as a clearing-house for knowledge concerning retardation, much of the credit for the advances belongs to the New Jersey Association for Retarded Children (NJARC).

the beginning

On October 12, 1946 a mother's letter appeared in the *Bergen Evening Record*, Hackensack, appealing to other parents of retarded children: "There are several hundred families in this county faced with the problem of a mentally deficient or mentally handicapped child . . . each parent can ultimately help his own child by doing something to help all children similarly affected . . . Therefore, I suggest an organization for all parents of mentally retarded children . . . So come on, you parents of Bergen County . . . get together and form what may well prove to be the first chapter in a nationwide organization. All those interested might write notes to this column."

The child who inspired the letter by Mrs. Laura Blossfeld of Teaneck was born November 27, 1937. Ricky's slow development was attributed, in part, to a heart defect and he was considered slow but normal until he was three years old. When, at this time, a younger brother had surpassed his performance, Ricky was diagnosed by a psychologist as being "50 per cent retarded."

The letter served as a clarion call to parents of retarded children. Judge Morris Dobrin of Fair Lawn was the first to reply to the letter and Mrs. Kenneth White, wife of a psychology professor, the second. After numerous letters and telephone calls, a meeting was arranged at the Blossfeld home for December 21, 1946. Two couples, including the Dobrins, braved a snowstorm to attend.

The small but determined group decided to seek professional help. Dr. Lloyd N. Yepsen, director of the Division of Classification and Education in the State Department of Institutions and Agencies, and Miss Vincentz Cianci, supervisor of Home Training for the Department, became volunteer professional counselors for the parents. Dr. Yepsen helped to arrange a meeting in the Paterson YMCA on June 10, 1947, and Miss Cianci personally invited parents she thought would be suitable. Forty-one persons came. After Dr. Yepsen discussed the incidence of mental deficiency, recent progress in New Jersey in the care of deficient children, and some existing problems, steps were taken to organize. Judge Dobrin was chosen temporary chairman and Mrs. Blossfeld secretary. An executive committee was appointed. It was decided that voluntary dues be one dollar a year. The suggestion that the parents pool their books to start a library on mental deficiency led to one of the first services of the group.

In October 1947, the newly named New Jersey Parents Group for Retarded Children elected officers and appointed committees for the coming year. Judge Dobrin became the first president. Monthly meetings began attracting parents from throughout northern New Jersey.

a study in progress

a study in progress

A four-page pamphlet, released by the Parents Group early in 1948, invited other parents to join the movement with this assurance: "You will find among these parents an understanding and a feeling of fellowship which you will probably not find elsewhere; you will become acquainted with the most recent developments in the care and training of retarded children; and you will have an opportunity to work with others to make the lives of retarded children happier and more useful."

Henry W. Gould, chairman of the expansion committee to develop a statewide organization, selected Newark as a site of his first efforts. A preliminary meeting was held at the YWCA on August 18, 1948. Lee Marino was selected temporary chairman to call a meeting of Essex County parents. Early in September, the *Newark News* carried the headline, "Retarded Children's Group Takes Shape—New Parents' Unit Sets Open Session for September 14 at St. Mary's." Approximately 200 parents attended the meeting at which the Newark (later Essex) Unit was organized. These early parent groups were influential in the organization of similar groups in Philadelphia, New York City, Baltimore and Detroit.

In October 1948, Mrs. Blossfeld edited the first issue of *The Parents Voice*, a monthly newsletter of the Paterson Group designated in the masthead as the "Bergen-Passaic Unit of the New Jersey Parents Group for Retarded Children." As soon as possible after organizing, each unit published its own newsletter to keep its members informed. Mr. Gould and Raymond Francois of the Essex Unit planned the first statewide meeting, held at Rutgers University in New Brunswick on March 26, 1949. Judge Dobrin presided and Dr. Yepsen, Miss Cianci, Dr. Anna Starr, who was the director of the Rutgers Psychological Clinic, and Miss Irene Sheppard, of the State Department of Education, spoke. Many of the 135 parents attending made plans to call meetings and form units in their 14 counties.

THE ORGANIZATION

The New Jersey Parents Group for Retarded Children was incorporated by the State of New Jersey in May 1949. The 10 incorporators were Mrs. Laura Blossfeld, Morris Dobrin, Henry W. Gould, Mrs. Margaet Laird, Ralph La Scala, Howard Smith, Bernard Toan, J. Raymond Francois, Lee J. Marino and Morris Rosenstein. A State Council was organized, with Judge Dobrin as temporary chairman, on June 17, 1949, when representatives from several units met at the home of Dr. Yepsen in Washington Crossing. The first president, elected for 1950, was Lee Marino. Although the chief activities of the Parents Group were to be

carried out by local units, a State Council was considered necessary to provide general direction and leadership. It consisted of three representatives from each local unit.

In April 1953, the name of the state organization was changed from Parents Group to New Jersey Association for Retarded Children. In 1969, in an effort to effect proportional representation, the State Council was replaced by two bodies: a Board of Directors and a Delegate Assembly.

People with energy and imagination came forth to lead the Association. Neil Rigler, president of the Mercer Unit, succeeded Lee Marino as NJARC president in 1952, and Dr. Rigler was followed by Edward O'Reilly, president of the Monmouth Unit and chairman of the first statewide fund raising campaign. Fitzhugh W. Boggs had served as Essex president before his election as NJARC president in 1956. Lloyd N. Newsom, president of the Morris Unit, succeeded Dr. Boggs in 1958, and in 1960 Harold Binn became the third president of the State Council from Essex County. Miss Grace Barraud, of Raritan Valley Unit, after years as recording secretary, served as NJARC president from 1962 to 1964, when she was succeeded by Robert H. Weir from Gloucester County, who was especially interested in promoting research. Mrs. Elizabeth M. Boggs, National Association for Retarded Children (NARC) president from 1958 to 1960, served as state president for one year and was followed by Henry W. Gould of the Bergen-Passaic Unit, who had held many offices both in NARC and NJARC, including seven years as state treasurer. Charles R. Kelley, Ed.D., of Mercer County became president of the Association in July 1969.

Mrs. Jean Tenney served as corresponding secretary eight years (1953-1954, 1956-1963) and in 1967 became one of the first regional vice-presidents. Frank Christensen served three years as treasurer and two as first vice president (1958-1960). Joseph Feinman was serving his third term as vice president at the time of his death in March 1965.

THE UNITS

At the first State Council meeting in June 1949, the following five groups, in addition to the Bergen-Passaic and Essex County units, reported some progress in organizing:

1) Tri-County Unit

The Tri-County Unit was composed of Camden, Burlington and Gloucester Counties. Its formation was initiated by Gilbert Hovey, who invited parents to his home in April 1949. On May 26th, 60 persons from the three counties met in Camden to

a study in progress

a study in progress

elect officers, with Thomas Warner as president; Miss Irene Sheppard became the unit's adviser.

2) Raritan Valley Unit

The Raritan Valley Unit, composed of Middlesex and Somerset Counties, attracted about 20 persons to a meeting in New Brunswick on June 6th. Charles Wurtzel was Raritan Valley's chairman and Dr. Anna Starr its adviser.

3) Hudson Unit

A meeting on June 15th in Jersey City attracted more than 125 persons. Howard Daniels was chairman and Miss Marguerite Cran, a special education teacher, was adviser to the Hudson Unit.

4) Mercer Unit

About 20 persons met in the Trenton YWCA to form the Mercer Unit, with Neil Rigler serving as temporary chairman and Miss Miriam Lerner as adviser.

5) Morris Unit

In Morris County, Joseph Gibson was serving as temporary chairman of a small group of parents.

The State Council granted charters to seven units in March 1950. They were Bergen-Passaic with a membership of 68 families, Essex with 113, Hudson with 42, Mercer with 44, Raritan Valley with 22, Tri-County Unit with 43, and Union, which held its first meeting in Elizabeth on September 15, 1949, with 62.

The Ocean Unit was chartered in September 1953 and the Atlantic Unit in November of that year. In May 1954, Monmouth, with 20 families, joined the official list and in the same month, the Cumberland-Salem, Morris and Warren Units also received charters. The Hunterdon Unit became a chartered member in September 1955.

As the Tri-County Unit developed, most of its activities were located in Camden County, which made transportation a major problem for members in Burlington and Gloucester Counties. Therefore, the Unit was divided with Camden retaining the original charter. The Burlington Unit was organized in June 1956 and the Gloucester Unit a month later. Sussex Unit received its charter in May 1958. When Cape May received its charter in June 1961, all 21 counties were covered by one of NJARC's 18 units.

While the Association was confronting all varieties of developmental problems, its membership steadily grew. In 1963-64, the membership totaled more than 3,000. Four years later, in 1967-68, the membership exceeded 4,000. Today, it is 5,065 -

STATE OFFICE

On October 14, 1957, the State Association opened its State Offices in Trenton. Theodore G. Lucas was hired as executive director of the Association and Mrs. Marguerite Flock as office secretary. The State Office was moved to New Brunswick in 1960.

A second professional position — that of assistant executive director—was filled in 1965. It was modified a year later and filled, in the fall of 1966, as director of public information. By that time, the secretarial-clerical staff had increased to three members. Beginning in 1967, State Office staff was augmented by community organization students of the graduate School of Social Work, Rutgers University, who were assigned to NJARC as part of their field placement responsibilities.

Mr. Lucas resigned in the fall of 1968 and Alvin Finkelstein became the Association's second executive director in January 1969.

FINANCES

Until 1956 the State Council operated on an extremely frugal budget—for 1953-54 it was \$1,758. The operating budget for 1968-1969 was \$92,198.

In 1951-52, the first state-wide fund-raising campaign yielded about \$40,000. The state-wide campaigns for 1960-61 and 1961-62 each totalled about \$300,000. By 1963, 14 of the 18 units belonged to United Funds in some communities and other sources of money were developed in addition to the annual solicitation. Consequently, gross receipts of the 18 units became more significant than campaign collection. Gross receipts amounted to \$1,498,530 in 1964-65.

Other methods of fund raising have been the annual bowling project, Federal Service Campaign and telethons. Since 1961, the "Beat Your Average for the Retarded" bowling project has earned almost \$30,000 annually for the units. The experience with telethons was much less rewarding. The NJARC and certain northern units considered participating or did participate (units only) in telethons, sponsored by the Association for the Help of Retarded Children of New York City in 1954, 1958, 1959, 1960. However, the funds raised for New Jersey were meager.

Federal Service Campaigns, since the early 1960's, have added an annual amount of between \$5,000 and \$6,000 to unit income from solicitation of federal employees, including military personnel.

From State government sources, units also have received **15**

a study in progress

a study in progress

financial support for the operation of day care centers, workshop programs and, in some instances, pre-school classes.

A significant source of support to units has been monies allocated by County Boards of Chosen Freeholders. Recommended and endorsed by NJARC, legislation, sponsored by Assemblyman Joseph Minotty and adopted in 1961, enabled freeholders to allocate monies to local units of the Association. In the 1969 fiscal year, those contributions amounted to more than \$200,000.

services

BENEVOLENCE

At an executive meeting of the "Parents Group" on June 28, 1947, a benevolent committee was instituted with Mrs. Laird as chairman for the purpose of bringing a little joy into the lives of the forgotten children in the institutions.

The Paterson benevolent committee under Mrs. Laird began chartering buses for trips on the first Sunday of each month to the three State institutions situated in inaccessible locations in southern New Jersey. Forty grateful parents rode on the first bus which left Paterson in the morning of March 6, 1949, headed for New Lisbon, Vineland and Woodbine. Three buses were required by September 1950.

Previously, it had been impossible for parents without cars to make the round trip to New Lisbon, Vineland or Woodbine in one day. The inauguration of the bus trips direct to these institutions had an astonishing effect. Parents became reacquainted with children they had not seen for years. Children were stimulated by the visits and staff members of the institutions were invigorated by the new interest in and understanding of their efforts. On February 5, 1950, the work boys of Woodbine put on a minstrel show for the parents to demonstrate their appreciation of the monthly visits.

Often Association members "sponsored" an institutionalized retardate who had no relatives. The sponsors (usually couples) would send "adopted" children gifts on birthdays, Christmas, Easter or other special occasions, and would take them various places.

Mrs. Lillian Amos was outstanding among members who, as individuals, sought to brighten the life of those in institutions. Although confined to a wheel chair, she arranged spectacular entertainment and treats for more than 1,000 boys in the New Lisbon State Colony. Beginning in February 1952, with 29 cowboys and real Indians from Brooklyn, Mrs. Amos put on shows for "her boys" every year until 1960. Watching the more able boys help the non-ambulatory ones get to the show by all sorts of vehicles and even by "piggy-back" was a heart-warming experience.

As units organized, they promptly formed their own benevolent committees. In addition to clothing, books, magazines, toys, games, balls, and pictures, which might be taken to an institution anytime, unit benevolent committees worked throughout the year to prepare gift bags for Christmas and Easter. By 1955, Essex women were filling 1,000 gift bags for each season. For Christmas 1953, the Ocean Unit arranged with men from the Naval Air Station at Lakehurst to have Santa arrive at New Lisbon by helicopter.

a study in progress

a study in progress

Gradually, the units, singly or cooperatively, began to provide larger items for the State institutions. In March 1949, the Bergen-Passaic and Essex Units donated \$400 to equip a classroom at Woodbine State Colony. In March 1956, Cumberland-Salem presented a Hammond organ to Vineland State School in memory of a co-founder and former president of the unit, Mrs. Beatrice Evanoff.

In 1957, the State Council formed a state benevolent fund pool to pay for equipment or projects of a substantial character. The first authorization by the State Council was \$1,859 to build a fence around the new buildings at the New Lisbon State Colony, which housed younger and more severely retarded boys. This fund has provided \$5,208 for a Personal Care Center at Vineland, \$6,000 toward a recreation building at Woodbine, \$3,000 toward a day-camp at the Edward R. Johnstone Training and Research Center, and made major contributions for swimming pools at each of the State institutions. Mrs. Ralph Sundry, benevolent chairman for several years, reported that from 1958 to 1965, \$55,957 had been awarded through the benevolent pool.

Also in 1958, NJARC instituted an annual award to a worker in each State institution for outstanding services to the retarded. Recipients have engaged in all types of work from... supervisor of instruction to head groundsman.

CLINICS

From the beginning, parents sought a place where they could bring their children for a definite diagnosis, an overall analysis of their problem, and, most importantly, for help in dealing with it.

The Essex Unit opened the first comprehensive diagnostic and guidance clinic at the Fuld Neighborhood House in Newark, on July 6, 1949. Harry Arons, who "wanted to know what we had to deal with," and Lee Marino, then president of the Essex Unit, were able to interest doctors and other professional persons in trying, as a clinic team, to help retarded individuals. A pediatrician, psychologist, and (when indicated) a psychiatrist examined the child, and a social worker interviewed the parents. They then met as a team to determine the diagnosis and make recommendations for care, treatment or training. The social worker would explain the findings to the parents and help them contact persons or facilities recommended. Later a speech specialist was added to the clinic team. Dr. Antoinette Fried, headworker at Fuld, served as volunteer administrator until 1954, when Mrs. Nellie Stone became clinic coordinator, a post she held for almost a decade. Dr. Ralph Shapiro served as a clinic pediatrician for almost 20 years.

The Bergen-Passaic Unit helped support a full-time diagnostic, classifications, and treatment clinic at St. Mary's Hospital in Passaic in June 1954. This clinic was discontinued in 1967 and subsequently relocated in Paterson, at which time Maternal and Child Health funds became available, in addition to community health funds. In September 1959, the first federally aided evaluation clinic in New Jersey opened in the Morristown Memorial Hospital as a result of the efforts of the Morris Unit.

GROUP COUNSELLING

In January 1951, parents met at the home of Mrs. Blossfeld to discuss their problems, experiences and ideas in greater detail and more personally than was possible in general unit meetings. In the beginning, Miss Cianci assisted with these parent discussions. In 1955, Bernard White, psychologist for the Essex Unit, initiated group counselling for parents. Sometimes the groups were comprised of parents of children with similar types of retardation who had been served by the Essex clinic. In 1961, and again in 1968, the Morris Unit sponsored a series of discussions under a professional leader for parents.

TRAINABLE CLASSES

Beginning in 1948, unit after unit started classes for trainable retarded children. These classes proved that these children could benefit from training and the publicity about the classes made communities aware for the first time that retarded children could be helped. Classroom successes and community concern were key factors leading to the enactment of the Beadleston legislation of 1954.

The first trainable class offered by the "Parents Group" was at the Village School, which opened in Ridgewood on September 13, 1948, to meet the needs of children denied public school education. The idea had been conceived the previous December at the home of the Henry Goulds in Ridgewood. The school was jointly sponsored by the Social Service Association of Ridgewood and parents of children in the school. Dr. Yepsen and Miss Cianci supervised the program, which was flexible and adapted to the needs of the individual child. In January 1952, 22 children were being taught by two teachers and a teachers aide. This school provided the title page picture for a major article in *The Saturday Evening Post* in October 1952, documenting the burgeoning self-help efforts of the parents' groups across the nation. The Bergen-Passaic Unit also started a class in Dumont on November 7, 1951, a short-lived one in Teaneck in October 1952, and one in Englewood the following month.

a study in progress

a study in progress

The Union County Unit opened the Nancy-Luzon School in Roselle on January 3, 1950. By that fall, 45 children from age 4 to 16 were enrolled. The school consisted of three classrooms for academic work, an art room, a play room, and an administrative office. Mrs. Jean Assin and Mrs. Harry Kohler were leaders in the project.

From October 1950 to May 1951, the Essex Unit started six classes in various communities, and a seventh in October 1952. Experience in arranging the Essex classes was extremely valuable to the director, Mrs. Boggs, when she later became education chairman for State Council and subsequently for the National Association. From 1951 to 1954, most units opened classes for trainable children. These stressed manual skills, crafts, speech correction, and social adjustment. Active PTAs in the schools were important in arranging transportation and in repairing equipment. In 1952, the Tri-County Unit opened a speech class for 20 children and by 1956 had such a class in each of its three counties. In 1961, five other units were operating speech programs, which greatly improved a retarded child's potential for advancement.

PRE-SCHOOL CLASSES

By 1953, the Tri-County Unit had become the first unit to evolve a pre-school training center for children between four and seven years of age. Other units followed this example, when public schools began to take over the responsibility for classes for trainable children of school age. In 1967, 15 units were operating pre-school classes in 28 communities. In 1960, Dr. Marion Little, NJARC education chairman, conducted two institutes on pre-school classes at New Brunswick and Vineland. Approximately 100 teachers, aides, school psychologists, and pre-school chairmen of the units' attended each institute. In 1966, about 150 teachers and other persons attended a pre-school institute planned by Mrs. Virginia Wilson, NJARC pre-school committee chairman.

DAY CARE AND ACTIVITY CENTERS

In New Jersey, the term, "day care services for the retarded" designates a group program designed for severely and profoundly retarded children of school age who are not eligible for special education programs for the educable or trainable in the public schools. Day care programs stimulate opportunities for social adjustment, and develop intellectual capacities. They emphasize language and self-help skills.

The Gloucester Unit began a day care program in 1957 in the Pitman Presbyterian Church. That was followed by the Burlington Unit, which started a similar program in 1960 in its unit headquarters in Hainesport. Soon after that, Union opened a center in Winfield Park and Essex one in Orange. In 1965, Mrs. Marcia Ellis, supervisor of the Essex day care center, published a "procedural Manual for the Training of the Severely Retarded."

The Division of Mental Retardation of the State Department of Institutions and Agencies viewed the day care programs as an alternative to placement in a residential center, whereby the family could maintain a seriously retarded child in a favorable home environment. Therefore, the Division of Mental Retardation, in 1964, began to subsidize centers operated by NJARC units. With State funds, day care programs increased rapidly. In 1967, the 18 units were operating programs in each of the 21 counties.

For those adults who are too seriously retarded to be considered for gainful employment, even within a sheltered workshop, group programs have been developed by the NJARC. These are usually called activity centers or independent living programs.

These programs seek to foster personal independence, self care, domestic skills, physical fitness, and the ability to travel in a familiar community, to shop and to conduct oneself appropriately in public places such as restaurants, movie theaters or buses. Other goals are healthy social relationships with peers and the ability to occupy oneself constructively when alone.

The Monmouth Unit was the first to sponsor an independent living center that was opened in Red Bank in 1958. In early 1967, nine units were operating activity programs for retarded adults.

In rehabilitation and employment of the retarded, sheltered workshops play an important role. They provide a work oriented environment in which evaluation and training can take place. They also provide long term sheltered employment to persons capable of doing productive work of economic value but not at the pace required in competitive industry. The development of such facilities for the retarded in New Jersey dates from 1954 largely through the instigation of local units of NJARC

Early in 1951, the Bergen-Passaic Unit began planning a vocational training class for retarded teenage boys; the Occupational Training Class opened December 3 with 12 boys at the Paterson YMCA. This class was the precursor of sheltered workshops for the retarded. Simple mathematics, printing, spelling,

a study in progress

a study in progress

copying, handicrafts, and the fundamentals of vocational training were covered before each boy attempted industrial work according to his ability.

More than two years of groundwork preceded the opening of the Occupational Center of Essex County (OCEC) in Maplewood in 1954, with 11 retarded and cerebral palsied trainees. This first licensed workshop in the State was a joint venture of the Essex Unit and three other groups. Franklin Moss served as chairman of the OCEC for many years. A committee from the North Essex and Maplewood sections of the National Council of Jewish Women had made a six-month survey of workshops for various allied handicaps. The survey served not only as a basis for the OCEC but, through NARC, for many other workshops throughout the country. In 1956, 10 graduates of the OCEC underwent an 18-week on-the-job training with Remco Industries, a toy manufacturer. Seven met the test and were hired.

The same year, a sheltered workshop was opened in Lindenwold under the auspices of the Tri-County Unit. In 1967, 12 units were operating 13 workshops; the Bergen-Passaic Unit had one in Paterson and another in Hackensack.

RECREATION

Recreation has been woven into the units' programs from the beginning. Illustrative of unit efforts in recreation was the pioneering work in camping of the Bergen-Passaic Unit. Camp Rainbow resulted from the vision and persistence of Mrs. Kathryn Gould, who began working on the project in August 1949. The camp opened in Washington Township on July 10, 1950, and ran for six weeks. A total of 70 campers was registered for two-week periods, with an average daily attendance of between 35 and 40. Through the efforts of Samuel Bernhaut, a two-week camping program, beginning August 26th, 1952, was held for 20 teenage boys from New Jersey, seven from Pennsylvania, and three from New York, at the Golden Chain Camp facilities near Blairstown in Warren County. Governor Meyner dedicated Camp Hope for the Essex Unit in the South Mountain Reservation on July 1, 1956, in anticipation of the arrival of 60 girls and boys the next day. Camp Star was opened by the Union County Unit in Echo Lake Park, Westfield, in 1957. A few years later, an adult division for retardates over 20 began using Newark State College in Union as its campsite.

In 1967, local units operated 14 summer day camps. All were co-educational, and accommodated the trainable and educable retarded for periods ranging from three to eight weeks. Fees vary. Camperships donated by interested civic groups

usually take care of any child whose family cannot pay. Activities include camp fires, cookouts, hikes, nature study, swimming, dancing, games, sports, arts and crafts, dramatics, stories, singing, rhythm bands, calisthenics, and trips. The Union County Unit operates Camp Star as a residential camp on the edge of Stokes State Forest for two weeks in late August. Gloucester's Camp Sun'N Fun begins with a week of residential camping in June. Several of the camps have campout nights for the more capable youngsters.

The Units have also conducted programs in scouting, swimming, teen-age programs and field trips. In addition, the Unit centers hold social affairs and holiday parties for the retardates and their families throughout the year.

PLANNING

In 1950, the Commission to Study the Problems and Needs of Mentally Deficient Persons was created by the State to determine the extent of mental deficiency, examine existing facilities for coping with the needs of the retarded, and recommend procedures for the expansion of facilities. Lee Marino, president of the Parents Group, became vice chairman of the Commission and Hyman A. Enzer, publicity chairman for the State Council, served on the Commission and prepared its 226-page report, which was released early in 1954 after three years of study.

The Commission Report recommended a systematic census of the mentally deficient in New Jersey and uniform criteria for judging the severity of the handicaps; at least five per cent of the annual budgets for State institutions be channeled into research projects; periodic institutes on phases of mental retardation; courses on retardation in all State colleges and universities; public clinics specializing in retardation; vocational training centers; public classes for the trainable retarded; a Director of Special Education; better facilities, care, education and recreation for retarded persons in State institutions, with a policy of segregation by the degree or type of deficiency but not by sex; provision to train social workers in retardation; and special court consideration for retarded offenders.

Out of the work of the Commission came the Bureau of Mental Deficiency in the Department of Institutions and Agencies and a Bureau of Research (not restricted to retardation) in the same Department; Public School classes for the trainable retarded were established in six communities; and significant legislation concerned with special education was introduced in the General Assembly.

In June 1963, Governor Hughes, following a suggestion from NJARC, appointed an Interdepartmental Committee on

a study in progress

Lifetime Disability and a Governor's Advisory Council on Lifetime Disability. This action was in response to federal incentives resulting from the work of the President's Panel on Mental Retardation, appointed by President Kennedy in 1961. Mrs. Boggs, Dr. Samuel Goldstein and Mr. Robert Weir were named to the Advisory Council. The Governor also named a Working Party on Mental Retardation.

After two years of study, a report — "New Jersey's Comprehensive Plan to Combat Mental Retardation" — was published in 1966. It covered medical, clinical and, social services, coordination, education, vocational rehabilitation, religious nurture, recreation, residential care, manpower, law, research and public information. In May 1968, Governor Hughes appointed the New Jersey Mental Retardation Planning Board as a permanent advisory body to assure implementation of the recommendations of the Comprehensive Plan. NJARC leaders appointed by the Governor to the Board were Messrs. William H. Campbell, Herbert K. Feist, and Frank La Porta.

NJARC has also involved itself in internal self-evaluation and long-range planning. During 1966-67, the NJARC Committee on Long-Range Planning, chaired by Campbell, carried on an extensive re-evaluation of the role of the State Council. As a result of its recommendations, the Council early in 1968 listed priorities for its attention and action in the following order: greater efforts to improve and expand public programs; better assistance to local units; improved public relations; more determined effort to seek and serve the retarded in underprivileged areas; and development of a youth movement.

Units are now conducting self-evaluations of their total operations.

PUBLIC EDUCATION

In the early years of this century Trenton and Newark were pioneers in special education for the retarded within the local public schools. Mandatory legislation in 1911 covering the retarded, the blind and the deaf, encouraged this trend in the larger school districts. Between 1912 and 1917 the number of classes for the "subnormal" doubled, with 2,220 children enrolled in 162 classes the latter year. The State Department of Public Instruction (as it was then called) encouraged provision for what we would now call the "trainable" as well as for "educable" children.

During the Thirties, however, the schools were subjected to extraordinary pressures arising from a rapidly rising school census on the one hand and the limitations on budgets forced by the Depression on the other. Special classes, with their smaller

enrollments per teacher and per classroom, were especially vulnerable. It was during this period that the custom of excluding those having IQ's under 50 became almost universal. This was defended on the grounds that they were "uneducable" since few had shown capacity to learn the 3 R's.

Thus it was that as the retarded children of the post war "baby boom" began to reach school age, more and more parents experienced the frustration and disappointment of being told that the Constitutional right of "free public education for all the children of the State between the ages of 5 and 18" did not apply to their child. There is no doubt that the cumulative indignation arising from this shared experience was one of the strong driving forces in the growth of the "parent movement," of which the New Jersey parents were a part. It was not surprising therefore that the excluded child became one of the earliest topics for study by the nascent New Jersey parents group.

In 1948, the Education Committee of the Paterson Parents Group, led by Bernard Toan, canvassed the county superintendents of schools to determine what counties were supporting special classes and what the qualifications were for the classes.

The committee found that most superintendents felt there might be one or two or even six or seven children who had been rejected as uneducable in their counties but that, in general, "this didn't seem to be a problem." The committee visited only one school — an elementary school in Bayonne in which Miss Marguerite Cran was the principal — where the more severely retarded were being trained. There had been 16 mongoloid children in the school at one time and Miss Cran had trained her own teachers. Even classes for the "educable" were a rarity outside the larger municipalities. Burlington reported a county program to educate children with IQs as low as 50, but after Superintendent Louis Kaiser retired, the local boards of education abandoned the program.

The parents did not accept the schoolmen's judgment that there were "only a few" excluded children, and determined to find and help those who were growing up without instruction.

The Village School, which opened in 1948 in Ridgewood, served as a guide for subsequent classes for trainable retarded children operated by other units and later by boards of education. In 1950, the Union and Mercer units opened schools for trainable retardates, and Essex soon was operating seven classes. Although the units ultimately supported 22 classes, parents realized that private classes were not the answer. They knew that without public classes, hundreds of retarded children would grow up without the benefit of their educational birthright.

a study in progress

In March 1951, a public class for "low IQ children" was opened in Oak Lynn as a result of urging by members of the Tri-County Unit. Similar classes were opened in half-a-dozen school districts during the next three years, largely as a result of the needs made visible by the self-help efforts of parents.

It was, however, the work of the Commission to Study the Problems and Needs of Mentally Deficient Persons that led to educational opportunities for the retarded in New Jersey's public schools. John R. Shannon, a teacher, a member of this Commission, and chairman of the Education Committee in the New Jersey General Assembly, introduced in 1953 legislation based in part on NJARC recommendations contained in a 28-page analysis of educational needs, which had been submitted to the Commission in 1952 by the NJARC Education Committee under the chairmanship of Mrs. Boggs. Despite strong opposition by the education "establishment," the Shannon Bill was unanimously passed by the Assembly and the State Senate but was vetoed by Governor Alfred Driscoll, although he approved of the goals of the legislation.

In his veto message, the Governor admonished his education commissioner to draft acceptable legislation. The commissioner, in turn, authorized a survey to determine the number of retarded and otherwise handicapped children eligible for public education, and moved to appoint a Director of Special Education.

This special census late in 1953 identified 12,306 mentally retarded children between the ages of six and 16 in need of special education, of whom 3,602 were receiving it in 287 special classes in public schools.

In 1954, Assemblyman Alfred Beadleston prepared and introduced new bills in the Legislature. These bills clearly stated the responsibilities of the public schools to provide for the instruction of every educable and trainable retarded and physically handicapped child. Provisions were made for increased state aid to local school districts that established classes or paid for their children to be taught in other districts.

The NJARC education committee, with Mrs. Dinanda Nooney as chairman, prepared a summary of the legislation entitled, "For Every Child a Fair Chance," and had 25,000 copies printed and distributed. The units held meetings to acquaint members, educators and the public with the purpose and contents of the Beadleston bills.

The "Beadleston Laws" were passed, and signed by Governor Robert B. Meyner in July 1954.

During this period, Dr. Boyd Nelson was appointed Director of Special Education in the State Department of Education. He immediately began a campaign to persuade school boards and administrators that establishing classes was not only a legal responsibility, but a sound and satisfying undertaking for any district which prides itself on serving children.

The effects of the Beadleston legislation and the persuasion of Dr. Nelson were prompt and substantial. In the 1955-56 school year, the number of educable classes had doubled over that in 1953-54, and trainable classes increased from seven to almost 100.

A commission on Education of the Handicapped, with NJARC representation, was appointed in 1963 and issued its report the following year in what was popularly known as "The Redbook." It recommended (1) clarifying the responsibilities of local districts to provide adequately for all types of handicapped children, (2) equalizing state aid, (3) strengthening the departmental functions, and (4) increasing the supply of trained personnel.

When legislation incorporating the Commission's recommendations was not forthcoming, NJARC, under Mrs. Boggs' leadership, spearheaded the formation in 1965 of the Inter-Agency Committee on Education of the Handicapped. Eight volunteer organizations* were represented on the committee, whose purpose was to promote "The Redbook" recommendations.

A bill reflecting the major recommendations of the Commission was introduced in the 1966 legislature by Beadleston and others. It was passed and signed that year, following the adoption of the State sales tax and revision of the State aid formula for local schools. NJARC had supported a broad-based tax and a change in aid formula, as well as the Beadleston legislation.

In 1968-69, the total enrollment of retarded children in 1,611 special classes (326 for trainable children) exceeded 16,000 educable and 3,000 trainable. In addition, several hundred received individual instruction authorized by their boards of education. Nevertheless, additional children had been identified

*New Jersey Association for Brain Injured Children
New Jersey Association for Mental Health
New Jersey Council of Organizations and Schools for Emotionally Disturbed Children
New Jersey League for the Hearing Handicapped
New Jersey Society for Crippled Children and Adults
United Cerebral Palsy Associations of New Jersey
New Jersey Welfare Council
New Jersey Association for Retarded Children

a study in progress

and classified as eligible but who were not receiving appropriate education. Moreover, it was estimated that there were another 6,000 to 7,000 retarded children who had not been identified.

Educating the educable and training the trainable retarded required insights and techniques beyond the experience of the regularly prepared classroom teacher. Between the spring of 1954 and fall of 1955, enrollment in special education courses increased from less than 100 to more than 900. Prior to 1954, the Newark State Teachers College was the only State college offering courses leading to certification in the education of the mentally retarded. Gradually, the other State colleges and Rutgers University added such courses.

It was appropriate that the first scholarship in New Jersey for training in the field of mental retardation should have been a tribute to Dr. Lloyd N. Yepsen, who was so highly instrumental in organizing the Parents Group. The Yepsen Scholarships (two for \$125 each) were established by the State Council in January 1956 to be given annually to juniors at Newark State College planning to teach retarded children. Beginning with the Samuel P. Bernhaut Memorial Scholarship established by the Essex Unit in March 1956, many units soon granted scholarships to residents of their counties who were planning to become teachers of the retarded. Because the State colleges and university began receiving larger amounts of federal funds to aid teachers of the retarded, the State Council decided in March 1966 to discontinue the Yepsen scholarships.

For NJARC, the quest to guarantee that "the legislature shall provide for the maintenance and support of a thorough and efficient system of free public schools for the instruction of all children in the State between the ages of five and 18 years" (New Jersey Constitution, Article VIII, Section IV) is never-ending.

STATE INSTITUTIONS

By 1952, New Jersey had four State institutions for the mentally retarded: Woodbine State Colony for 950 severely retarded males; New Lisbon State Colony for 1,000 less severely retarded males, 40 percent of whom were defective (retarded) delinquents; Vineland State School for 1,750 severely retarded females; and the North Jersey Training School at Totowa for 625 mildly retarded females, and a nursery (275 beds in 1953).

At the third meeting of the State Council, a visitation committee, soon known as the Institutions Committee, was appointed to examine conditions at the four public institutions.

Thereafter, the NJARC became extremely influential in gradually improving conditions within State institutions, by making recommendations to cooperative superintendents and by constantly pressuring for increased appropriations in State budgets. The first visit by the Institutions Committee, under Judge James Turp, was to the North Jersey Training School in November 1950. Annual visits to all State institutions soon became the practice. Friendly and mutually respectful relations prevailed between the NJARC representatives and the superintendents and their staffs. The State Council also led citizen action seeking new buildings and new institutions, and public support for bond issues and taxes to pay for them. Joseph Feinman was particularly effective in alerting officials to the responsibility of the State to provide more money to meet the needs of the retarded requiring institutionalization. The Commission to Study the Problems and Needs of Mentally Deficient Persons, for example, supported most of the NJARC recommendations in asking that: two new institutions be built to provide at least 2,000 additional beds; new institutions be designed for both sexes; both old and new institutions be equipped with appropriate education and recreational facilities; separate facilities be provided for defective delinquents; salary scales for employees should be increased substantially; and voluntary admissions be permitted as an alternative to court commitment and fees made more equitable. The Commission noted that, in a few cases, fees exceeded per capita cost although the total amount collected from relatives indicated that many were not paying their just share.

Early in 1955, Governor Meyner strongly recommended that the Bordentown Manual Training and Industrial School be converted into a rehabilitation center for about 500 retarded boys and girls, 16 to 22 years old, who upon being discharged would be expected to be capable of independent living. The NJARC waged a vigorous campaign to obtain legislative support for the Governor's conversion proposal. The measure became law in September 1955. Later that year, \$1,500,000 was appropriated for making the conversion. The new institution was named the Edward R. Johnstone Training and Research Center in honor of "The Professor" who, at the Vineland Training School early in the century, did so much to improve the training and education of the retarded.

In 1955, the NJARC Institutions Committee was strengthened by members chosen for competence in Special fields, notably Arthur Avery and Martin Gross whose expertise in food handling and construction, respectively, was used to greatly enhance the quality of life in the institutions. In 1966, the NJARC Residential **31**

a study in progress

Care Committee (formerly the Institutions Committee), under Mr. William H. Campbell and again in 1968 under Mrs. Betty Delaney, developed significant reports on the Association's perception of strengths and weaknesses in the State institutional care program. These reports were carefully reviewed with Dr. Maurice G. Kott, director of the Division of Mental Retardation in the State Department of Institutions and Agencies, and his staff, in an effort to develop programmatic and budget strategies to improve the quality of the services.

The Association has always enjoyed the strong support of the State Board of Control of the Department of Institutions and Agencies and of the Department, whose members have been greatly dedicated to the cause of the mentally retarded. Lloyd Wescott, president of the State Board of Control, had been especially helpful. John Tramburg, who was commissioner of the Department from 1955 to 1963, and his successor, Dr. Lloyd W. McCorkle, the present commissioner — were significantly supportive. After the death of Dr. Yepsen in 1955, NJARC has worked most closely and felicitously with Dr. Kott, the first director of the Division of Mental Retardation. The State Board of Control honored NJARC in 1968 with a plaque presented at the Association's annual luncheon.

Great progress has been made in the institutions over the past 20 years. And yet the Association realizes the progress over the next 20 years must be even greater. In July 1965, Vineland was still the largest institution, with 1,974 girls and women. Almost one-half were profoundly retarded. That year the NJARC requested that a small nursery unit be established at Vineland so that South Jersey parents could more easily visit their infants. In the spring, a Personal Care Center, which had been chiefly underwritten by NJARC, was opened at Vineland, to the delight and pride of the more capable girls. In 1965, more than 60 per cent of Woodbine's all male population of 1,209 was profoundly retarded, with a median IQ in 1960 of 18 months. Woodbine, in 1966, was the most overcrowded of the State institutions. The North Jersey Training School was designed for mildly retarded girls and women but accepted female retardates of a wide range. The 1965 population was 1,008. In addition, a special nursery unit took care of 275 boys and girls from infancy to six years old, most of whom were profoundly retarded.

During the latter part of the Fifties, NJARC leaders and members were more involved with the problems of New Lisbon than with any other State institution. As early as 1952, NJARC had added its voice to a recommendation of more than 25 years

standing, that a separate facility be established for the mentally retarded delinquent. In 1957, of the 1,100 men and boys at New Lisbon, 500 had had "brushes with the law." Elm Cottage the only facility for detention, with a rated capacity of 16, regularly housed 32. The cottage was grossly understaffed. At its annual presentations before the Joint Appropriation Committee, NJARC members stressed the problems at New Lisbon, but the necessary funds were not forthcoming.

In 1957, a Senate investigating committee accused the New Lisbon staff of brutality. NJARC publicly came to the defense of Superintendent Phillip Thomas, citing notable improvements attributable to his administration. The parents emphasized that the New Lisbon problems were caused by public and legislative neglect. By 1962, with a \$10 million construction program underway, conditions began to improve and New Lisbon has been almost completely rebuilt. Of New Lisbon's 1,209 boys and men in 1965, two-thirds were mildly or moderately retarded, one-quarter severely retarded, and about 100 profoundly retarded.

The opening of the Yepsen Unit at Johnstone in 1965 took most of the defective delinquents from New Lisbon.

The Edward R. Johnstone Training and Research Center in Bordentown is co-educational for mildly and moderately retarded youth. Since 1965, the Center has been organized in three semi-independent units. The Yepsen Unit (named for Dr. Yepsen who guided New Jersey policy in mental retardation for many years prior to his death in 1955) provides facilities for about 120 young men who, in addition to being retarded, have manifested persistent patterns of anti-social behavior. The Yepsen Unit is a small medium security correctional institution with a program of rehabilitation especially designed for retarded persons from 16 to 35. College trained instructor-counselors work with small groups on a continuing basis. The Seguin Unit (named for Edouard Seguin, who founded the Syracuse State School in 1854) provides intensive social, academic, and vocational training for adolescents for whom the prospect of community placement appears favorable. This unit fulfills the primary purpose for which Johnstone was established. The Tramburg Unit (named for John Tramburg who was commissioner of the Department of Institutions and Agencies when Johnstone's program was conceived and largely realized) serves three purposes. (1) houses a modern infirmary, (2) provides an appropriate setting for behavioral and (ultimately) biomedical research, and (3) provides a highly specialized clinical service for diagnosis and evaluation. A fourth unit is planned for a small group of young multiply handicapped blind children.

a study in progress

By 1961, as a result of Johnstone's learning and behavioral research, 21 reports had been published and 15 scientific papers had been read at formal meetings. However, biomedical research at the institutions lagged because money had not been allotted for it. The Departments of Psychology and Sociology, and the Schools of Education and Social Work at Rutgers University have conducted research related to mental retardation.

Woodbridge State School, which was opened in 1965 on the grounds of the Rahway State Prison, serves 1,000 severely retarded persons of both sexes. Each hexagonal building houses persons with similar problems. The population includes many who require intensive medical care, specifically those with convulsive disorders, cerebral palsy, and sensory defects.

Hunterdon State School opened in 1969 on land near the Clinton Reformatory for Women. Ultimately, it will house 1,000 profoundly, severely, and moderately retarded boys and girls. Somerset State School, to be opened in 1972 and located near the Lyons Veterans Hospital will house 500. By the middle of 1968, the Division of Mental Retardation began planning a ninth institution with 500 beds to be located in the northeast metropolitan area.

In his testimony in 1968 before the Governor's Commission on Capital Construction Needs of a projected deficit of 2,000 beds by 1973, Charles R. Kelley, then vice-president of NJARC, urged the State to experiment with group houses—residential facilities preferably for about 20 persons, which provide board, lodging, social supervision, and individual guidance for retarded youth and adults who are able to participate in competitive or sheltered employment, and recreation in the community.

In addition to its ceaseless quest for adequate funds to meet the needs of retarded persons requiring institutional care and training, the NJARC vigorously supported related legislation. In 1956, the NJARC endorsed the Interstate Compact on Mental Health and urged its adoption by the New Jersey legislature. The Compact meant that transfers of retarded persons under state care to and from other party states, of which there were more than 30 in 1957, could be arranged in the interests of the patient, by mutual agreement between appropriate authorities on the request of the family. Also in 1956, NJARC was influential in persuading members of the legislature to pass a resolution creating the New Jersey Commission on Mental Health. Mrs. Boggs was vice-chairman of the 14-member Commission, which began its study in September 1957.

Lloyd C. Newsom presented NJARC's seven-point program to the Commission. The points included distinguishing between mentally ill and mentally retarded in State legislation; respecting the natural guardianship of parents of institutionalized children; judicial determination of competence at age 21 with a guardian appointed, if necessary; State guardianship for retardates who are without parents but who do not need institutional care; voluntary admission, with court commitment reserved for unusual cases; formation of diagnostic teams for pre-admission and post-admission diagnosis; and separate housing for retarded delinquents. Later, an NJARC representative sought greater equity in the fees chargeable to parents, pointing out that parents of retarded residents in State institutions should not have to pay for services, such as education, which are provided by public funds for normal children.

In 1961, the Commission presented to the legislature bills which included many of the principles and provisions urged by spokesmen for NJARC. However, it was not until 1965 that the Mental Health Act was finally passed. The legislation brought the New Jersey law (Title 30, concerning institutions) up to modern standards of treatment, care, admission, and discharge. It provided for voluntary placement into and withdrawal from State institutions. The responsibility for interpreting services for retarded adults in the community and for carrying out the admission process was delegated to the Bureau of Field Services in the Department of Institutions and Agencies. This Bureau also acts for the Commissioner in providing "public guardianship" for retarded persons who may require it, whether they are in the community or in State institutions. A court (or the institution) must determine that an individual at age 21 or over is incompetent, before the parents or the Bureau, or both, can act as his guardian thereafter.

Early in 1966, the NJARC sponsored four regional meetings to inform parents and professional persons working with the retarded about the new provisions for private and public guardianship. That year, nearly all placements in State institutions were achieved by voluntary applications.

In order to secure passage of the legislation, all sections dealing with more equitable standards for fees, including indefinite liability against parents, were deleted. Because NJARC members considered this a cruel penalty unnecessarily added to the tragedy of having a retarded child, they continued to seek a change in the law governing fees.

public
community
services

BUREAU OF FIELD SERVICES

In 1955, the Bureau of Field Services was established within the Division of Mental Retardation in the Department of Institutions and Agencies to provide the social services required by the mentally retarded in institutions or in the programs, public or private, conducted by the Departments of Institutions and Agencies, and of Education, the Rehabilitation Commission in the Department of Labor and Industry, and NJARC units. In 1955, its first year, the Bureau was able to offer help to less than 100 clients and their families; in its 10th year those served were almost 3,000.

DAY CARE PROGRAM

By 1960, a few units began developing day care programs for school age children, who did not qualify for special trainable classes, and activity programs for those over 16 who could not meet the minimum standards for vocational training or employment. During 1961-62, the New Jersey Association for Retarded Children Education Committee under Dr. Marion Little worked closely with the Division of Mental Retardation to develop standards and criteria for day care programs.

In 1962, the Division of Mental Retardation requested an appropriation in the 1963-64 State budget to enable the State to support and thus promote the development of day care programs. These would provide for social adjustment and training of the severely and profoundly retarded children of school age living at home but excluded from public school programs. The Division viewed the day care program as an alternative to placement in a State residential institution. By 1967, the 18 local units of NJARC were operating programs in each of the 21 Counties and all units were receiving State support. In 1966, a Bureau of Day Care and Training Programs was established in the Division of Mental Retardation. The Bureau maintained standards as to personnel, program, facilities, fiscal records, and eligibility of children in centers receiving State support.

In 1967, the building of State-operated day care facilities began. By the middle of 1968, centers were constructed in Camden, Mercer, and Passaic (at Totowa) Counties, with each designed to house 80 retarded individuals. Centers in Somerset, Cumberland, and Warren Counties were completed, each for 40. By the following summer, centers were built in Sussex, Middlesex and Burlington Counties to house 40 children each. State-operated day care centers were planned for all 21 counties. Two of the six day care centers for school age children (Passaic and Mercer) included activity programs for approximately 32 retarded adults beyond 20 years of age.

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

The year 1969 has seen a series of celebrations of New Jersey's "golden jubilee of rehabilitation". However, only the last 15 of these years has seen a significant contribution to the well being and independence of the mentally retarded. In 1957 the record shows that the N. J. Rehabilitation Commission assisted in the rehabilitation of 31 retarded persons. Within a decade the rate had increased by twenty fold.

The New Jersey Rehabilitation Act passed in 1919 and its Federal counterpart enacted a year later both addressed themselves to the physically handicapped, in an effort to bring to civilians the methods which had been shown of value with war wounded. It was not until the next war that a significant number of the mentally retarded were able to show their capabilities in a short labor market. This led to the extension of the scope of the federal legislation (in 1943) to include the mentally retarded and mentally ill. However, the structure of the statute and the character of services did not fully reflect the needs of these new and different groups and it was not until the 1954 amendments that significant progress began. This development coincided with increasing interest (in New Jersey and nationally) on the part of the ubiquitous Associations for Retarded Children, which, in this field as in education, began by demonstrating the need through projects at the local level.

A vocational class for teen age boys was inaugurated by the NJARC Bergen-Passaic Unit in late 1951 with no government help. It has been in continuous operation since then and is now classed as an activity center. The Occupational Center of Essex County, which opened in October 1954 under the sponsorship of the Essex Unit and three other groups, was, by contrast, designed to take advantage of the kind of aid available from the State and federal governments; it set a pattern for similar developments with impetus from NJARC units in most of the more populous counties. These non-profit workshops are now a major resource to the N. J. Rehabilitation Commission which purchases vocational evaluation, personal adjustment, and work training services from them for many of its clients. In addition most of the shops provide a long term sheltered employment opportunity for trainees who can be productive but cannot function in a normal competitive environment. Such workshops are now serving retarded young adults from 16 of our 21 counties.

Despite the heartening progress of the past decade, the Rehabilitation Commission and NJARC recognize what is yet to be done. Doubling the number of retarded who are served by

the Commission seemed a realistic objective in 1968. More recently the report of a special effort in comprehensive statewide planning in rehabilitation suggests longer term goals; its title: *the 2nd half century: A Plan for Vocational Rehabilitation to 1975 and Beyond*. NJARC leaders played an active part, along with many other citizens, in the development of this plan, in which the interests and needs of the mentally handicapped were given attention in proportion to the problem they present.

CLINICS

Although the State has supported privately operated clinics, there was no diagnostic facility operated by the State until Newark State College opened one in its Child Study Center in 1965. About 50% of the clients in this clinic were retarded. Two years later, a statewide diagnostic and evaluation center exclusively for the mentally retarded was opened in the Tramburg Unit of Johnstone. The unit provides 30, 60 and 90 day evaluation periods, primarily for children, although there is no age limit. In April 1968, the Inter-Agency Committee on Education of the Handicapped urged the establishment of 10 to 12 regional comprehensive clinics, under the auspices of the Department of Health, to serve children and possibly adults with chronic neurological disabilities.

SOCIAL WORK

NJARC enthusiastically supported the formation of a School of Social Work at Rutgers University in 1954. NJARC had prepared a comprehensive paper recommending that the following areas be covered in a curriculum on social work with the mentally retarded: basic information on mental deficiency, clinical measurements, parent counselling, counselling retarded youth for vocational and social adjustment, group work with the retarded, institutional social work, and supervised student placement. Many of the committee's recommendations were incorporated into the Rutgers program.

CRIMINAL LAW

Over the years, NJARC has attempted to get New Jersey criminal law to deal realistically with mental retardation. The statutes do not adequately differentiate between mental retardation and insanity, and yet mental retardation, unlike mental illness is not accepted as the basis for a finding of "unfit to

a study in progress

stand trial." NJARC aided in the defense of Arthur Gross and Thomas Smith, hoping to promote remedial legislation which would recognize the incapacity and injustice of a mentally retarded person standing trial in a criminal suit. In spite of Joseph Feinman's persistent efforts from 1953 to his death in 1965, New Jersey criminal law did not recognize mental retardation as a defense in criminal actions.

national
relations

NARC

Five parents from New Jersey attended the first national organizing convention in Minneapolis from September 28 to October 1, 1950. Lee Marino was sent as the delegate from the State Council. Unit representatives were Daniel Boyd of Bergen-Passaic, Mrs. Elizabeth Boggs of Essex, Harry Bloom of Hudson, and Mrs. Mary Kenny of Union. The New Jersey delegation had met several times prior to the convention and was well prepared to make constructive contributions to the formation of the National Association of Parents and Friends of Mentally Retarded Children, and to the writing of its constitution. Lee Marino was elected chairman of the convention, at which 48 persons represented 19 states.

Members of NJARC have been active in the National Association ever since. At the Minneapolis convention, Lee Marino was elected vice-president, and later served as treasurer of NARC. Mrs. Boggs was a member of the first board of directors, then served successively as chairman of the committee on organization and standards, education chairman, vice-president, and president (1958-60). She later served as chairman of governmental affairs.

Fitzhugh Boggs was a member of the national research committee. In 1952-53 Henry Gould served on the membership committee, and in 1956, as personnel chairman, as well as treasurer, and was largely responsible for choosing the second director for NARC, Gunnar Dybwad. At the same time, Mrs. Kathryn Gould, as recreation chairman, cooperated with the International Recreation Congress, in developing a camping program for the retarded. Mrs. Laura Blossfeld was a member of the publicity committee in 1952-53. Edward O'Reilly served on the nominating committee in 1955-56 and the following year Lewis Cuyler led a national fund drive. Shortly afterward, Martin Gross became chairman of the committee on building design. Frank Christensen served as personnel chairman, director of the northeast region (elected 1960), and treasurer in 1964. In 1963, Herbert Feist became a member of the NARC board. At the same time Miss Grace Barraud served on the nominating committee.

As vice-president of NARC, Lee Marino was in charge of the northeast regional conference held in New York City on May 26, 1951, for the exchange of ideas and development of joint plans. Fitzhugh Boggs was chairman of the northeast conference, June 19-20, 1954, at Columbia University, where the topic was research, and Lloyd Newsom was chairman of

a study in progress

the conference held in Providence May 19-20, 1961, featuring roundtable discussions on six topics. While president of NJARC, Robert Weir served as chairman of two national conferences of state presidents, in 1965 and 1966.

At the 1967 convention, Theodore Lucas, NJARC executive director, was elected chairman of the newly organized Conference of Executives of ARC.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

NARC probably has its greatest effect on the lives of the mentally retarded in New Jersey and elsewhere through its influence on federal legislation. Throughout the Fifties and Sixties, the boards and individual members of NARC and NJARC sought legislation which would aid retarded persons. The amount of aid steadily increased. Funds were made available to train teachers, support demonstration projects, increase social security and public assistance payments, and expand sheltered workshops.

Mrs. Boggs was a member of the President's Panel on Mental Retardation that made 95 recommendations to President John F. Kennedy in 1962. The federal government began to view mental retardation as a problem in national human resources and to allocate money and manpower to make real progress in research, prevention, planning and services.

ENLIGHTENMENT

To disseminate knowledge about mental retardation free of prejudice or superstition was a major goal of the Parents Group from the beginning. The dual process of educating the parents and the public has been a continuing effort. Monthly membership meetings began with the Paterson group in 1948. At one of the most impressive unit meetings, on May 9, 1950, Pearl Buck challenged almost 500 parents in the Public Service Auditorium in Newark to end the exile of their retarded children by changing public attitudes to make the retarded accepted members of the American community. The size of this gathering was an indication of the rapid growth of the organization.

Probably the most spectacular incident of the first decade of the movement for retarded persons was the New Jersey Institute on Mental Deficiency held at Rutgers University on October 28, 1950. The conference was sponsored by the New Jersey Parents Group for Retarded Children in cooperation with the State Department of Institutions and Agencies, Health, and Education; and with six professional organizations in the fields of medicine, psychiatry, psychology, and social work. Howard Smith was chairman of the institute. Approximately 1,500 per-

sons attended; there were 1,330 paid registrations and many who did not register attended in the afternoon. The size of the attendance led to respectful consideration of the Parents Group on the part of State officials and professional people. Parents and professional workers mingled in general meetings and technical workshops. The gathering served to emphasize the importance of the State Commission to study mental deficiency, which was appointed that fall by Governor Alfred Driscoll.

Except for 1957 and 1961, the NJARC held annual conferences from 1951 to 1963. However, many parents could not spend all day at meetings and attendance gradually decreased so that in 1964 the State Council discontinued state conferences and urged New Jersey members to support the northeast regional conferences of NARC. However, in 1955, NJARC initiated annual dinners which, unlike the state conferences, became increasingly popular. NARC, government and other leaders in the field of retardation have addressed NJARC dinners. More than 400 heard a "blue ribbon" panel discuss comprehensive planning for the mentally retarded at the 1965 dinner held in Morristown on November 13. Mrs. Paul Rauschenbach, chairman of the Governor's Advisory Committee on Lifetime Disability, moderated the discussion. The participants were Commissioner Lloyd McCorkel of the Department of Institutions and Agencies, Commissioner Roscoe Kandle of the Department of Health, Director Beatrice Holderman of the Rehabilitation Commission, and Dr. Wilbur Clayton of the Department of Education. Governor Richard J. Hughes spoke at the 1966 dinner in Atlantic City. The Governor opened his speech with a quotation from President Kennedy, "The manner in which our nation cares for its citizens and conserves its manpower resources is more than an index to its concern for the less fortunate. It is a key to its future."

Local units have conducted some outstanding institutes. In April 1959, the Raritan Valley Unit held a symposium on "Lifetime Planning for the Mentally Retarded." On June 15, 1960, the Essex Unit conducted an institute for nurses and school social workers, where the team approach to diagnosing, as used in the unit's clinic, was stressed. In 1968, Essex co-sponsored a professional symposium on the disturbed retarded. The Glassboro State College Club for Exceptional Children under the guidance of Dr. Willie Kate Baldwin and the Gloucester Unit have co-sponsored annual symposiums on mental retardation. The seventh one held March 9, 1968 was concerned with: "Planning and Working with the Multi-Handicapped Child and Youth." Two sessions of an institute on the mentally retarded and religion were conducted by the Morris Unit in the fall of 1967.

a study in progress

In 1951, Mrs. Boggs, with the assistance of Dr. Yepsen, arranged a 10-week course on mental retardation, given weekly at the adult school of West Side High School, Newark, from October 1 to December 10. The school authorities characterized the Parents Group course as the outstanding new course of the year. A second and more advanced course was held in the fall of 1952. An introductory course was held in the fall of 1952 in Collingswood High School under the auspices of the Tri-County Unit, with Mrs. Dorothy Warner as chairman. This 10-week course had the largest attendance of an adult education course in the State. From January to March 1953, a series of lectures on mental retardation in Somerville was sponsored by the Raritan Valley Unit. Beginning March 19, 1955, the unit sponsored a parents' workshop of five weekly sessions conducted by Dr. Anna Starr. Other adult education courses on mental retardation were sponsored by the Hunterdon Unit in 1959, by the Warren Unit in 1960, and by the Cape May Unit in 1962.

PUBLICATIONS

Over the past 20 years, there have been two common types of publications for parents of retarded children: (1) brochures prepared by NJARC or one of the units to interest non-members, that described the organization and the services available, and (2) newsletters to members published by a unit or the State Council. The newly organized parents realized the need for some description, in an easily distributable form, of the organization's history and aims. By the beginning of 1948, a committee, headed by Dr. Kenneth B. White, had produced an attractive and informative four-page pamphlet entitled "New Jersey Parents Group for Retarded Children." In the summer of 1949, Raymond Francois and Henry Gould developed the State Council's first brochure, which carried the title "Can We Help You?" The first printing of 10,000 copies was exhausted within a year. The first brochures were written primarily to interest parents of retarded children. However, when general solicitation of the public became the major method of fund raising, the pamphlets were designed to attract prospective contributors also. The designation, "Can We Help You?," was retained and the conviction that "Retarded Children Can Be Helped" was emphasized. In 1954, the State Council and most units adopted the national symbol of a boy's head within a triangle. Half of the head is darkened as though in a shadow with the other half lightened as though by help.

Unit newsletters began with "The Parents' Voice," issued by
48 the Bergen-Passaic Unit in October 1948. From that time until

February 1963, Mrs. Laura Blossfeld was editor of this lively paper.

Unlike the unit papers which were issued 10 to 12 times a year, "Progress" was published by the State Council less regularly, usually two to four times yearly. Beginning April 1956, the state newsletter of four pages devoted greater space to State government developments, although local and national news was not ignored. Starting in 1966, "Progress" was professionally edited under the supervision of a small editorial advisory board of NJARC leaders. Each issue had a theme; these have included State finances, guardianship and insurance, youth activities, and residential care. In 1966 NJARC "News Notes," a monthly newsletter of four to six pages for unit and state leaders, began to supplement "Progress."

Early in 1958, NJARC published a 30-page mimeographed pamphlet, "Resources for the Retarded in New Jersey." The fifth edition was a 150-page book published in 1967. In his dedication, Governor Hughes wrote that the book ". . . is an excellent work and perhaps unmatched for its usefulness to anyone concerned with mental retardation." Other recent publications include "Opportunities for Careers in Mental Retardation," a widely-distributed booklet about employment opportunities in the field; "We Want to Tell You Something," a brochure about NJARC and its local units; and a reprinting of a 1918 booklet entitled, "The Teaching of Children Mentally Three Years or More Below the Normal."

Hyman Enzer, the first publicity chairman for the State Council, was emphatic about what he considered the primary purpose of the Parents Group when he admonished the first annual convention, "We've got to prod, arouse, uplift a huge inert mass of social thinking." Ever since Mrs. Laura Blossfeld's letter of October 12, 1946, *The Record* (in Hackensack) has publicized the development and work of the Bergen-Passaic Unit. In addition to covering the activities of the Essex Unit, the *Newark News* has published state developments, special articles and occasional editorials on mental retardation. Beginning in the fall of 1949, the *Camden Courier* gave the Tri-County Unit splendid publicity in that dominant newspaper of the south Jersey area. Probably just as important to the movement was the coverage of unit activities in local weekly newspapers written by scores of unit reporters.

The January 1950 issue of *Parents Magazine* had a short article about the New Jersey Parents Group. The October 11, 1952 issue of the *Saturday Evening Post* carried an article, "Retarded Children Can be Helped." Based on the work in

a study in progress

New Jersey, the account had been prompted by Mrs. Dorothy Warner. Early in 1953, Enzer reported a noticeable change in the attitude of daily newspapers which, in general, had become receptive to news and feature articles on the retarded child and agencies concerned with him. By 1960, newspaper and magazine articles on mental retardation were fairly common, thanks in considerable measure to the public information efforts of NARC.

On November 20, 1948, Lyle Vann in his radio program spoke of the Parents Group, mentioning the Village School in Ridgewood. He also urged his listeners to send cards to their legislators asking for better conditions in the State institutions. During the week of October 10-15, 1949, six persons from the Essex Unit participated in the Johnny Clark program on WNJR, Newark. The speakers were Lee Marino, whose topic was "Parents Groups' Works and Hopes"; Miss Irene Sheppard, "Needs of Parents and Children"; Harry Arons, "Work of the Education Committee"; Antoinette Fried, "Operation of a Guidance Clinic"; and Raymond Francois, "Expansion Program."

The Tri-County Unit sponsored a series of weekly talks on station WCAM, Camden, from February 6 to May 1, 1950. Following the theme, "Faith in Our Children," participants in a round-table discussion included Thomas Warner, president of the unit, Dr. H. Paul Janes, Dr. George Gens, and mothers. As a result of the series, the Camden County League of School Boards began to seriously consider the problems of retarded children. Alfred Dorn, president of the Raritan Valley Unit, spoke on station WGTC, New Brunswick, on May 15, 1950, and, by early 1951, the Monmouth Unit was getting time once a month on WJLK, Asbury Park.

The New Jersey Parents Group reached a nationwide audience in a CBS radio program on April 27, 1952, as part of "The People Act" series. The development and work of the Parents Group, with emphasis on the Essex guidance clinic was outlined. According to the number of inquiries received, "The People Act in Essex County, New Jersey" rated first among the 25 programs in the series.

IMPACT

Within one short decade, as a result of local, state, and national activity and publicity, retarded children literally emerged from the dark corners of their homes into a much fuller life. Unit classes were closed as public school classes were opened to the trainable retardates. Bond issues for new buildings at the State institutions passed in 1949 and 1952. Innumerable organizations were proud to be aiding some service for the

retarded. By 1955 house-to-house soliciting was surprisingly lucrative. Most important for the parents, mental retardation was a condition to be helped, not shunned.

By 1968, sheltered workshops, day care centers, and activity centers were added to special classes, day camps, and various recreation activities as programs available to many retarded persons in New Jersey communities. Care, education, and recreation had improved in State institutions; per capita expenditure had doubled from 1953 to 1963. Two new institutions were in operation and three were being constructed or planned. Lifetime supervision was available in New Jersey's guardianship program. Numerous business firms had begun training and hiring retarded men and women. Still, there was much to be done. As parents welcomed the greater role of State officials and other professional workers, many hoped that the parents' spirit that had started it all would not be lost.

They felt that the words of Edouard Seguin at the dedication of the Syracuse State School would reverberate eloquently today: "God has scattered among us — rare as the possessors of genius — the idiot, the blind, the deafmute, in order to bind the rich to the needy, the talented to the inadequate, all men to each other, by a tie of indissoluble solidarity . . . See that cornerstone — the token of a new alliance between a class hitherto neglected — that, ladies and gentlemen, is your pride; it is the greatest joy of my life, for I, too, have labored for the poor idiot."

appendix

STATE COUNCIL OFFICERS

	June, 1949—January, 1950	
chairman	Judge Morris Dobrin	
secretary	Neil Rigler	
	January, 1950—January, 1951	
president	Lee J. Marino	
vice president	Henry W. Gould	
secretary	Neil Rigler	
treasurer	Mrs. Nan E. Weiss	
	January, 1951—January, 1952	
president	Lee J. Marino	
vice president	Howard Smith	
recording secretary	Neil Rigler	
corresponding secretary	Mrs. F. Morse Archer	
treasurer	Mrs. Nan E. Weiss	
	January, 1952—January, 1953	January, 1953—Sept. 1953
president	Neil E. Rigler (Howard Smith until March)	Neil E. Rigler
first vice president	Edward L. O'Reilly	Harry Bloom
second vice president	Thomas Warner (Harvey Bloom after Sept.)	Edward L. O'Reilly
recording secretary	Mrs. Helen Beehler (after Rigler and Gould)	Mrs. Helen Beehler
corresponding secretary	Mrs. Alice Neal	Miss Grace Barraud
treasurer	Henry W. Gould (J. Raymond Francois to May)	Theodore T. Pettingell, Jr.
parliamentarian	Joseph Feinman	Fitzhugh W. Boggs
	Sept. 1953—Sept. 1954	Sept. 1954—Sept. 1955
president	Neil E. Rigler	Edward L. O'Reilly
first vice president	Edward L. O'Reilly	Harry W. Kohler
second vice president	Mrs. Laura D. Hubbard	Mrs. Laura Hubbard
recording secretary	J. G. Walsh (Miss Barraud after Nov.)	Miss Grace Barraud
corresponding secretary	Miss Grace Barraud (Mrs. Albert S. Tenney, Jr. after November)	Mrs. A. E. (Irene) Whitecomb
treasurer	William J. Burgess	William J. Burgess
parliamentarian	Fitzhugh W. Boggs	Harry R. Bloom
	Sept. 1955—Sept. 1956	Sept. 1956—Sept. 1957
president	Edward L. O'Reilly	Fitzhugh W. Boggs
first vice president	Fitzhugh W. Boggs	Francis Laporta
second vice president	Francis Laporta	Lloyd Newsom
recording secretary	Miss Grace Barraud	Miss Grace Barraud
corresponding secretary	William Burgess	Mrs. Jean Tenney
treasurer	Frank Christensen	Frank Christensen
parliamentarian	Christopher Maasch	Mrs. Helen Suter

	Sept. 1957—Sept. 1958	Sept. 1958—Sept. 1959
president	Fitzhugh W. Boggs	Lloyd Newsom
first vice president	Francis Laporta	Frank Christensen
second vice president	Lloyd Newsom	Robert H. Weir
recording secretary	Mrs. Elsie Yard	Mrs. Elsie Yard, Mrs. Betty LaCourse
corresponding secretary	Mrs. Jean Tenney	Mrs. Jean Tenney
treasurer	Frank Christensen	Cyrus Lewis
parliamentarian	Robert H. Weir	Christopher A. Maasch
	Sept. 1959—Sept. 1960	Sept. 1960—Sept. 1961
president	Lloyd C. Newsom	Harold Binn
first vice president	Frank Christensen	Robert H. Weir
second vice president	Robert H. Weir	Arthur Avery
recording secretary	Miss Grace Barraud	Miss Grace Barraud
corresponding secretary	Mrs. Jean Tenney	Mrs. Jean Tenney
treasurer	Cyrus Lewis	Henry Gould
parliamentarian	Christopher Maasch	William Campbell
	Sept. 1961—Sept. 1962	Sept. 1962—Sept. 1963
president	Harold Binn	Miss Grace Barraud
first vice president	Miss Grace Barraud	Robert H. Weir
second vice president	Robert H. Weir	Joseph Feinman
recording secretary	Mrs. Charles (A.) Loichle	Mrs. Marian Headrick
corresponding secretary	Mrs. Jean Tenney	Mrs. Jean Tenney
treasurer	Henry Gould	Henry Gould
parliamentarian	Camillo DeLuca	Raymond Mutchler
	Sept. 1963—Sept. 1964	Sept. 1964—Sept. 1965
president	Miss Grace Barraud	Robert Weir
first vice president	Robert H. Weir	Joseph Feinman
second vice president	Joseph Feinman	Mrs. Fitzhugh (E.) Boggs
recording secretary	Mrs. Marian Headrick	Mrs. Ralph Sundy
corresponding secretary	Mrs. Walter Graf	Mrs. James Howell
treasurer	Henry Gould	Henry Gould
parliamentarian	Raymond Mutchler	Dr. Fred K. Manasse
	Sept. 1965—Sept. 1966	Sept. 1966—Sept. 1967
president	Robert H. Weir	Mrs. Fitzhugh (E.) Boggs
first vice president	Mrs. Fitzhugh (E.) Boggs	Henry Gould
second vice president	Robert S. Burros	William Campbell
recording secretary	Mrs. Ralph Sundy	Mrs. Evelyn J. Lee
corresponding secretary	Mrs. Lewis Headrick	Mrs. William Delaney
treasurer	Henry W. Gould	Edward Sternback
parliamentarian	Mrs. Wilbur Osterling	Peter Weber
	Sept. 1967—Sept. 1968	Sept. 1968—Sept. 1969
president	Henry Gould	Henry Gould
first vice president	Charles R. Kelley	Charles R. Kelley
second vice president	Herbert Brown	Herbert Brown
		(Robert Allen)
secretary	Mrs. Evelyn J. Lee	Grace Barraud
treasurer	Robert Nicholson	Donald Cullerton

regional vice presidents

metropolitan Cyrus Lewis
southern Mrs. Ralph Sundy
northern John McSpiritt
central Mrs. Jean Tenney
members-at-large of Herbert Feist
executive committee Mrs. Betty Rondinella

Cyrus Lewis
Mrs. James (V.) Wilson
John McSpiritt
Walter J. Myers
Herbert Feist
Dr. Samuel Goldstein
Robert Allen, (Mrs. Kay Sundy)

Sept. 1969—Sept. 1970

president Charles R. Kelley
first vice president Robert Allen
second vice president Robert S. Burros
secretary Jay Matley
treasurer John McSpiritt
regional vice presidents
metropolitan Mrs. Bernard (P.) Koechlin
southern Mrs. James (V.) Wilson
northern Mrs. James (M.) Apgar
central Walter J. Myers

UNIT PRESIDENTS

Atlantic

Camillo A. DeLuca	1953-1955
Alex Carton	1955-1957
Harris Aron	1957-1959
Camillo A. DeLuca	1959-1965
Alex Carton	1965-1967
Mrs. James Gleason	1967-1969

Bergen-Passaic

(Judge) Morris Dobrin	1947-1949
Howard Smith	1949-1950
Henry W. Gould	1950-1952
Mrs. A. (Laura) Blossfeld	1952-1953
John J. Mitchell	1953-1954
Frank C. Christensen	1954-1955
Howard Schreyer	1955-1957
August H. Hoehne	1957-1960
Joseph Feinman	1960-1962
Robert S. Burros	1962-1964
Edward J. Cahill	1964-1966
Bernard H. Walfish	1966-1968
Robert Blom	1968-1969

Burlington

John Wegener	1956-1958
Milton L. Fritz	1958-1959
Mrs. Robert (Ann) Paoletti	1959-1961
Mrs. Wilbur (Sue) Osterling	1961-1962
Mrs. Benjamin M. (Ada) Snyder	1962-1964
James Walter, Jr.	1964-1966
I. Bruce Brenner	1966-1968
Robert Ammlung	1968-1969

Camden

Frederick Webber	1956-1957
Robert D. Warner	1957-1959
William N. Freeman	1959-1960
Fabian C. Hazard, Jr.	1960-1962
John Roberts	1962-1964
Warren J. Mazzochette	1964-1966
Mrs. James (Virginia) Wilson	1966-1968
Victor P. Damiani	1968-1969

Cape May

Dr. R. K. Ehrenberg	1961-1963
Philip Comfort	1963-1964
Paul Newell	1964-1967
Mrs. Kathleen D'Amico	1967-1968
Rev. Lawrence Holt	1968-1969

Cumberland-Salem

Mrs. Milton J. (Martha) Birbeck	1951-1952
Francis J. Nolan	1952-1954
Mrs. William (Beatrice) Evanoff	1954-1955
Mrs. Helen Suter	1955-1957
Francis A. Stevens	1957-1959
Francis J. Nolan	1959-1960
Francis A. Stevens	1960-1961
James V. Harkcom	1961-1963
Max Eisner	1963-1965
Francis A. Stevens	1965-1966
Mrs. J. Chambers	1966-1968
Mrs. William Delaney	1968-1969

Essex

Lee J. Marino	1948-1950
J. Raymond Francois	1950-1952
Fitzhugh W. Boggs	1952-1955
Harold J. Binn	1955-1957
Mrs. John R. (Bertha) Clark	1957-1959
Martin M. Gross	1959-1961
Mrs. Walter (Florence) Graf	1961-1963
Thomas J. O'Neill	1963-1965
Cyrus Lewis	1965-1967
Mrs. Bernard A. (Patricia) Koechlin	1967-1969

Gloucester

Robert H. Weir	1956-1958
William H. Campbell	1958-1960
Mrs. Ralph (Kay) Sundy	1960-1962
Mrs. John (Ethel) Sennett	1962-1964
Robert Butzbach	1964-1966
Dr. Charles Green	1966-1968
Robert H. Weir	1968-1969

Hudson

Howard J. Daniels	1950-1951
Samuel Aaronson	
Harry R. Bloom	1951-1952
Henry L. Campbell	1952-1954
Charles Meegan	1954-1955
Mrs. Bernard (Helen) Beehler	1955-1958
Daniel F. O'Keefe	1958-1959
Henry L. Campbell	1959-1961
Mrs. Bernard (Mildred) Cozewith	1961-1963
Mrs. Herman (Annette) Zablotsky	1963-1965
Mrs. Bernard (Mildred) Cozewith	1965-1966
Mrs. Herman (Annette) Zablotsky	1966-1967
Mrs. Alfred (Thelma) Webb	1967-1969
Kenneth Johnson	1969-1970

Hunterdon

Raymond H. Gaupp	1956-1957
Mrs. Gertrude B. Sherrard	1957-1959
Theodore McCourty	1959-1960
Mrs. William (Adele) Langston	1960-1961
Mrs. L. G. (Dorothy) MacNamara	1961-1962
Robert Gaardsmoe	1962-1963
Mrs. L. G. (Dorothy) MacNamara	1963-1965
Thomas Donnelly	1965-1966
Mrs. Jack Lyons	1966-1967
Mrs. L. G. (Dorothy) MacNamara	1967-1969

Mercer

Neil E. Rigler	1950-1952
T. M. Bergstresser	1952-1953
James T. Campbell	1953-1954
Francis E. Laporta	1954-1956
Chester Cichocki	1956-1958
Leonard E. Fielder	1958-1960
Francis E. Laporta	1960-1961
Mrs. James E. (Lois) Gutzwiller	1961-1963
Dr. Lewis Headrick	1963-1964
Dominick Carbone	1964-1965
Chester Cichocki	1965-1967
Walter L. Myers, Jr.	1967-1968
J. Sherman Cooper	1968-1970

Monmouth

Albert A. Six	1950-1951
Herbert Gaskill	
Joseph Walsh	1951-1952
Edward O'Reilly	1952-1953
Harry Murphy	1953-1954
John Sullivan	1954-1955
Mrs. Paul Waffendorf	1955-1956
Mrs. Wilma Wilkens	1956-1957
Mrs. Joseph (Melva) Kaiser	1957-1958
Sanford Emhoff	1958-1960
Henry Blom	1960
Mrs. Charles (Alfreda) Loichle	1960-1961
Joseph T. Bannon	1961-1963
Mr. Fred Manasse	1963-1965
Dr. Robert Toomey	1965-1967
David Lovcik	1967-1968

Morris

Joseph R. Gibson	
John R. Nooney	
George Clark	1954-1955

Lloyd Newsom	1955-1957
Leon Rose	1957-1959
Raymond Mutchler	1959-1961
Andrew P. Limone	1961-1963
John McSpiritt	1963-1965
Joseph Gilbreth, Jr.	1965-1967
Arthur V. Hughes	1967-1968

Ocean

Donald A. Evoy	1953-1954
Hartwell D. Clarke	1954-1957
Mrs. Milton (Lillian) Weiner	1957-1959
Albert S. Tenney, Jr.	1959-1961
Dominick Galione	1961-1963
Peter Weber	1963-1965
Mrs. C. (Alice) Aufdermarsh	1965-1967
Albert Rocker, Jr.	1967-1968

Raritan Valley

Charles Wurtzel	
Alfred Dorn	1950-1951
Mrs. C. W. (Alice) Neal	1951-1952
Miss Grace Barraud	1952-1953
	1953-1954
Leo Zuckerman	1954-1955
Christopher A. Maasch	1955-1957
Herbert K. Feist	1957-1959
Mrs. Frank (Elizabeth) Thompson	1959-1961
Stanley E. Tobiasson	1961-1962
Emmett J. Ryan	1962-1963
Gilbert L. Finne	1963-1965
Mrs. Frank (Helen) Stagg	1965-1966
Miss Grace Barraud	1966-1968

Sussex

Mrs. Richard (Margaret) Fenton	1958-1960
Leonard Charles	1960-1961
Mrs. James (Elizabeth) Howell	1961-1963
Mrs. Samuel Mitchell	1963-1965
Mrs. Nicholas (Betty) Rondinella	1965-1967
Mrs. Angelo (Clara) DeSimone	1967-1969

Tri-County (Dissolved, 1956)

Thomas A. Warner	1949-1952
Mrs. John (Laura) Hubbard	1952-1953
Charles Rabinowitz	1953-1954
John C. McNeff, Jr.	1954-1955
Robert Weir	1955-1956

Union

Thomas F. Johnson	1950-1951
Joseph Warsinski	1951-1952
John McCormick	1952-1953
Harry W. Kohler	1953-1955
Arthur C. Avery	1956-1958
Julius C. Mascuch	1958-1959
Henry Van Pullen	1959-1960
Mrs. Felix (Elizabeth) Helpap	1960-1961
Harry W. Kohler	1961-1962
Robert P. Allen	1962-1964
Robert Nicholson	1964-1966
Mrs. Carl (Pearl) Boxer	1966-1968
Bertram Schwartz	1968-1969

Warren

Mrs. P. (Kathryn) Ashman	1954-1955
Donald Brown	1955-1956
Robert Vanderbilt	1956-1958
Harold W. Shoemaker	1958-1960
Mrs. James (Mary) Apgar	1960-1962
Harold W. Shoemaker	1962-1963
Mrs. James (Mary) Apgar	1963-1965
Mrs. Walter (Mary) Smith	1965-1966
Harold W. Shoemaker	1966-1968