

LEGISLATIVE BUILDING COMMISSION
203 State Capitol
St. Paul 1, Minnesota

The Legislative Building Commission held a two day meeting on Friday and Saturday, November 17-18, 1961, at the Faribault state school and hospital, the school for the deaf at Faribault, and the braille and sight saving school at Faribault.

Commission members present were Senators Wm. C. F. Heuer, J. A. Josefson, and Harold R. Popp and Representatives Harry Basford, Eugene P. Knudsen, and Sally Luther. Also attending were Commission Executive Secretary Edward A. Burdick and Dorothy Westberg.

The meeting at the Faribault state school and hospital was called to order at 10:00 a.m., Friday, November 17, 1961, in the activities building by Chairman Knudsen.

Also present at the Faribault state school and hospital were Superintendent E. J. Engberg, Clinical Director Thorsten Smith, Assistant Superintendent Melville Krafve, Business Manager Charles Thurber, Chief Power Engineer Wayne Saarela, Building Foreman Theo. Hanegraaf, Groundsman Bert Larson; Department of Public Welfare Commissioner Morris Hursh, Deputy Commissioner Ove Wangensteen, Director of Administrative Services C. G. Chapado, Assistant Director of Medical Services Richard Bartman, Commissioner of Administration Wm. E. Stevenson, State Architect A. J. Nelson, Assistant State Architect and State Mechanical Engineer Paul F. Cummings; Minnesota Association for Retarded Children Executive Director Gerald F. Walsh, and Faribault Chamber of Commerce President Jack Carroll,

Copies of the Faribault state school and hospital brochure were furnished the members of the Commission and are on file in the offices of the Commission at the state capitol.

Dr. Engberg welcomed the Commission members and reviewed the history of the institution. He then discussed the change in the type of population at institutions such as the Faribault state school and hospital.

ENGBERG: "In all institutions for mentally retarded, nationwide, there has been an increase in the number of severely retarded and the patients with handicaps besides that of mental retardation. This has resulted in a heavier work load for the total staff and a material reduction in the number of patients who can be trained and are able to assist with the work of the institution. This means that there must be an increase in the staff if the work is going to be taken care of adequately.

"Mention is made in the brochure that only those who are mentally retarded or epileptic who have been committed to the guardianship of the commissioner of public welfare are admitted, That is relatively true. There should be a few exceptions made to this statement however. We have probably some two or three hundred patients still here who were admitted on just an admission certificate by application prior to the passage of the commitment law in 1917. None of them are the type whose presence as a mentally retarded patient we need question.

November 17, 1961

Faribault State School and Hospital

Also there are a few - not over a half dozen - who have come to us by direct commitment by the district court. This presents problems that we will just mention here. This is really a life sentence for these individuals because the sentence is that they are to remain until they no longer are mentally defective. These patients cannot even have a vacation; they are confined to the campus, I think that it is a great injustice, They need supervision, but it would be much better if their commitments could be straight commitments as mentally retarded and then they could be handled as any other mentally retarded patient.

"Our problem with reference to change in population has been materially noticeable since the Brainerd institution was opened. Beginning in June of 1958 we transferred patients to Brainerd. By June of 1962 we will have transferred about 350 patients. In that group there are only 27 bed patients. Most of them are ambulatory, and in the group are many of our very best working patients. We have lost that group, and in the replacement of them we are accepting patients from the waiting list. These are for the large part patients under ten years of age. Most of them have handicaps in addition to the mental retardation. Many are bed patients. There are some adult patients, but these are individuals who have not made satisfactory adjustment in the community. They require special care, and from that group some will be able to return to their community. I will not go over the chart in the brochure showing the population characteristics from 1956 to 1961. It just bears out the statement I have made in regard to the change in population. The chart does not, however, include information in regard to the admissions, deaths, and discharges. For 1959-60 total admissions were 160* In 1960-61 the total number of admissions is 223. In 1959-60 there were 49 deaths. In 1960-61 there were 64 deaths. The discharges other than separation by death totaled 92 in 1959-60 and 99 in 1960-61, If you should want further breakdown we will be glad to give it to you."

KNUDSEN: "What is meant by 'discharges other than by death'?"

ENGBERG: "These are patients returning to their home communities. They are discharged from our records, but they are still under commitment and under the supervision of their local county welfare boards."

Dr. Engberg then described the institution campus and stated that he and his staff appreciated the long range planning in building replacement which will do away with overcrowding if the Faribault population is reduced to 2,500 by continued improvement in program and expansion of space at Brainerd to 2,000.

In discussing the farm program at the school and hospital Dr. Engberg stated that 1960-61 farm credits totaled \$118,917 and expenses charged against the farm totaled \$96,641, The excess in credits over charges amounted to \$22,761.

JOSEFSON: "What will happen to these people who are in the community classes for the mildly retarded when they reach the age when they cannot go to those classes any more? Will they then come to an institution like this one, or haven't we been running the classes long enough to know?"

BARTMAN: "There is one answer 'With which some states are moving ahead. These are facilities in the nature of the sheltered workshop which also, as they develop, will offer placement possibilities for many who are in institutions thereby further reducing the institution populations."

November 17, 1961

Faribault State School and Hospital

ENGBERG: "Another thing that will be interesting to watch is the pilot study in day care centers which the 1961 Legislature authorized. We all recognize that it would be much better if young children could remain in a home setting, but if that child has no outlets, no opportunities to be with other children, he is in an unnatural situation. The pilot study will demonstrate whether there is value in a day care program. It appears that there will be."

Dr. Engberg then reviewed the past building appropriations and the status of each project. He stated that as a result of the 1959 appropriation for constructing and equipping a new laundry building the school and hospital is not only caring for its own laundry which averages nine tons a day for six days a week but also is handling the laundry for the school for the deaf and the braille and sight saving school and is almost ready to take over the laundry work from the Owatonna state school.

KNUDSEN: "On the 1959 appropriation for extending the kitchen loading platform, what is the reason for the delay on the project?"

NELSON; "I believe there was a mixup as to whether the institution was going to do the work. The plans were prepared for project labor. Now we have revised the plans and the specifications for bid. I think now that we will wait for spring before putting it out for bid. There was some question on funds here also."

WANGENSTEEN: "The original plans we felt were a little bit too costly considering the fact that we are asking for a new kitchen in the 1963 requests, We had to revise the plans whereby we would enlarge the building only by eight or ten feet- That held up the progress some. I think there also was a misunderstanding as to whether or not the institution staff could do this work. We felt that the project was too complicated for us because it meant extension of the building plus hanging overhead doors."

The 1963 requests for the Faribault state school and hospital were then discussed. In accordance with the chairman's request the superintendent indicated if the requests were new, were 'repeats', were part of a continuing program, etc. The requests are as follows:

1. One 1600 KW turbine generator (repeat)	\$ 250,000
2. Repair elevator, hospital building (new)	6,000
3. Replace roof, Ivy Cottage (new)	10,000
4. Replace roof, boiler room portion of power plant (new)	7,500
5. Cafeteria, Ivy Cottage, additional facilities (repeat)	10,000
6. Loading docks, garbage rooms - nine cottages (repeat)	27,000
7. Sprinkler system, tailor shop (new)	4,000
8. Blacktopping and grading service roads (continuing)	26,000
9. Replacement of dairy herdsman's cottage & garage (repeat)	20,000
10. New central kitchen (repeat)	1,250,000
11. Replacement dormitory, male patients (repeat)	1,000,000
12. Replacement dormitory, female patients (originally in 1963 under 10 year plan)	1,000,000
13. Garage for storing trucks and cars (repeat)	25,000
14. Two 500 ton capacity silos (new)	9,000
15. Two pole-type hay and straw sheds (new)	6,600
16. Three concrete feeding slabs (new)	1,500

November 17, 1961

Faribault State School and Hospital

17. New wing on existing hospital (repeat)	528,000
18. Chapel (repeat)	95,000
19. Razing Grandview Cottage (new)	3,000
20. Automatic heating controls, Ivy and Chippewa Cottages (beginning of continuing program)	35,000
21. Architectural and engineering service	<u>10,000</u>
Total	\$4,323,600

Dr. Engberg stated that the first request was an "either/or" request. If the agreement at present in development with the Northern States Power Company to furnish electrical power for a two year period on an experimental basis to determine costs determines that the school and hospital should continue to generate electricity, the generator must be acquired to supplement the present standby equipment in the power plant.

JOSEFSON: "Which of the present units here is the one that the institution at Walker is always talking about?"

CUMMINGS: "The engine to which the senator has reference is the one that is in storage here. It is a low pressure, reciprocating type engine. It is not presently in use. It would be of no value here because it is too small and is of improper type.

KNUDSEN: "The 1961 requests included a request for a 1600 KW turbine generator for \$175,000, Was that request for the same type generator as you are now requesting?"

Mr. Krafve stated that the 1961 cost figure was an underestimate.

With reference to the construction of a new central kitchen, Dr. Engberg reminded the members that \$6,000 for a study for the food service building including food storage, preparation and distribution service was provided in the 1961 building bill financed by general revenue funds.

KNUDSEN: "Did you get your well problem solved at Grandview Cottage?"

Mr. Saarela stated that because it is hoped that Grandview Cottage will be rased the institution rather than do any rebuilding decided to solve the problem by chlorination. Dr. Engberg explained that the institution recommends razing Grandview Cottage which houses 70 patients because the fire hazard is great, because even if the patients did survive a fire there would be no shelter there for them, and because filling staff vacancies at the cottage is extremely difficult. He stated that the replacement dormitory provided by funds in the 1961 building bill dependent upon Constitutional Amendment No. 2 will provide space for Grandview patients and in the interim there will be transfer of the male patients to Brainerd.

KRAFVE: "With reference to the request for automatic heating controls, this actually is a repeat item. The 1961 request was for \$115,000 and provided for many more cottages. We decided to cover this in three bienniums because some of the buildings involved in the total program are going to be requested for replacement."

November 17, 1961

Faribault State School and Hospital

ENGBERG: "The purpose of the architectural and engineering service request is that we feel that in the long range planning there are some problems that must be thought through for some period of time. One is what the total population will be, whether we should cut back and, if so, to what extent we should cut back. At the present time we feel that the replacement buildings that we are including now should be one story buildings because of the type of patients which we are receiving. When we get to replacing the large buildings that house about 200 patients, Chippewa Cottage and Skinner Hall, the problem then is going to come up as to how they are going to be placed and how it is going to be done while you have those buildings occupied. All of these matters require a good deal of study in advance of receiving the authorization for replacement.

"There is one thing that we have not mentioned that I feel should receive some thought. With the long range planning and the things that come up in this area I think consideration should be given to some small units for essentially children, trainable children. I do not think that they should be in a group of 70 or 100. I think that we should ultimately have some building where we have from 16 to 30. This will require study. The new units for emotionally disturbed children when completed will give some information and experience from which we will be able to benefit. This is not included in the institution requests now because it is too early for us to be including that in the planning, but it is one of the things that should receive careful consideration. Also, I think there will be some place for the two story building. At the present time we are going through a transitional period, but in the course of another five years we should know pretty well what these needs are going to be."

The requests for the remainder of the ten year program are covered in the brochure and were not discussed in detail.

Mr. Walsh stated that as in the past the primary consideration of the Minnesota Association for Retarded Children at the Faribault state school and hospital is the improvement of the food service. He stated that he hoped that the study of the food service provided by the 1961 Legislature would be completed soon so it will be of value to the Building Commission in its considerations of the 1963 requests.

STEVENSON: "There is an advisory group made up of professional dieticians and nutritionists which works with the department of administration. This matter will be laid before them at their next meeting. The question then arises as to which way to go - whether an expert in the field should first be hired or whether, because this is in part architectural, an architect should be hired and he in turn would hire the expert as a subcontractor."

WALSH: "I would like to take about two minutes more to comment further on the kitchen study, I think that all of you are aware that in April of 1961 Arthur G. Avery who is food handling expert for the United States Navy made a survey here and that he had made a previous survey in 1958."

Copies of the 1961 report are on file in the Commission offices at the state capitol. Mr. Walsh read from the report as follows:

"A survey was made of the Faribault State School and Hospital feeding system on April 27, 1961 by the undersigned. The food warehousing facilities, the

November 17, 1961

Faribault State School and Hospital

central commissary, the food distribution system, and the service facilities within the cottages were viewed and discussed with the school food service personnel.

"In the opinion of the undersigned, this feeding system is one of the most outmoded, unsanitary, and inefficient facilities that he has surveyed. This cannot help require great quantities of labor, power, equipment, and raw food material, and result in large food nutrient losses, low food acceptability and general dissatisfaction with the part that food is playing in the morale and physical well-being of the children and staff.

"The new storage building, one rotating oven, two new steam jacketed kettles and the staff feeding facility are "good" to "excellent", while the rest of the feeding system rates from "good" to "very poor", A few of the cottage food service facilities rate "fair" to "good" but some are "poor".

"The deficiencies noted during this survey are the same as noted during the 1958 survey and will not be dwelled upon. The only improvements since then have been the food storage facilities, two modern steam jacketed kettles and the staff dining room.

"The really grossly inadequate part of the facility is the central commissary filled with ancient, ill-controlled, ill-designed, unsanitary equipment arranged in a most inefficient layout that violates almost every tenet of good industrial engineering.

"Location of the food preparation facility on the outskirts of the grounds means that the food must travel long distances over bumpy, dusty roads or through long dirty tunnels before it reaches the cottages where it is to be served. * * *

"While it is granted that moving the food preparation facility to the center of the school will mean longer transportation of raw material, this can be moved in one or two truck loads and it is not in a form that deteriorates readily as does prepared food."

WALSH: "Those are the main things. Then Mr. Avery goes on to talk about tunnels, and he does mention a few food consultant firms, I think that Mr. Avery, and in view of his vast experience, has done a good job in helping us realize that the kitchen is very inefficient and very old."

ENBERG: "I would like to mention that this activities building in which we are meeting is a wonderful building. It is the heart of the institution, There is, however, one problem. That is in the auditorium during the summer. The temperature sometimes becomes so high that we cannot use it."

KNUDSEN: "In discussing request no. 1, reference was made to the agreement with Northern States Power Company. When will the two year period end? When will we have the results?"

CUMMINGS: "We will be on the Northern States line January 1, 1962. That will give us 12 months of experience before the meeting of the next Legislature. It will not be until the Legislature meets that we will have a solid report to present. We will have some indication by next summer, but six months is certainly not as good as a full year. The full period will not be up until the end of 1963, but I think we will have established a trend by January 1, 1963."

November 17, 1961

Faribault State School and Hospital

JOSEFSON: "Do you intend, Mr. Krafve, to construct the concrete feeding areas at the dairy with your own men?"

Mr. Krafve stated that the institution will buy ready-mix concrete and reinforced steel and that the project will be done with project labor.

Chairman Knudsen advised the institution staff that it is very difficult for the Commission to determine in many instances whether money should be spent on improving an old building which is scheduled for later replacement or whether the replacement program should be moved ahead. He stated that, for this reason, the Commission was interested in seeing all buildings proposed for replacement.

The members then toured the institution grounds.

The activities building was first inspected. The gymnasium-auditorium is used for Sunday worship services, movies, and activities sponsored by volunteer groups in addition to the usual recreational program. Several members mentioned while viewing the gymnasium that the poor condition of the floor appeared to be the result of poor maintenance. The patients' store was then observed. Use of money is avoided here; patients have their money credited to their personal accounts and the store keepers use discretion in sales. An example of one of the eight classrooms in this building was viewed. Each has toilet and sink. There are two other classrooms in the dormitories. Dr. Engberg explained that there are 10 or 12 in a class and the normal age of the patient is used to determine class placement. Also viewed were the offices of the school principal and the rehabilitation training supervisor, the handicraft activities room (also used for occupational therapy), the library, the music room (also used for some in-service training classes), the physical therapy area, and the patient storerooms. It was stated that training in the handicraft program is for manual dexterity not for gainful employment. Funds received from sale of handicraft articles are deposited in a revolving fund account and used to purchase more handicraft materials.

Springdale Cottage was next inspected. The \$1,000,000 replacement requested for male patients for 1963 will replace Springdale and Huron Cottages. The building is a frame structure and houses about 85 patients. Most of the residents work on the farm. It is located on the far eastern boundary of the campus and considerable distance is involved in the overland food service necessary for providing for the annex dining facilities at Springdale. A basement area is used for dayroom purposes. There are dormitories on the first and second floors. The first floor is wood over concrete, the second level has a wooden floor. The stairs are also wooden. Patient storage for the entire building is on the second floor.

Next viewed was Lind Cottage. Lind, Haven, Glen, and Grandview Cottages will be replaced by the million dollar dormitory for males provided by the 1961 building bill dependent upon the passage of Constitutional Amendment No. 2. Lind houses 55 patients and is a frame structure. It has a two year old sprinkler system.

Next inspected was Birch Cottage which was first occupied in 1958. It is a one story building and houses 100 female patients. Dr. Engberg pointed out that the practicability of a one story or two story building depends on the intended purpose. One third of the Birch Building patients are diabetics or heart cases, one third are wheel chair patients, and one third are bed care patients. The

November 17, 1961

Faribault State School and Hospital

visitors' room and the central nursing stations were observed. Tub rooms, day-rooms, the food service loading dock and the garbage handling facilities, dining room, and kitchen were viewed. The school room for patients not able to go to usual classrooms was seen. The area is actually a portion of the dayroom space. Female patients from nearby Spruce Cottage also use this school room. Dr. Engberg stated that the entire building could be used by any type of patient except the hyperactive, destructive patient. Several members commented on the poor ventilation throughout the building.

Spruce Cottage housing 100 very young girls who are severely retarded was then inspected. Dr. Engberg stated that overcrowding in this building tends to breakdown the usual classifications. The glass in doors and windows are wire enforced,

Daisy Cottage was next viewed. It houses about 70 girls and is scheduled for replacement in the 1963 requests. The requested replacement dormitory for females will house patients from Daisy and Iris Cottages. Daisy Cottage is a two story, brick veneer structure. The dayrooms, storerooms, and small snack kitchen in the basement were observed. There is no dining room in this building.

Ivy Cottage was then inspected. The dining area which serves as a central dining facility for several other dormitories was viewed in particular. A 1957 appropriation of \$200,000 was intended to provide modern dining facilities in Chippewa Cottage and in Ivy Cottage. The dining area, serving area, and outside entryway, cloakroom, and waiting area were completed in Chippewa Cottage but because of the cost, the outside entry, cloakroom, toilet facilities, and waiting area for patients coming from other buildings were deleted from the plans for Ivy Cottage. Completion of the project is requested for 1963. Replacement of the slate roof on the cottage is also requested for 1963 as are automatic heating controls. The roof project includes removal of the tower on the structure. The floors in Ivy Cottage are terrazzo and are about three years old. Senator Popp, as well as Representative Knudsen, questioned the extensive work requested for Ivy and Chippewa Cottages in view of the fact that the two buildings are scheduled for replacement in 1965 and 1967, respectively. Both buildings are brick exterior, were built in the late 1800's, and are included in the architectural and engineering study proposed in the 1963 requests.

Poppy Cottage provides quarters for 97 girls many of whom are hyperactive and untidy. The two story building is concrete and stucco. Protective screens are used. It is scheduled for 1971 replacement.

Huron Cottage houses, at present, 47 male patients and it with Springdale is scheduled for replacement by a million dollar dormitory in 1963. It has a stone exterior and wooden interior. Huron Cottage was converted five years ago from use as a girls' dormitory. It has no dining facilities. Dr. Engberg suggested that Huron Cottage might be used for storage rather than demolishing it.

The old laundry which will be converted to a shop area was then observed. The new laundry was then inspected. The Faribault state school and hospital handles in addition to their own laundry the loads from the school for the deaf and the braille and sight saving school and will soon take over the laundry work for the Owatonna state school. This is a modern building placed into service in

November 17, 1961

Faribault State School and Hospital

June of 1961. The interior is well lighted and is attractively painted to provide a pleasant working environment. It is designed to afford high efficiency in the handling of the laundry work load.

The kitchen was next viewed. The original unit was built in the early 1900's and several additions have been made since then. The most recent improvement is covered by a 1959 appropriation and involves extending the loading dock. This has not yet been accomplished. The school and hospital asks that complete replacement of the present kitchen be appropriated for in the 1963 building bill. Several members expressed doubt that such drastic measures are required at this institution at this time.

The service building which is connected to the central kitchen was then inspected. This building was occupied about two years ago and provides warehouse space for clothing, general supplies, and commissary stores.

The members then drove to the dairy area. The barns, granary and milking parlors, and dormitory-residence were viewed. About 150 of the 200 cows are being milked and the members were told that the pasteurizing and homogenizing is done at the central kitchen. The dormitory is a brick building with terrazzo floors. Members viewed the dayroom, dining room, kitchen, and dormitory rooms.

Seneca Cottage was also observed. It is a building identical to Birch Building but it houses 100 male patients.

The piggery was also observed by the Commission,

The members then returned to the meeting room. Dr. Engberg thanked the Commission for visiting the school and hospital and for allotting so much time to the institution. Chairman Knudsen thanked Dr. Engberg and his staff for their assistance in the Commission's inspection and assured them that the Building Commission will give careful and thorough study to the requests as presented by the school and hospital.

The chairman recessed the inspection meeting at the Faribault state school and hospital at 4:30 p.m.

Business Meeting

The Legislative Building Commission held a business meeting at the Faribault state school and hospital on November 17, 1961.

The meeting was reconvened by the chairman at 4:45 p.m.

Attending in addition to the Commission members and staff were Commissioner of Highways James C. Marshall, Deputy Commissioner of Highways Frank D. Marzitelli, other highway department staff members, Commissioner of Administration Wm. E. Stevenson, State Architect A. J. Nelson, and Assistant State Architect and State Mechanical Engineer Paul F. Cummings.

Representative Luther moved that the minutes of the meeting of October 20-21, 1961, be approved. The motion was seconded by Senator Popp and prevailed,

November 17, 1961

Business Meeting

Senator Popp moved that the Legislative Building Commission authorize the allotment of the sum of \$1,700 from the building outlay account to the commissioner of administration for the purpose of supplementing the appropriation of \$10,000 made by Extra Session Laws 1961, Chapter 60, Section 2, Subdivision 22 (1), to Thistledeew Youth Forestry Camp for a sewage system. The motion was seconded by Senator Josefson and prevailed,.

Next on the agenda was discussion of proposed changes in the Building Commission's schedule of inspections which were explained to the Commission by Mr. Burdick.

Senator Popp moved that the revised schedule be approved through March, 1962, and that tentative approval be given the remainder of the schedule. The motion was seconded by Senator Heuer and prevailed.

There followed brief discussion on the agenda for the December 8-9, 1961, meeting and attendance at Building Commission meetings.

The chairman adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

School for the Deaf

The meeting at the school for the deaf at Faribault was called to order by Chairman Knudsen at 9:00 a.m. Saturday, November 18, 1961, in the service building.

Attending in addition to the Commission members and staff were Senator A. O. Sundet, Superintendent Howard M. Quigley, Business Manager Harold E. Carlson, Principal Albert C. Esterline, Chief Engineer Floyd Morelan, Commissioner of Public Welfare Morris Hursh, Deputy Commissioner Ove Wangensteen, Messrs. Peterson, Feider, and Buelow from the department of public welfare, Commissioner of Administration Wm. E. Stevenson, State Architect A. J. Nelson, and Faribault Chamber of Commerce President Jack Carroll.

Copies of the school for the deaf brochures were furnished the Commission members and are on file in the Commission offices at the state capitol.

Superintendent Quigley welcomed the Commission and stated that the school appreciates the consideration the Commission has given the school in past years.

The history and general functions of the school for the deaf were reviewed by the superintendent. He spoke briefly on the enrollments since the 1957-58 school year and described the campus.

November 18, 1961

School for the Deaf

The 1963 requests for the school for the deaf at Faribault are as follows:

1. Boys' dormitory, including equipment	\$ 708,000
2. Classroom addition, Pollard Hall, including equipment	270,000
3. Remodeling of service building, including equipment	<u>24,800</u>
Total	\$1,002,800

Superintendent Quigley asked Mr. Esterline to comment on the classroom conditions in the classroom building (Noyes Hall),

ESTESLINE: "We are operating in a building that was designed a number of years ago. Changes brought about by modern trends in education, use of visual aids, etc., have cramped us pretty much in our ability to do the things we think would be a big help to our students- Most of the classrooms are too small. There is no room to have anything except the rows of old fashioned desks that we have in some of the rooms. There is no room for a corner for many activities, for reference materials and the like. Our building has been kept in such good condition that it puts us in kind of a spot because to look at the building most people who are not aware of modern trends would think it to be very adequate. We have talked about having someone, possibly from the bureau of field services at the University of Minnesota, actually give us a survey.

"We are using some classrooms that would not be approved. We have one room which we call our projection room which is also a darkroom and is also our rhythm room which is a very important thing in the training of speech."

"The type of child we are getting also has some bearing in the number of classrooms we need. We are getting children today that schools for the deaf as a rule would never have accepted 15 years ago. Many of these require work in small groups. We have no room suitable for this. Our blackboards are located incorrectly in many instances. We have had to build benches for our younger children to stand on so they can reach the boards.

"We have been using the building for a long time and I suppose we can go on using it, but we could do a much more efficient and more adequate job with different facilities."

QUIGLEY: "Every bit of the classroom space we now have is being used. Our typing class is being held in a hallway."

JOSEFSON: "What did you mean when you said that many of these students would not have been accepted some years ago?"

ESTERLINE: "The trend has been in recent years to accept what we call 'multiple handicapped' children and also children with lower mentalities."

POPP: "I see that you have five on the waiting list. If you had adequate classroom space and dormitory space what would you predict your enrollment would be?"

November 18, 1961

School for the Deaf

QUIGLEY: "I think that is something that cannot be predicted. It depends on the population of the state, on the supply of teachers, on changes in the professional approach in teaching these children. I think I can say with some certainty that we can anticipate a gradual increase because of the number of children that are being found throughout the state with serious problems educationally. Our building requests are based on increased enrollments,,

Discussion followed on facilities available to deaf students throughout the state. With' the exception of a single private school also located in Faribault and three schools within the public school systems of St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Duluth, the state school for the deaf is the only school where training and academic instruction is available for deaf children. An increase in enrollments can be anticipated in direct relation to the overall population increase according to Superintendent Quigley and Commissioner Hursh.

Also discussed was the possibility of a survey which would include, as summarized by Representative Luther, how adequate present facilities are, whether the suggested classroom addition on Pollard Hall would sufficiently relieve, with remodeling, the overcrowding in Noyes Hall, whether the long range solution would be replacement of Noyes Hall, and, if costs permit, projected enrollments for residential schools for this handicap. The suggestion was made that the survey be made by the bureau of field services at the University of Minnesota and be financed from the 'overhead' account in the department of administration. It was decided to make no recommendation until a report of a recent survey by the state department of education is available.

LUTHER: "Would the survey be related to the request for a classroom addition on Pollard Hall?"

QUIGLEY: "Not necessarily. We are leading toward a complete replacement of our present school building (Noyes Hall) which is not requested in our ten year program."

ESTERLINE: "Pollard Hall was built with the philosophy that the younger children should not have to mix and compete with the older children. If the classrooms for the younger children were in connection with Pollard Hall it would make the program more efficient. We still would like a new classroom building for the older children."

Superintendent Quigley stated that possibly the school wing should have been included in the original construction of Pollard Hall. The building houses boys and girls from five to nine years of age* These children represent 30 out of the total 274 children who use the school building. The request for this addition was not made to earlier Commissions because the problem was not as acute earlier,

The combined laundry operation with the Faribault state school and hospital was then discussed. When the merger was effected, all laundry employees of the school for the deaf were transferred to the school and hospital. This has caused problems in sorting, marking, etc., the laundry for the 49 different departments at the school. Also mentioned were damaged, lost, and poorly finished clothing and linens. Superintendent Quigley stated that a meeting is scheduled

November 18, 1961

School for the Deaf

In the near future to discuss these difficulties with the school and hospital. The superintendent also stated that he expects to request the legislative advisory committee to approve an increase of one employee in the school complement to be financed from savings.

LUTHER: "What will you do, Mr. Quigley, with the old boys' dormitory if a new one is constructed?"

QUIGLEY: "We will demolish the old building. From every standpoint the boys' dormitory should be replaced. The evaluation we had last spring from people knowledgeable in the providing for students were very damning all the way through about the unsuitability of the structure. Last week our department of health people were here and saw all the beds crowded in great big rooms,, They said that they would not permit such conditions in a summer camp out in the woods. I don't know what I can say to argue this thing. The building is there. We have put up arguments year after year. The situation is no better. We are advised not to put any money into the buildings because any year it may be replaced."

Representative Luther requested that the department of public welfare furnish the Commission with a copy of the report made by the team of evaluators who made the study of the boys' dormitory.

Chairman Knudsen brought to the attention of the school for the deaf that, although no appropriations were made for the school by the 1961 building bill dependent upon the passage of Constitutional Amendment No, 2, the failure of this amendment in the 1962 general election will delay any future major building construction at the school for the deaf and every other state institution for the next several years.

Superintendent Quigley then reviewed for the Commission the major building accomplishments for the past ten years and spoke briefly on the proposals for the school under its ten year plan.

Chairman Knudsen asked Senator Sundet for his comments on the requests and the school for the deaf.

SUNDET: "The school for the deaf will soon be one hundred years old and is steeped in a great deal of tradition. I question very much whether any of you realize the service has performed for the state and also that the personnel here has performed. They are truly dedicated people. There are many people on the staff today who have been here for many years who could go out into the public schools and get a thousand dollars a year more than they receive here. They are here because they are dedicated to the work of teaching deaf young people to make their way in the world. That is not an easy task. When you can actually visit the classes and see the time and work that goes into teaching a deaf child to communicate when he has never heard a sound and he has to learn by repetition, it is astounding to see these people work hour after hour and finally see these young people develop so that they can communicate and go on from there with their education. There is another thing that I would like to bring out. As you go through this school you will see that these children besides learning academically also learn trades. You will see tailor shops, printing equipment, blueprint equipment, and domestic science rooms. When they graduate from high school they are well prepared to go out and make their way in the ordinary vocations. The

November 18, 1961

School for the Deaf

school is small. It does not have great football teams or get a lot of publicity, but it plays a tremendously important role in the economy of our state. Before the schedule of this school is interrupted very careful study should be given. It is no different from any state college, any public school, or the University of Minnesota, and it should be treated on the same level. I believe that any consideration that you can give this school is important. You should look carefully at the whole plant, the physical plant, the educational facilities, and the well-kept campus. When you meet the personnel you will find some of the finest people in the world working here. I hope I have not been too pointed in what I have said, but I am very serious about this."

KNUDSEN: "By your comments, I can see that you understand the importance of Constitutional Amendment No. 2 to the school for the deaf,"

SUNDET: "Yes."

Mr. Carroll stated that he was impressed by the work and diligence of the Legislative Building Commission and appreciated the opportunity to attend the meetings of the Commission at Faribault.

The Commission then made a tour of the campus,

The first building inspected was the gymnasium which is about 30 years old. It has the usual basketball court and also a recreation room which is located in the basement. The floor in the recreation room has recently been retiled as a result of a 1959 appropriation. Tate Hall which houses the dormitory for intermediate and advanced girls as well as administrative offices was then viewed. Each dormitory room has two, three, or four girls in it. The remodeling project in the shower room was observed. Funds for this project were originally provided in 1957 with supplemental funds provided by the 1961 Legislature. The members then viewed Noyes Hall, the school building. The wing for junior and senior high school students was pointed out as being not as well constructed as the wing used for the younger children. Some of the floors in the older wing were redone in the summer of 1961. The completed redecorating project in the auditorium was seen. The high blackboards in the classrooms for the younger children were observed, also the hallway space used for the typing classes. Various other rooms - the special adjustment room, the dental examination room, the sewing rooms - were also viewed. When inspecting the domestic science room, several members suggested that the school look into the possibilities of obtaining federal funds for more modern equipment, etc. Also seen was the last remaining area on the ground floor which has not been converted to school use. It is located under the auditorium and is practically unfinished. Funds for this project are requested for 1965. Pollard Hall, the dormitory for younger boys and girls, houses about 50 students. The students' rooms, the dining room, the kitchen, and the playroom were viewed. The proposed classroom addition is to be on the north or back side of the building. Mott Hall, the vocational building, was next visited. The woodworking and printing shops and examples of work from each were inspected. Barron Hall, boys' dormitory, was toured. Here also are recreation rooms, reading rooms, and study rooms which were described as being inadequate. The building which is about 70 years old has large dormitories with 15 to 20 boys in each dormitory. Storage space was said to be lacking. The lockers which are intended

November 18, 1961

School for the Deaf

to provide closet space for each boy are not located in the dormitories but in the basement or ground floor. The showers are also located in the basement. The laundry, new power plant, service building, and infirmary were also viewed. The school intends to use the laundry building for expanding vocational training facilities. Equipment not needed at the school because of the laundry merger will be transferred to other institutions. It was pointed out that the power plant is constructed in such a manner as to make expansion easily accomplished if and when that is necessary. The service building for which remodeling is asked for 1963 was described as adequate if remodeling is done. Proposed remodeling involves removing partitions between the two small staff dining rooms and installing a cafeteria-style operation. The two rooms are at present crowded and are inefficient for serving purposes. The infirmary is a remodeled frame residence building which is said to be poorly suited for infirmary purposes. The new infirmary asked for 1965 will possibly be a combined operation with the school for the blind.

The members then returned to the meeting room.

Superintendent Quigley thanked the Commission members for taking time from their busy schedules to visit the school for the deaf.

Chairman Knudsen thanked the school for its presentation and assured the school that the Building Commission will consider its requests thoroughly.

The chairman adjourned the meeting at 12:30 p.m.

Braille and Sight Saving School

The Saturday, November 18, 1961, meeting at the braille and sight saving school at Faribault was called to order by Chairman Knudsen at 1:00 p.m. in the library.

Attending in addition to the Commission members and staff were Senator A. O. Sundet, Superintendent John C. Lysen, Business Manager F. W. Butterwick, Principal Louis L. Kramer, Engineer Dale Phelps, Commissioner of Public Welfare Morris Hursh, Deputy Commissioner Ove Ttfangensteen, Messrs. Peterson and Buelow from the department of public welfare, Commissioner of Administration Wm. E. Stevenson, and Faribault Chamber of Commerce Jack Carroll.

Copies of the braille and sight saving school brochures were furnished the Commission members and are on file in the Commission offices at the state capital.

Superintendent Lysen welcomed the members of the Building Commission to the campus. He pointed out that the braille and sight saving school supports three programs - regular school, kindergarten through 12th grade, operating nine months of the year, rehabilitation center for blind men and women operating two months during the summer, and a three state library operating 12 months of the year, which in addition to serving the students has been designated a regional distributing center by the Library of Congress for braille books and magazines and talking book records.

November 18, 1961

Braille and Sight Saving School

The superintendent stated that considerable grounds development had been done during the summer of 1961 because the Minnesota highway department put in the new Trunk Highway No. 323, a length of highway some 800 feet long, and rerouted the old highway, No. 298. Funds available from the Seitz bequest also resulted in considerable work being done in the area of the activities building and in the recreation area across Highway No. 298 from the activities building. Further discussion on the Seitz bequest is related later in these minutes.

The 1963 requests for the braille and sight saving school are as follows:

1. Fireproof-type garage	\$ 9,600
2. Fire escape, Dow Hall	6,000
3. Automatic sprinkler systems, infirmary and utility building	20,000
4. Fire alarm systems, activities and industrial arts buildings	3,000
5. Drain, area of campus	3,000
6. Campus and road lighting	8,000
7. Waterproof tunnel between Dow and library	?
8. Crawl tunnel between Dow and infirmary	7,000
9. Brick windows, laundry	<u>1,500</u>
Total (excluding request no. 7)	\$58,100

LYSEN: "I will make only brief remarks relating to the requests for general grounds improvement, We need a lighting system. We only have two lamps outside. The campus has grown that much. We need to drain our campus near the industrial arts building because water runs on the steam lines and is heated, This causes steam to come up in the spring and in the fall. We are afraid that the children will be burned. On the tour we will go through a tunnel between Dow Hall and the library. This is the one which is leaking."

BASFORD: "Will you clarify your statement relating to the children being burned?"

LYSEN: "The whole plateau has a bed rock base about 20 feet down. During the spring and after heavy rains water accumulates on top of the rock. The area there in the spring is just like a swamp. Across that area goes the steam line from the main line to the activities building. where it is exposed in a manhole, surface water runs into the manhole and hits the steam line joints. It heats the water so much that live steam comes out through the ground. We want to drain it off so that no one is hurt."

The members then toured the school campus. The grounds improvements in the vicinity of the activities building were first observed. Included in these improvements are a 40-car parking lot, landscaping of seven acres of the recreation

November 18, 1961

Braille and Sight Saving School

field (first phase), sodding in the area, enclosing recreation field with four foot high mesh fence, erection of similar fencing along new highway route east of activities building, construction of new sidewalks, construction of skating rink, and construction of a sled and toboggan slide. The recreation area will eventually have a four-wire track strip, a Softball diamond, play areas with swings and slides, and an arboretum which will have foot paths, benches, etc. The skating dish is about 150 feet by 75 feet, and can be used for roller or ice skating. The dish is slightly roughened at each end so that skaters may determine when they approach the turn. The slide is located north of the recreation field and was constructed by bulldozing a 40-foot wide slide in the side of a ravine. Superintendent Lysen stated that the outdoor recreational facilities will aid the school in giving each student as normal a life as possible.

The activities building built in 1957 was then inspected. Mr. Lysen stated that because of the swimming pool physical education classes have become very popular. The gymnasium was viewed and described as being easily converted for auditorium purposes. The basement seepage problem appears to be solved according to staff members. If no further difficulty develops the school hopes to install bowling alleys in the basement. The contract for the water softener provided by the 1961 Legislature has been let.

East Cottage houses younger boys, five to thirteen years of age. This is a brick building about 50 years old. The wooden floors will be replaced with terrazzo possibly next summer with funds provided by 1961 building funds. Members observed the play area outside the building including the present one-wire track strip.

West Cottage is similar to East Cottage and houses older boys. It is two or three years older than East. Floors will be redone here also and doors and door frames will be replaced with 1961 funds.

The industrial arts building was then viewed. In this 20 year old building students are taught piano tuning, upholstering, weaving, cooking (sewing is taught in another building), and use of power tools. A demonstration was given of the aids a blind student uses on a power saw. Recently installed heat-reflector screens were observed. The school had originally asked for awnings but found that these screens were suitable and less expensive. The 1961 Legislature provided funds for reroofing this building.

At this point in the tour Mr. Lysen pointed out that the requested campus lights are not for the blind but to enable the sighted to find a lost child. Also seen here was the area for which a drain to the nearby ravine is requested, Superintendent Lysen estimated the length of the proposed drain as 200 feet. Several members commented on the good maintenance that obviously is practiced throughout the school.

The utility building was then inspected. This building was built in 1883 as a part of Dow Hall and was moved to its present site in 1914 and faced with brick. It was used by the industrial arts department until 1942 and was reconditioned in 1945 at a cost of \$2,900. For a period it was used for library purposes. It now houses carpenter and paint shops and is used for storage of screens, old furniture, benches used outdoors during summer months, etc. Mr. Butterwick advised Senator Popp and other members that about \$15,000 worth of

November 18, 1961

Braille and Sight Saving School

equipment is in the building. The fire marshal recommends a sprinkler system for the building and such a system is requested by the school. The state architect questions the request.

The garage for which replacement is requested was then observed. The present building houses the station wagon, the school bus (Seitz bequest expenditure in 1948), and two pickup trucks and has four individual stalls for staff cars. The section for staff cars is heated. The fire marshal recommended replacement because the frame structure is a fire hazard endangering the laundry, utility building, and administrative building (Dow Hall).

The members observed here the tubular fire escape on Dow Hall which the school wishes to remove because it is in poor condition and is frightening to the children during fire drills. It is the last of the tubular escapes on the campus. The school proposes to evacuate any children in the short corridors on each of the three floors by using another escape. The fire marshal states that an escape is necessary in this location and if the tubular escape is removed another must take its place. Several members and the state architect's office questioned the recommendation.

The laundry was then viewed. Since the merge with the laundry at the school and hospital the building is used for laundering gymnasium laundry (towels, etc.) and sorting laundry before and after it is handled by the school and hospital. The three laundry employees were transferred to the school and hospital. Therefore the sorting is done by the nurse and dietician and the daily gymnasium laundry is done by the chief engineer. One washer will be retained because the gymnasium laundry will be mildewed between the bi-weekly pickups. A presser will be retained for choir robes, band uniforms, etc. Equipment not needed will be transferred to other institutions* In response to Representative Basford's inquiry relating to effectiveness of the combined laundry operation, Mr. Peterson stated that careful study was made before the change was proposed and accepted by the Legislature. The school questions continued participation in the combined operation and stated that students at the braille and sight saving, "school, as those at the school for the deaf, are expected to dress better than inmates at a mentally retarded institution and therefore better laundry practices are required. The requested new windows for the laundry depend on the future laundry-operation. It was said that finished laundry has clothing with missing buttons and clothing evidencing excessive shrinkage. It appears, according to the staff, that excessive wear is showing on the linens.

The infirmary was then inspected. This building has one and one half stories and a basement and is wood frame construction. It has terrazzo floors. In response to Representative Luther's inquiry, Superintendent Lysen stated that the rate of illness is very low. The usual rate is 60 patient days per nine months. It is used, in addition to bedside care, for physician and eye specialists for examinations, first aid, daily treatment required by students with artificial eyes, therapy treatment for cerebral palsied children, post operative care, minor ailments of the younger children, etc. With the exception of the examinations by physicians and eye specialists the nurse handles the rest of the work load. She also takes care of the necessary records. The school has requested for 1963

November 18, 1961

Braille and Sight Saving School

an automatic sprinkler system as recommended by the fire marshal. The state architect questions this request,, Also involved in this request is the possibility that the infirmaries of the school for the deaf and the braille and sight saving schools will be combined. The infirmary provides living quarters for the nurse and two teachers. After leaving the infirmary the members discussed briefly the request for a crawl tunnel to house pipes which are now encased in tile and not accessible in case of breakdown. These run between Dow Hall and the infirmary.

Dow Hall houses girls' dormitories, administrative offices, classrooms, the kitchen, the dining room, storerooms, maintenance shops, and the business manager's apartment. It is a three story brick building. The 1961 Legislature provided funds for new water and sewer lines and new plumbing fixtures here. These projects are progressing well. If funds are granted in 1965 for a girls' dormitory building, the school plans to provide larger classrooms by combining several smaller rooms. This will permit use of tables and chairs rather than desks which are too small for braille books. It was stated also that the ventilation of the building leaves much to be desired. It is this building to which is attached the tubular fire escape discussed earlier in these minutes. Commission members observed a typical classroom, braille books, and braille writers.

The members on their way to the library-museum passed through the tunnel for which funds are requested to eliminate a seepage problem. This tunnel is three years old.

The library-museum built in 1959 and of fireproof construction serves as the school library and as a distributing center for the Library of Congress. Three fourths of the structure is used by the regional library. The portion serving as a museum has dustproof display cases. The Lions clubs are sponsoring a project to provide mounted specimens of birds, fish, and animals native to Minnesota. The entire building is an attractive, well lighted building providing pleasant surroundings for the students,

The members then returned to the meeting room,

In response to inquiries, it was explained that the Seitz bequest is named after E. J. Seitz of St. Paul who was a laundry driver who had as one of his customers the Gillette state hospital for crippled children. It is believed that as his wife grew older her vision failed. In his will he left money to the Gillette hospital and the braille and sight saving school, the money to be divided equally. The principal included land in Dakota and Montana. Recently the Dakota land which had been operated near East Grand Forks as a penal farm by the state reformatory for men was sold. Some years ago a house in California was sold. The total bequest amounted to some \$150,000. It has been used in several ways for several years. The braille and sight saving school bought its school bus in 1948 with Seitz bequest funds and the Gillette state hospital supplemented a legislative appropriation for its outpatient clinic with Seitz bequest funds. The most recent expenditure was at the braille school in development for recreational purposes - considerable fencing, the skating dish, landscaping, sidewalks, sodding, and architectural fees for the recreation field. After this field is completed the braille school will have about \$15,000 left from its share.

November 18, 1961

Braille and Sight Saving School

It was stated that bequest funds are budgeted and processed in the same manner as appropriations through the central office, in this case public welfare, and the department of administration. Legislation is not necessary to permit the expenditure according to an attorney general's opinion.

Representative Basford asked if the Legislature might not later have to appropriate for upkeep of bequest-financed projects. Superintendent Lysen stated that in this case the school can take care of the upkeep with its present staff,

In response to an inquiry Mr. Buelow stated that the new garage can possibly be located on the same site as the old. The fire marshal will approve the location if the structure is fireproof and if there is a clear span of 50 feet.

Mr. Lysen stated that the garage could be built on the nearby parking lot if there is objection to the present site.

With reference to the request for \$10,000 each for automatic sprinkler systems in the utility building and the infirmary, Mr. Buelow stated that the basic question is whether the value of the buildings is such that the expenditure can be justified. Sprinkler systems are costly to install, he related, and the cost is in the labor rather than the materials. Representative Knudsen suggested that sprinkler systems in some of the buildings at the school and hospital could be salvaged for use at this school. Mr. Buelow stated that the salvage process is often too high to be true economy.

Considerable discussion followed on the recommendations in general by the state fire marshal.

With reference to combining the infirmaries of the school for the deaf and the braille and sight saving school on the campus of the school for the deaf, Superintendent Lysen did not think it would be feasible. The infirmary now is used so that if a child becomes ill in class he is taken to the infirmary to the nurse. He cannot be returned to the dormitory during class hours because the houseparents necessarily work split shifts and are not available during the school hours. This is necessary to hold the work week down to 40 hours.. Transporting a sick child, a mildly ill child, to the deaf school for two or three hours until the house parents are available would be impractical. It would also present a problem in conducting the monthly visits of the eye specialists. The nurse is necessary to work with the records and to bring the children to the doctor by telephone from their dormitories. This is true also in the case of the physician. Superintendent Lysen stated that the additional cost of constructing a new infirmary plus the difficulty in administering such an operation would make such a move unfeasible.

In response to Representative Luther's inquiries, Superintendent Lysen commented on the school enrollment.

LYSEN: "You will notice for the 1961-62 school year we have only six children in kindergarten through second grade. How can a school be operated if it does not have any beginners? If there are no children coming in a school of this kind, there is no school. It cannot be supported by transfer students alone. This enrollment has dropped for two reasons. First, the feeling that a child should be at home regardless of everything. We feel that he should have a good education and, if he has to come here to get it, that is fine. The 1957 law

November 18, 1961

Braille and Sight Saving School

stated that every independent school district and unorganized district should provide special education for handicapped, educable children. I am afraid that some of my colleagues have taken 'provide' to mean provide in the school district. The word simply means that they are responsible to see that he is educated. The law lists seven or eight ways to educate these children. One of those listed is the Faribault braille and sight saving school. In 1961 the parents' choice law was properly introduced. It was in the law until 1957. This provision says that parents have their choice of sending their child to Faribault even though there may be special classes in the community. I can see the reason why. That is a safety valve because we have children transferred to our school where the parents feel that they were not getting a proper education at home,, For example, a blind child in public school will get little, if any, music. What has a child to substitute for not being able to see the outdoors, paintings, and such if he does not have music? A blind child needs hand training more than a child who sees. In the average public school they do not dare admit him to vocational classes because they are afraid he is going to get hurt. When it comes to physical education (and I can prove this over and over again) the blind child sits in the bleachers until the class is over. All these things he misses. He gets an academic education and even that is not too good sometimes. I feel that the residential school is doing a lot, even though the per capita cost is high, toward making its students financially self supporting., Last year the per capita cost was about \$3,100. Considering the aid to the blind program and today's longevity rates if we can spend 10 or 20 thousand dollars to educate a child and make him self supporting the state will get the money back several times over compared to paying aid to the blind. It is the old argument between the day school classes and the residential school program. Welfare feels that they are better off at home, and educators feel that they are better off here where they can get a specialized education. The question will never be resolved."

LUTHER: "Do you see a continuing decline in the enrollment in the lower grades?"

LYSEN: "There are enough parents who have been aroused and have come to us about our school so that I think the pendulum will swing the other way. We need what we have now and we have capacity of 110-120 children. I think over the next five years that we will have a steady enrollment in our school."

In response to Representative Basford's inquiry, the superintendent detailed the summer sessions for blind men and women. He stated that perhaps the first two month session these people learn what their abilities are and then perhaps the services for the blind will arrange for their attendance at the Minneapolis society for the blind which operates training courses the year around. Mr. Lysen also explained that a man of 60 who becomes blind is not going back to work but should not be just sitting around. He is taught white cane techniques; he is taught how to keep up his personal appearance; he may be taught to make belts or such which he can sell. All this he can learn in one summer session. There were 38 adults enrolled for the full two month summer session of 1961. Courses offered included braille reading and writing, cane travel, arts and craft, etc. The recreation program - swimming, dancing, parties, etc. - which is available helps build morale. Mr. Lysen suggested that many do not know that this service is available and said that more information should be made known,

November 18, 1961

Braille and Sight Saving School

SUNDET: "I think that the same thing can be said here with reference to the dedication of the staff as I said this morning at the school for the deaf. I would like to say something about the question of the day school versus the residential school. We hear a great deal about education of the handicapped children and also about rehabilitation. In your tour you have seen evidence of other than academic education.

"You are sitting in a library that has about a quarter of a million dollars worth of braille materials. It is considered one of the best in the United States. It is available to every student in the school. Its services are also available to people in the Dakotas. I would like to point out, as I have before, that the money that is received in rental from the states of North and South Dakota is deposited in the general revenue fund, but the cost is charged against the school. That puts a fictitious slant on the per capita cost of education at this school. The per capita cost has increased considerably because of the decrease in enrollment.

"I want to make a few remarks about the parents' choice law. Due to some philosophies in the services to the blind section there has been a thinking that public schools could furnish their own education and pay the cost. Superintendents in various schools have sent to other schools students that needed the services of a school like this one. We have even sent children out of state to another public school. The state and the local district have paid the cost. That does not seem reasonable to me when we have one of the best facilities and faculties here. The child I am speaking of was located about the same distance from the out of state school as from this school. The child had to be boarded away from home. This is not a new trend. It has been tried in other states. In some states they have gone so far as to discontinue schools for the use of the blind and then later had to appropriate millions to build new schools for the blind.

"From the standpoint of education you cannot beat a residential school for an extensive and broad facility for a blind child. I think we will outlive this trend and return to the basis of the best possible education for our blind children. When the cycle has been completed, we will see students enrolling in this school. For some reason or another people, even school superintendents, have not been advised of the fact that there is this facility in Minnesota. Information has been withheld from them over the past years. They tell us too that the incidence of blindness is decreasing. However, that has not been a proven fact. Serious as the education of these blind children is, they should be given every opportunity to have the best education there is. The parents should be advised of every possible means of educating their child."

Senator Sundet also commented briefly on the in-take policy of the department of public welfare. He urged that the Commission consider carefully the requests presented by the school,

Mr. Kramer stated that both North Dakota and South Dakota are building new residential schools for the blind,

BASFORD: "Is the school district from which a student at this school originates liable for the expense of that student's education here?"

LYSEN: "No. This school is totally supported from income tax funds just as the school for the deaf is."

LUTHER: "If they stay at home the school district is liable."

November 18, 1961

Braille and Sight Saving School

JOSEFSON: "Do you have some multiple handicapped children also?"

LYSEN: "About 35 percent are multiple handicapped. We have children on crutches, we have children who are partially deaf, we have children who are cerebral palsied, we have spastic children, we have children who are mentally retarded but educable, we have diabetic children. If we think we can help a child we will try him. We do not have multiple handicapped children who are handicapped to the point that they are uneducable. There are about 75 of these children in Minnesota."

Superintendent Lysen stated that he is contemplating having, during the summer months, an evaluation training center for these very multiple handicapped to see if they can be helped,

LUTHER: "It seems to me that with the financial edge that this institution has over the local school districts you already have a special appeal beyond what appears on the surface. In spite of that you have declining enrollment, so it is essential that you think in new directions and that this Commission go very slow in any major expenditure."

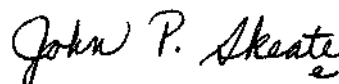
Superintendent Lysen emphasized that the school must have children in the first grades if it is to continue. The school cannot function without a full kindergarten-through-twelfth grade academic program,

Chairman Knudsen thanked the school for its presentation and hospitality.

Superintendent Lysen stated that he and his staff appreciated the Commission's visit very much.

The chairman adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



**John P. Skeate
Secretary**

November 17, 1961

Business Meeting

First on the agenda was the discussion of land for a self-contained drivers license station at the Parade Grounds at Fort Snelling.

MARSHALL: "I will have only a few comments to make. As you know I have been commissioner of highways for about seven months. I feel that I am learning fast, but of course I cannot hope to catch up for some time with the experts, people like Frank Marzitelli who has many of the details at his fingertips.

"We have been looking at a site for a suitable drivers license examining building for a number of years. We have made tentative selections in areas in the vicinity of Bloomington and several other places intending to do what we have done with the one on the St. Paul side where we have abandoned the station at University and Prior Avenues and have built the new facility in Arden Hills.

"I have here a chronological statement, which Mr. Marzitelli prepared, of actions taken toward acquiring the necessary land."

At the request of the Commission General Marshall read the statement which is dated November 16, 1961, and which is on file in the offices of the Commission at the state capitol. The portion relating specifically to the land at Fort Snelling reads as follows:

"On October 21, 1960, Harry A. Sieben of the Safety Division, requested that action be taken to acquire part of the Parade Grounds at Fort Snelling from the Federal government, The Commissioner of Highways approved the acquisition of said site.

"On December 20, 1960, application was made to the Veterans Administration for the acquisition of the Parade Grounds site. January 24, 1961, a letter from Dr. Vogl of the Veterans Administration to the Commissioner of Highways stated opposition to such site and requested an investigation as to a parcel of land located just south of the Veterans Hospital in the vicinity of 58th Street South and Trunk Highway No, 55,

"On March 16, 1961, application was made on the site located at 58th Street South and Trunk Highway No. 55. June 1, 1961, Dr. Vogl recommended that the Highway Department contact the Army Reserve headquarters to discuss conflict of requirements in the area if any* June 16, 1961, members of the Highway Department and the Army Reserve met and discussed said area and it was determined that another attempt would be made to acquire the Parade Grounds area.

"July 19, 1961, the Commissioner requested the Army to release the property at 58th Street South and Trunk Highway No. 55 and on August 17, 1961, Col. Green informed Commissioner James C. Marshall that they would withdraw their request for the area if the Army could use said area on specific occasions.

"August 25, 1961, Acting Commissioner F. D. Marzitelli informed Col. Green that the State would execute a deed on the condition that the Army could use said area at certain times. October 31, 1961, an executed offer for negotiated sale in the amount of \$36,000 was submitted by James C. Marshall to Commissioner Wm. E. Stevenson for approval."

MARSHALL: "In addition to this statement I would like to add that I visited Kansas City October 16, 1961, and discussed with the general services administration

November 17, 1961

Business Meeting

the availability of this area and the possibility of the state acquiring it without paying anything for it. I was advised there unofficially and informally that since that it was not to be used for park purposes the state would have to buy it. For this same drivers license building we are proposing to build, we started out in Bloomington in 1961 fiscal year budget in the amount of \$36,000, On May 8, 1960, the site at 78th and 34th Avenue South could have been purchased for \$60,000, On September 28, 1960, a site on the other side of Bloomington at 86th and Cedar Avenue South could have been purchased for \$125,000. The one at Port Snelling for which we are now negotiating with general services we feel can be had for \$36,000. The appropriation for the building must come from the next session., The only strings attached to the transfer is that we allow the Army Reserve units to drill, park their cars, and make some use of the grounds, not the buildings, on Saturdays and Sundays, The Army Reserve people can make full use of the grounds on Sunday, and we can make arrangements so that we will not be in their way on Saturdays nor will they be in our way."

General Marshall then cited in support of the need for another new drivers license examining station in the Twin Cities metropolitan area the 1960 census figures and the number of written and road examinations given since 1956 and estimated for 1962 for St. Paul and Minneapolis. He also read to the Commission a department of administration memorandum dated November 10, 1961, which states in part:

"I have before me for approval GSA Disposal #V-MEN-402-J, on the negotiated sale between the department of highways and general services administration for approximately 22.72 acres of Federal land at Fort Snelling. We are prepared to approve the instrument and support the project.

"However, in light of Laws 1961, Chapter Ex. 75, Sec. 4, which reads in part: 'Except for District Headquarters Building at Rochester, and Equipment Storage Building in Luverne, and two weighing scale stations, no other building shall be constructed to be paid for out of monies appropriated by this act or any other act except as specifically authorized by law.'

"The act further states: 'The Commissioner of Highways shall advise the Legislative Building Commission of these proposed expenditures for land acquisition and construction at Rochester and Luverne.

"It seems to me that the Legislature intends to review Highway expenditures for buildings and for building sites, and although the Legislature is not available, the Legislative Building Commission is. Accordingly, it is my view that this matter should be discussed with the Legislative Building Commission prior to the purchase of this land."

STEVENSON: "So far as the department of administration is concerned, and our recommendation to the Commission will be, there is no question about whether funds exist for the purchase of the land. There obviously are no funds available for the construction of the building. Our position is that we feel that the highway department is obligated to discuss the land acquisition with the Commission prior to the purchase. There are two separate and distinct things here. The building appropriation must wait for legislative action next session. The purchase of the land should be discussed and have the concurrence of the Building Commission."

November 17, 1961

Business Meeting

MARZITELLI: "This was a program that was started in fiscal year 1958. We had anticipated that the stations would have been located in the Arden Hills area and in the south Minneapolis area or the Bloomington area. Because we were not able to find a suitable site in south Minneapolis, in Bloomington, or even across the Minnesota River it took considerable time before we were able to make a selection that was reasonable in price and one that we could acquire."

Mr. Marzitelli reviewed the attempts of the highway department to acquire land for the Minneapolis area station, stating that in addition to the actual cost of acquisition the cost of bringing in the necessary utilities was considered by the highway departments

MARZITELLI: "One of the reasons that we are here is that in 1958 when the department decided to construct what we call self-contained examining stations the Minnesota highway department was not under budgetary control as far as the state Legislature was concerned. The only budgetary control applying to us at that time was that our biennial budget had to be forwarded to the Governor and the department of administration. It was the commissioner of administration who decided what budget would be approved for the department of highways. In accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 16, he had not only power to review but power to veto any items with which he was not satisfied or to approve whatever budget requests the department may have made.

"You can appreciate that this program was started in 1958 and, because of the fact that we were not able to find a suitable location in south Minneapolis or to serve that portion of Hennepin County and the surrounding county, it took us into fiscal years 1959, 1960, and 1961 before we finally set up in our fiscal year 1961 budget an item in the amount of \$36,000 which at that time was concurred in by the then commissioner of administration. It was not until the 1959 session that the Legislature decided that as to certain items of the highway department budget the Legislature wanted to have budgetary review and control. The law was passed in that fashion. As you recall the department would not come under legislative budgetary control until fiscal year 1962. Then the Legislature would not only review but actually appropriate for those items upon which they felt there should be legislative budgetary control. During that period, however, we felt that we would be in a position of obtaining the site, I presume that during that period had we been successful in acquiring a site we might also have asked the commissioner of administration to approve an allotment for construction of the facility itself. Because we were not able to acquire a site we did not put in any request to the commissioner of administration for money to construct the building.

"In fiscal 1961 we set up \$36,000 in our budget. When we made up our biennial budget for fiscal 1962-63 we had hopes that we could acquire the site prior to the time that the fiscal 1962 budget would be in force. As a result we did not put in our budget any request for the purpose of acquiring land. Neither did we ask for a supplementary budget (as we did for the Arden Hills facility during the 1961 session) for the reason that we did question which items the state Legislature wanted to have budgetary control over and which items the commissioner of administration and the Governor would be controlling. As you know the highway administration division and the highway safety division is under budgetary control, but the construction section, the maintenance section with the exception of plant and equipment, and property (our building program) is under the control of the state Legislature. We did raise the question with the then commissioner of

November 17, 1961

Business Meeting

administration as to which line item comes under budgetary control on the part of the Legislature and which under the commissioner of administration. Actually we were not able to make the kind of interpretation on a line by line item that we would have desired, but we felt that we would retain our accounting system that we had developed to that point and that it would be presented to the administration department and the state Legislature on that basis. Lands come under the engineering section and engineering comes under the construction division, and so the interpretation we applied was that the state Legislature in all probability was not interested in budgetary control over appropriations for the acquisition of land whether the land was for buildings or for the purpose of constructing the main lines of travel. We pursued it on that basis. As the commissioner of highways has indicated, we have no objection to budgetary review or control of appropriations on the part of the Legislature for the construction of buildings. It follows that if you are going to have budgetary control over the buildings, probably the sites on which the buildings are to be constructed would also be reviewed and probably appropriated for. But as the commissioner of highways has indicated we do have money for the acquisition of this property in our lands and right of way budget or in our engineering budget. The question is whether or not this is a suitable site upon which to construct the building so that this function can be carried out at this location, recognizing that even though we do acquire the land in fiscal 1962 no buildings will be constructed until such time as the department makes a request to the state Legislature through the department of administration and receives an appropriation for the construction of those buildings and understanding that whatever buildings we do want to construct on that particular site should be submitted to the Building Commission for the purpose of being reviewed and probably being included in your building recommendations to the Legislature,

"It is costing us a lot of money to provide rather inadequate facilities at the moment. The station at Prior and University Avenues in St. Paul was costing us \$13,800 per year. All we have in Minneapolis is office space which is privately owned. It is not in a suitable location. We are not able to render the level of service that is required. Our rental there is \$4,200 per year,"

LUTHER: "What was the cost of the Arden Hills facility?"

MARZITELLI: "The cost of the building was \$134,770,05,, The preparing of the property where the building is set was \$97,050."

LUTHER: "Do I understand you to say that that money has never at any time been appropriated for this particular drivers training testing area in the Minneapolis section during this period of time when budget review was not clear?"

MARZITELLI: "The money for the land was allotted but not the money for the facility itself because all we had to do prior to the time that the Legislature took budgetary control over these items was to include the items in our quarterly budget requests submitted to the commissioner of administration. If it met with his approval the appropriation was made. That had not been done for the facility because we did not have a site."

LUTHER: "Don't you think that if the Building Commission would authorized the purchase of the land we would in effect be committing the Legislature to making a \$200,000 appropriation for the building and the preparation of the testing

November 17, 1961

Business Meeting

area in the next session or in some session? Isn't the question really that? Shouldn't we get a legal opinion as to whether or not authorizing purchase of the land is in effect authorizing construction or committing to authorize construction of the building?"

MARZITELLI: "I suppose it would follow that if the site were acquired for a specific purpose it would indicate that the Building Commission would look with some favor upon the facility, but I think you could very well consider with this question that the Legislature in the last session was cognizant of the construction that was taking place in the Arden Hills area for a maintenance garage, for a civil defense training center, and for a drivers license examination station. They appropriated for the operation and maintenance of those facilities and recognized a supplementary budget request that we made in addition to our regular budget request for the facility and that the legislative advisory committee also recognized that this was an operation that was being conducted by the highway department and out of the contingent reserve fund made an appropriation for some additional items not included in the appropriation request."

MARSHALL: "We can get rid of this site if for some reason we decide not to use it. There would be plenty of buyers and we would get at least our money back on it. If for the reason the Legislature decides not to go ahead with the building program we can either return it to the federal government or sell it under certain conditions. It is appraised at more than double what we think we can get it for."

LUTHER: "Further should be appended to what Mr. Marzitelli just said about legislative intent. It seems to me this sentence which appears in the 1961 law which says that except for those four buildings named in the law no other buildings shall be constructed to be paid for out of moneys appropriated by the act or any other act except as specifically authorized by law sounds almost as though they foresaw something of this sort."

MARZITELLI: "The language is entirely new. This language is not found in the revised highway code, Chapter 500 of Laws 1959, Article II. This language was added to the appropriation bill in the 1961 extra session. It specifically does request that before the highway department constructs any of the buildings authorized in that bill the department shall review with the Building Commission not only what kind of building the department wants to construct but the location or the site upon which the buildings are to be constructed."

LUTHER: "That is Rochester and Luverne. Anything else should wait for another law."

MARZITELLI: "With the exception that we are of the opinion that the acquisition of land does not come under legislative budgetary control, that it only comes under the control of the commissioner of administration. This was the manner in which we pursued this problem beginning in 1958."

November 17, 1961

Business Meeting

KNUDSEN: "I think the reason for the rider relating to Luverne and Rochester was that those buildings were buildings already appropriated for. I would assume that the intent of the Legislature is that purchase of land for sites where buildings are going to be would come under Building Commission recommendation*"

LUTHER: "Do you mean that in effect authorization of purchase of land commits you to construction of a building?"

KNUDSEN: "Not necessarily. We purchase land for the University of Minnesota and the state colleges without committing ourselves. The construction of buildings is a separate decision which the Commission makes as necessary."

STEVENSON: "This language was adopted for the reason that the department of highways had several buildings proposed and the appropriation was limited to these four. I don't think that, at the moment, land acquisition is a part of this language. I think the department of highways has an opinion of the attorney general which says that they have the authority now to proceed with the acquisition, but in light of the appropriation bill rider it was our feeling that the acquisition of this site should at least be discussed with the Building Commission for the acquisition does imply that the Commission will recommend at some point to the Legislature an appropriation for the construction upon the land."

MARZITELLI: "As I recall in our meetings before the house appropriations and senate finance committees the building program which we had requested was very much in excess of the building program which the building bill provided for and the question was asked at those meetings as to whether the amounts we had requested included the cost of the buildings as well as the cost of the land. Our reply was that the amount merely covered the cost of the building and that the cost of the land acquisition was budgeted under engineering - land and right of way section - which did not come under legislative budgetary control."

STEVENSON: "As further evidence of this I believe that at the moment we have the appropriation to erect district headquarters at Rochester, but the appropriation is only for construction."

MARZITELLI: "Yes, the cost of acquiring that land will come out of the engineering budget."

KNUDSEN: "This goes back to the point that I do not recall the discussion in conference committee about these sites. I am sure that if we had discussed it it would have been included in the rider."

LUTHER: "What would the language have been?"

KNUDSEN: "It may have been something to the effect that the purchase of land on which these buildings were to be constructed would have to come before the Legislative Building Commission too."

MARZITELLI: "I want to say again, as we have said to the 1959 Legislature and the 1961 Legislature, that the highway department has no objection to the amount of budgetary control by the Legislature. The Legislature always has had

November 17, 1961

Business Meeting

the right of legislative budgetary review even though it did not appropriate as it did for other governmental agencies. The highway department has always been under budgetary control of the commissioner of administration and the Governor. I doubt that we would have any objection to submitting to the Building Commission not only the building program but also the land on which the buildings would be constructed.

"With reference to the question of whether authorizing land acquisition in this case would commit the Legislature to authorizing construction of buildings on the property, I can only say that those legislative committees which have reviewed the budgetary requests of the highway department are in agreement that the self-contained examination station, especially in the Twin Cities metropolitan area because of the density of population, the number of motor vehicles registered in the five county area, and the number of driver licenses existing in the area, is justified so that people can take not only the written examinations but also the behind-the-wheel examinations with more of a degree of safety."

LUTHER: "You aren't really asking us to approve or disapprove. As far as you are concerned it is entirely within the powers of the department of highways to acquire the land."

MARZITELLI: "We are of the opinion that we are proceeding properly as we understand the existing law to be. We are presenting this to you for your review and ask that you give it your blessing. We do feel that this is a tract of land which the federal government is giving us for a very reasonable price. It is ideally located in so far as being able to serve the geographic area of population as intended. If in the future the Legislature decides that they do not want to appropriate for construction of the buildings needed for this particular function, I do not believe that the state will be out one single penny. The federal government would either take it back at the price we paid or would permit us to sell it with some restrictions."

In response to Chairman Knudsen's inquiry, Mr. Marzitelli spoke briefly on the hazards existing at the Minneapolis station and the value of the type of facility constructed at Arden Hills.

STEVENSON: "When the highway department appears before the Legislative Building Commission to present its proposed building program, will the facility at Fort Snelling be covered in that program?"

MARZITELLI: "Yes, we intend to present the ten year building needs of the department at the hearing in December, 1961. We will include a drivers license examination facility for this particular site."

LUTHER: "Will that presentation include any requests for land acquisition?"

MARZITELLI: "No, we did not intend that our building program would include any amount for site acquisition. Again, as I have stated, if the Legislature feels that land acquisition is a line item that would be appropriate to present not only to the commissioner of administration but to the state Legislature I am quite sure that we would not raise any questions."

LUTHER: "If you are not putting land acquisition requests in your total requests in December then I don't see any reason why we should go out of our way to formally approve this request. It seems to me that it puts us out on a limb."

November 17, 1961

Business Meeting

MARZITELLI: "The problem here is that this land is available today."

LUTHER: "But you will go ahead and buy whether we approve or not."

MARZITELLI: "We feel that we should take advantage of this proposal because land in south Minneapolis and in south Hennepin County has ranged from \$36,000 to \$125,000,"

LUTHER: "But you would buy it anyhow, wouldn't you, even if we did not approve?"

STEVENSON: "I would like an expression of the Commission on this. I can see that this would imply that the Commission may at some point recommend the facility, but I think that if the Commission is given at the next session the responsibility - this was sort of implied at the last session - we would feel much more comfortable if the Commission would act on this proposal."

KKUDSEN: "Personally my own feeling is that we should take action. Then at the next session I think the line item should be written into the appropriation act in precise language. I think that will be done if we take action now. I think that this is what the highway department wants, and since they have been gracious enough to come to us we should either approve or reject the proposal."

MARSHALL: "Sneaking for the highway department I would like to reaffirm that we are not going to buy the land if there is any expression on the part of the Commission that we should not do it. If you prefer that I right now make a formal request for your approval I will do so. We are here in response to Mr. Stevenson's suggestion that we discuss with the Commission this acquisition. We have discussed it, and I would just as soon make a formal request now that you approve the acquisition of the site at Fort Snelling, some 22.72 acres at a price that we believe will be \$36,000. I cannot guarantee that price, but it will be very close to that. It has taken some negotiations and it is off the record as to what the federal government will sell this for, but having talked to the people who will act on this I feel very sure that we can acquire the 22,72 acres for \$36,000. I am sure that any fair appraisal of this land in its present condition would run to \$70,000 or \$80,000."

HEUER: "What are we doing in other areas of the state, for instance, Duluth?"

MARSHALL: "We have a similar facility in connection with the new highway building at Duluth. We have a place for the applicants to take the written and eye tests. It is out on the edge of the city on the bluff where we do not have the distractions we have had at Prior and University in St. Paul and which we now have in Minneapolis. I do not know at the moment whether we have any problems at Rochester or at other similar built up areas."

"Arden Hills is the only self-contained facility which we have now, however. Fort Snelling will be the second one if we get approval."

MARZITELLI: "The question on establishing self-contained units in other comities was asked by the interim committee on highways established by the 1959 Legislature. We replied that we do not have the demand for examinations outstate

November 17, 1961

Business Meeting

that we have in the Twin Cities metropolitan area. It is not our intention to establish these units throughout the 87 counties because the demand is not there."

POPP: "Did you say that this is an ideal location because it serves the five county area?"

MARZITELLI: "Yes. From a geographical point of view as well as from a population point of view the location seems to lend itself very well."

POPP: "Are there any buildings on the site now?"

MARZITELLI: "It is clear, and the land lies relatively flat. There are no great holes or hills that would make extensive grading necessary."

KNUDSEN: "Where exactly is it located in relation to the airport."

MARZITELLI: "It abuts the concrete road that takes you into the airport from the east side. That is the road between the veterans administration buildings and the Army Reserve area."

POPP: "Commissioner, do you think that this acreage might be disposed of to private interests if you do not buy it?"

MARSHALL: "I do."

POPP: "Do you think that it was declared surplus in order that it might be disposed of?"

MARSHALL; "It has been declared surplus and is to be disposed of subject only to the restriction that the Army Reserve units can use it for training purposes on weekends,"

POPP: "If it is sold to private interests would those restrictions be imposed?"

MARSHALL; "There would have to be those restrictions. The federal government would so insist."

HEUER: "Although I have some reservations and I hesitate because of the possibility that the Legislature may feel that we are recommending construction of facilities at the site at some time because we recommend the acquisition of the land, I move that the Legislative Building Commission recommend the acquisition by the Minnesota highway department from the federal government of the 22.72 acres of land declared surplus by the federal government at the Parade Grounds at Fort Spelling as described by the Minnesota highway department."

The motion was seconded by Senator Josefson and prevailed.

General Marshall thanked the Commission for allowing the highway department to appear with its request for approval.

LUTHER: "Mr. Chairman, would you say that this establishes a precedent that we now have the authority to authorize acquisition of land in the case of the highway department?"

November 17, 1961

Business Meeting

KNUDSEN: "I do not think so. Not until we change the rider next session. This will however probably be an indication to the next Legislature."

MARZITELLI: "I think it is safe to say this. The Minnesota highway department will not be acquiring any additional sites for the construction of facilities without first clearing it with the Building Commission. You may rest assured that the question of land as well as buildings will be submitted to the Building Commission for review and approval before the department proceeds."

POPP: "I feel that if there are any future requests on the acquisition of land the highway department should give the Commission more time to consider the requests. I would like to know what you mean when you say 'urgent'?"

MARSHALL: "It means that if we do not make a bid on this within two or three weeks some other government agency will have it. We got caught in rather an emergency situation which we could not foresee, and it was a matter of opinion whether we should bother the Commission with this question or not. It was my judgment and Mr. Stevenson's judgment that we should at least discuss it with the Commission. About ten minutes ago I decided to ask your permission to acquire the land. It was that urgent a matter as far as the highway department was concerned. I can assure you that only in the case of some unusual thing like this would we ever come to you and say that we want you to take it or leave it. We do not do business that way. In view of the discussion here it was my judgment that we should make a formal request and I made the decision, as I said, about ten minutes ago. I assure you that it will not happen again this way unless we get caught in another one of these things which we cannot foresee."

Next on the agenda was the report from the department of administration on the sale of certain land at the Rochester state hospital to the city of Rochester.

STEVENSON: "During the course of the 1961 session of the Legislature the city of Rochester asked for the transfer of 175 acres of land which is currently part of the Rochester state hospital farm and which is to be used as a park and recreational area. The public domain committees in the house and in the senate gave this very thorough hearings and then, I don't recall just how it happened, the bill was passed into law saying that the commissioner of administration and the city of Rochester would negotiate the consideration. During the course of the hearings it was pointed out in some detail that this was productive land, that it was part of a much larger tract, that it was producing at something like the rate of \$5,000 a year principally in forage crops. Notwithstanding this it was the position of the hospital that by more intensive farming of the balance of their farm which actually amounts to some 200 acres this would not be a loss in their farming operation. After the Legislature adjourned I was invited down to Rochester to view the property. Before I went I asked our land acquisition supervisor to look at it. His report was that for a commercial or residential purpose this land would probably be worth something in the neighborhood of \$1,000 an acre. It is ideally situated on U. S. Highway No. 14 across from the hospital itself. It is part of a tract purchased a number of years ago from a family who had two tracts which totaled 400 acres. In the interim part of this land which is somewhat sandier than the rest of the farm was reforested with patient help and with trees obtained from the state conservation department. These trees are now 8 to 12 feet tall. This 175 acres is in two parcels. Between the two lies a parcel of privately owned property which apparently has been offered to the city of Rochester if the city can acquire the other two pieces to make a park which

November 17, 1961

Business Meeting

will approximate four or five hundred acres. Despite the fact that the overtures were made to the Legislature that the city proposed to purchase this land, the council told me that they had really hoped that they could get the land for one dollar."

Commissioner Stevenson stated that considerable negotiation between the state and city occurred and finally the decision was reached to set the price at \$100 an acre which was the price the state paid for the land 30 years ago. He described the land as a buffer between the hospital and the community and mentioned the excellent relationship between the city of Rochester and the Rochester state hospital, A park so located will provide facilities for the patients at the state hospital, for friends and families of the patients, and for employess of the hospital, as well as for patients at the Rochester medical center and their friends and families. The city will pay for the park development and the hospital will continue to use the land until such time as development commences. Camping space will be one phase of the development. Commissioner Stevenson recommended the transfer at \$100 per acre.

POPP: "Commissioner, are you putting in restrictive clauses?"

STEVENSON: "Yes. The first provision is that the state shall continue the use of this property as a farm for that portion which we actually do till now until such time as the city begins development. It provides also that the only condition under which the transfer is made is that it be used for a public park and for recreational purposes and that the title of the property shall revert to the state in the event that the city ceases to use the land for such purposes."

POPP: "Can it revert back to the state without a consideration?"

STEVENSON: "Yes."

Representative Luther moved that the Legislative Building Commission approve the transfer of 175 acres of land at the Rochester state hospital to the city of Rochester as described by the commissioner of administration which land is to be used for park and recreational purposes by the city. The motion was seconded by Senator Heuer and prevailed.

POPP: "According to the 1961 law relating to this transfer we do not have to approve it, is that correct?"

STEVENSON: "Yes, that is correct."

Next on the agenda was the discussion of the 1961 \$45,000 appropriation for remodeling Deputy Hall at Bemidji state college.

Commissioner Stevenson stated that his department had obtained a transcript of the presentation of Bemidji state college during the session and had examined the brochure the college presented. He stated that apparently in the drafting of the legislation the language relating to equipment was inadvertently omitted. The remodeling is expected to require only a small part of the \$45,000 appropriated.

November 17, 1961

Business Meeting

STEVENSON: "There is this solution if the Commission wishes to consider it* We could go ahead with the remodeling and then cancel the balance of the appropriation back into the building outlay account. Then the Commission could allot from the building outlay account."

HEUER: "It appears to me that at the present time we cannot do anything. They have to complete the remodeling project named in the appropriation."

KNUDSEN: "We have to do the remodeling first before we will know what the balance will be."

STEVENSON: "That is correct."

The Legislative Building Commission took no action on the question relating to the equipping of Deputy Hall at Bemidji state college.

Next on the agenda was a report by the department of administration on the water system at the Minnesota state sanatorium at Ah-Gwah-Ching.

Mr. Cummings presented the Commission with a two page statement regarding the well for water supply at Ah-Gwah-Ching. This statement is on file in the offices of the Commission at the state capitol.

CUMMINGS: "This statement contains a comparison of surface water analysis and well water analysis and the reasons as to why we favor the use of subsurface or well water at Ah-Gwah-Ching. I can summarize those reasons by saying that we believe that we can build a plant for less money and operate it for less money by using well water than we can surface water. The status at the moment is that we have had plans drawn for a well and have taken bids on the project. We are holding up award of contract until the Commission has had time to consider this matter. In the analysis the well and surface water are not vastly different. Iron content is somewhat increased in the well water and our consultant assures me that iron will be removed during the normal course of treatment. So far as softening goes, the only softening done now is for hot water and laundry purposes. There will be no change in the present softening system."

KNUDSEN: "Will the one well cost \$4,481?"

CUMMINGS: "Yes, that is the price obtained by bids. That is purely for the well. It does not include the pump."

POPP: "The principal difference as I see it is in the iron content. Two parts per million is quite a bit of iron, I am sure, Mr. Cummings, that after they start to use that water we will have a request for an iron removal plant. How much is that going to cost?"

CUMMINGS: "Our consultant claims that he will be taking out the iron within the plant that he is presently designing."

POPP: "The water is filtered now, isn't it?"

CUMMINGS: "Yes."

November 17, 1961

Business Meeting

POPP: "I should think you would have to aerate it some way."

KNUDSEN: "How far is the well going to be from the present building? Couldn't that building be used? Why do you need \$75,000? Is that for piping? I thought that it was treatment only, not the building itself."

CUMMINGS: "It will be in the general vicinity of the present building. It will be piped up to the main group of buildings. You have to go up the hill to the mains. The well is going to be down close to the lake. It is my understanding that the old building was condemned by the state board of health. It is my understanding that treatment and building are one and the same thing in this case. I have not analyzed this particular aspect of it. When I came with the state, plans were in existence for a new plant to be built down near the lake shore in the general vicinity of the existing plant. I presumed that the other one had been condemned. I personally have not explored the question of whether or not a new building is required. The department and the Legislature had explored this quite a bit prior to my coming. We restudied as to whether or not well water should be used as a source. We determined that it could, but that the well water would also need treatment which necessitates a building. The size and the complexity of the building when used by well water is less than when used by surface water."

JOSEFSON: "Is the present building for treatment or just for filtration?"

CUMMINGS: "It is for treatment and filtration."

POPP: "I think I am the one who raised the question about this expenditure. The press of the entire matter is in paragraph three in Mr. Cummings' statement which reads 'At this time our division searched out the basis for the original decision to use surface water and found a 1956 engineering report on the subject prepared by a firm other than the present consulting engineer. This report estimated the cost of the two wells and attendant piping as \$55,000, \$75,000 for building, and \$10,000 fees or a total estimate of \$140,000 for wells. The same report estimated the cost of a new surface treatment plant at \$130,000.* Since we have such a hard time finding funds with which to build buildings for education of our children and taking care of the mentally retarded I would think that an item like this could be deferred and that we could use the money more judiciously. That is a lot of money for water supply and I think the present facility would be adequate for quite some time. Mr. Cummings has convinced me of a lot of things. He is an expert, and I have no doubt that his report is a good one. I have no doubt this should be done, but maybe it is something that could be deferred."

JOSEFSON: "The chief engineer at Ah-Gwah-Ching was entirely happy with things the way they are. He has no desire to change at all."

STEVENSON: "Mr. Cummings, how did the request originally occur? Is the water system adequate now?"

CUMMINGS: "It is my understanding that we have a water system there which was condemned by the state board of health. If I take your point correctly, Senator Popp, your question is that this situation has existed for the past several years and we know of no epidemics as a result of drinking the water. It appeared pure when we were up there. The senator asks whether the change is absolutely necessary. I did not go back and bring out the original department of health

November 17, 1961

Business Meeting

attitude on this matter. All I tried to compare was whether it should be well water or a surface supply."

POPP: "You will remember when we were up there I asked the engineer if there was any algae formation where the effluent from the disposal plant emptied into the bay. He said that there was no algae formation. He assured us that the effluent was better than 98 percent pure and that it was chlorinated so although I do not question the report that shows that subsurface water is better I think that what we have at present is certainly all right too."

Additional discussion followed during which it was stated that the highway department went to considerable expense to protect the source of water when that state department constructed a new highway in the vicinity. The intake is from a river entering the bay and the effluent is some distance away. There is a strong current. Chances of contamination are very remote according to reports from the institution.

KNUDSEN: "I certainly would like to know, if we do go ahead with the project, why we cannot use the old building."

CUMMINGS: "I wonder if this matter could be laid over until the next meeting. In the meantime I would like to amplify this somewhat with further background on the contents of the department of health report which started the initial action before the 1955 Legislature."

The question of the water system at Ah-Gwah-Ching was laid over until the December 8-9, 1961, meeting of the Legislative Building Commission.

Next on the agenda was the report by the department of administration on the progress on the sewer project at the Thistledew Youth Forestry Camp.

CUMMINGS: "The Commission members will recall that at the time of the visit last month to the Thistledew camp bids on the sewer project had been opened the day before the visit. Mr. Alexander advised that the amount of the bid had exceeded the \$10,000 made available by the 1961 Legislature. I did not want to comment until we had had an opportunity to study those bids. This is the second time that bids have been taken. We simply pushed it out quickly the second time in order to see if there would be any reduction in price through a greater number of bidders and another look at the project by bidders. We came out with a net bid above \$10,000, and by the time we put in the engineer's fees and allowed what I think is about as small a contingency as we should have we determined that we need another \$1,700 before we can proceed. We do have a situation at the camp where we are contaminating Lake Thistledew. We ask the Commission to allot from the building outlay account \$1,700 to supplement the original appropriation. If there is no expression by the Commission by Monday, November 20, I will lose that bid."

POPP; "Here is a very good example. At Thistledew something has to be done. You cannot delay it. At Ah-Gwah-Ching you have exactly the reverse. There is absolutely no need for urgency. But we should take care of Thistledew right away."