

STATE OF MINNESOTA

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
Saint Paul 1

August 10, 1948

Mr. Carl J. Jackson, Director  
Division of Public Institutions  
410 Globe Building  
Saint Paul 1, Minnesota

Dear Carl:

A group from Hennepin County were in to see me yesterday morning concerning children under twelve years of age with mental disturbances for whom they have no place. It is a serious problem.

One of the questions raised was whether there could be some juggling in the cases at Faribault so as to take in these more serious cases. Another one was whether the state has any financial assistance to offer Hennepin County in securing a place for these people. I told them I thought we did not have much hope there, but that we might be able to assist in the other and also before the Legislature in connection with the program for the future.

I suggested that I would talk to you to arrange to have a meeting with them in the very near future. I would appreciate it if you would contact Mr. Olaf Pearson, Superintendent of the Division of Public Relief in Minneapolis, and Alderman Eric Hoyer and arrange such a meeting.

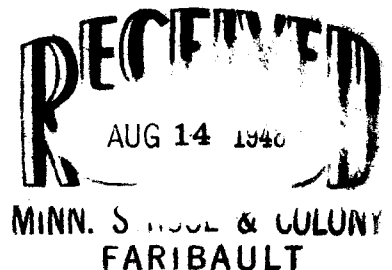
Sincerely yours,

/s/ Luther W. Youngdahl

G o v e r n o r

LWY:mb

Copied for Dr. Engberg





CARL J. JACKSON  
DIRECTOR

State of Minnesota  
Department of Social Security  
Division of Public Institutions  
Globe Building - 4th and Cedar  
St. Paul 1

*Re: Vacancies  
in Inst*

August 13, 1948

Dr. E. J. Engberg, Superintendent  
School for Feebleminded  
Faribault, Minnesota

My dear Dr. Engberg:

Mr. Jackson has had a phone call since receiving a letter from the governor, of which a copy is enclosed, and now has an appointment with Mr. Pearson and some others in his office for 1:30 p.m. Monday, August 16. He asked that I be present and that I write and ask you to be present also.

As you know, the welfare board in Hennepin County has no control of funds, and Mr. Pearson, speaking for the city of Minneapolis, is a very difficult person from whom to get money. However, no matter how bad the situation is in Minneapolis, it is approximately the same over the whole state, and it is felt if you are here it will make it much more possible to discuss the whole situation in relation to the existing conditions and future plans.

I find a clipping still on my desk relative to the meeting referred to by the governor, and I am enclosing it in case you did not notice it in the paper and will, therefore, know approximately what has been discussed with the governor.

Very truly yours,

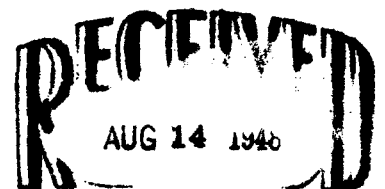
Division of Public Institutions  
Carl J. Jackson, Director

Superintendent attended the Conference on date indicated where a general discussion of this problem was had. Superintendent indicated that we shall cooperate as fully as possible in trying to solve the problem, but that additional space now available is limited to that still available in hospital annexes I & II.

MT:dc

E.J.E.

*Mildred Thomson*  
Mildred Thomson (Miss)  
Head, Bureau for Mentally  
Deficient & Epileptic



MINN. S. & COLONY  
FARIBAULT



# CITY ASKS AID FOR PATIENTS

8-5-48  
M.P.S.  
T.M.F.

## Officials to Meet With Youngdahl

City and county welfare officials, worried about how to take care of Hennepin county people with sub-normal mentalities, will meet with Gov. Luther W. Youngdahl at 10:30 a.m. Monday to ask his help.

About 75 persons in the county are in "urgent need" of space in state institutions—space which is not available — Edward Koenitz, secretary of the Hennepin county welfare board, said Wednesday.

Koenitz said the problem is "serious."

### EXPANDED HOME FULL

Ordinarily the patients would be sent to the state home for the feeble-minded at Faribault. But the home, expanded last year, is full again, he said.

Of the 31 Hennepin county residents committed to state care so far this year, only four have been admitted to the institution.

Arnold Gruber, supervisor of the county board's child service division, said 25 of the patients on the "urgent" list are children.

Seriously mentally deficient, they never will be able to take care of themselves, Gruber said.

"Many, at the age of three years," he said, "will have the mentality only of a three-month-old baby."

### EIGHT IN HOSPITALS

Koenitz estimated that eight of the babies now are being kept in hospitals at a cost of \$10 to \$12 a day. Others are in boarding homes.

Gruber said that they not be taken to their homes because coming for them there would be detrimental to the family's life.

The state is responsible for mentally-ill and mentally-deficient residents committed to care by the counties, Gruber pointed out. But over-crowded facilities mean that some patients committed up to 15 years ago have only recently entered institutions.

Besides Koenitz, the committee to visit the governor will consist of Robert I. Wishart and Eric G. Hoyer, members of the Minneapolis board of public welfare; O. A. Pearson, secretary of the board; George Matthews of the county welfare board and staff experts from both boards.