

THE HELP WELFARE WORKERS MAY EXPECT FROM STATE INSTITUTIONS

Mildred Thomson
Supervisor, Subdivision for Feeble-Minded

Mr. Hall just sent word in the midst of this program that he could not be here and asked that I take his place, so naturally I am not prepared. Mr. Hall had no paper. If he had written one it would be very simple.

As Dr. Patterson was talking about the assistance given by the social worker at his institution, the point that made the deepest impression on me—outside the question that came up later with regard to the relationship of the hospital to the family of a patient with a venereal infection, or some other disease that might be infectious—was that his worker in some cases helped by going into the local community and into the home to see whether or not proper plans could be made for the person who was ready for parole; that after the patient in the hospital was cured or in such a mental condition that he was ready to go out, then it was really a social problem; that while that could not be done in all cases, it could be done in some cases. That it seems to me is where the social agencies already existing, the welfare agencies in communities in which they are really functioning, may assist the hospital.

On the other hand, the hospitals, or other institutions, may assist the local agencies by not paroling a person back to the local community without getting in touch, where it is at all possible and feasible, with the agency in the local community who may know other members of the family; discussing plans with them, or letting them know ahead of time what plans are to be made for the person coming from the institution, in order that they may adjust some local situation and be better prepared for this person's coming home than would be possible if they did not know of it beforehand. In certain situations the local community has not known that a person was coming back to the community until they had found him there. Particularly where there are children would it have been easier if they had known it previously.

When I went to the office this morning I found a three-page letter from Owatonna giving a list of children they are returning to various counties in the state. They are not returning them immediately. The Board of Control has authorized the return of practically all who test below seventy-five. As the middle man—which is what we are mostly, anyway—we are in a position to make contacts with the local communities a little more fully than perhaps Mr. Merrill could by simply reporting to the court that these children are going back. We can get in touch with the local welfare boards, and they in turn will assist in having definite plans made before the children do go back.

It seems to me that if the institutions would let the local welfare agencies who are active on members of the family or who knew the patients before they came to the institutions assist, if possible, in making plans locally for their return to the community, it might help quite a bit.

Dr. Freeman: This will end the afternoon session.

All superintendents are expected to be present at the dinner this evening. This is not official.

EVENING

F. Stuart Chapin, University of Minnesota: Ladies and Gentlemen—As you no doubt saw in the newspapers a day or so ago, Mr. Sanford Bates, who had

been invited to give the address this evening on "Social Work and Juvenile Delinquency," is not able to be here owing to a conflict with the meeting of the American Prison Association held at this time in Texas, too far away to get here in time for our conference.

We have been very fortunate, however, in being able to secure as a speaker on practically the same subject, "Some Aspects of Juvenile Delinquency," Dr. E. D. Monachesi, assistant professor of sociology at the University of Minnesota.

Dr. Monachesi has been away from Minnesota for two years. The first year, as a Fellow of the Social Science Research Council, he gave his time to research work in and around Boston. There he came to know the Gluecks, referred to by our Chief Justice a few minutes ago, whose books some of you know and which were discussed somewhat this afternoon.

After that Dr. Monachesi spent a year in Italy, in Rome, studying delinquency and the state provision for delinquency in that country.

I understand that in some recent excavations in Rome they found the petrified remains of some prisoners in an ancient prison. I suppose that these were the original hardened criminals.

Now, whether Dr. Monachesi will tell us of the archaeological aspects of crime I do not know, but I take great pleasure in introducing him at this time. Dr. Monachesi.

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