

Patients Program Department Report- MINNESOTA. DEPARTMENT *Of* PUBLIC WELFARE

Faribault State School and Hospital
State Hospital

April, 1963
Month, Year

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Instructions: Not later than the third day of the month, forward the previous month's report to Department of Public Welfare, 117 University Avenue, St. Paul.

1. Attach Weekly or monthly schedule of group recreational activities that were available for patient during month under direction of this division.

handicraft

1. Number of patients covered in handicraft Therapy activities on the last working day of the month , 288.»
2. Number of newly referred patients to this division during the month .
- 3» Number of patients dropped from this division during the month

INDUSTRIAL PLACEMENT

1. Number of patients enrolled in Industrial Therapy activities on the last working day of the month _____ 1,367 _____.
- 2. Number of newly referred patients to this division during the month .4 .
3. Number of patients dropped from this division during the month _____ 8 .

REHABILITATION THERAPIES

April 1963 Monthly Report

During the month of April the Rehabilitation Therapies Department continued to serve the residents of the Faribault State School and Hospital. Aimed at furthering the resident's social adjustment and development, these activities are provided through central and dormitory schedules.

The Recreation Therapies staff in April conducted or assisted at the following central activities:

4	Catholic and 4 Protestant Church services
3	Special entertainment programs
5	Social dance programs
4	Square dance programs
2	Community-sing programs
4	Wheel chair activities programs
16	Game-time programs
8	Boys' sports programs
4	Men's sports programs
12	Girls' sports programs
4	Women's sports programs
8	35mm Auditorium movies
79	16mm Ward movies

One sure harbinger of spring, that of softball enthusiasts outdoors playing catch, is a strong indication that winter weather is nearly over. Now that snow and ice patches are melted, residents from all buildings are clamoring to go on nature outings. Recreation Therapies personnel, though "run ragged" by these requests, have in addition been conducting play activities on the Central Playground whenever the weather permits.

Discussion regarding the institution's having a fish pond has materialized into definite plans for the dredging of a spring-fed slough and it is being stocked by the State Game and Fishery Department. Funds for the dredging will be provided by volunteer groups. Located in a wooded area south of Springdale, the pond will first be stocked with bullheads and later with crappies and sunfish. Estimated to be about 35' x 350', the pond is a pleasant hike from the campus, being easily accessible either by foot or by car. A site about to be developed for use as a day camp is situated not too distant from the pond. Our population will be able to fish with safety from the banks of the pond, the depth of which is about three feet. With the assurance of a pond continuously well stocked with fish, few residents will experience disappointment such as they did when fishing from the river. Most of the catch there consisted of fingerlings and scavenger fish.

Individual work with a regressed patient has its very trying moments, and unexpected joys as well. In the case of --- there are some days when it is impossible to "get thru" to him. Bernard Parkos, Patient Activities Assistant II assigned to recreation work in Sunnyside Division, has been working with --- regularly, seeking to motivate him through recreation and work interests. On some days he is cheerful and talkative and, recently while engaged in helping to assemble playground equipment, he mentioned his impending 32nd birthday. Noting the pleasure --- showed in making the announcement, Mr. Parkos made arrangements to have a little birthday party to which

patients in the Occupational Therapy program were invited. Though but one small step toward his recovery, the honor he experienced could, hopefully, have a lasting effect.

Miss Dianne Lee, Patient Activities Assistant I assigned to recreation work in Greenacres Division, on her first visit to Maple cottage felt the problems of working with these young hyperactive boys was insurmountable, that these children were a lost cause. In taking groups of ten to fifteen to the basement recreation room, Miss Lee in the beginning found that she needed some effective means by which she could control the boys. Chaos usually reigned. Books on the table, pictures on the walls, and toys in the cupboard, all would be instantly strewn upon the floor before she would be able to initiate the first of her planned recreational activities. Organization was seemingly out of the question until by chance she found the remedy, a loud, firm voice! To command further attention, she locked up all play articles. With distractions eliminated, Miss Lee then proceeded to conduct a more orderly organized recreational program. The participants get into line, march and dance to music, and play simple circle games. The boys are at the stage where they are beginning to sit quietly long enough to learn a few short songs. Free-play follows these organized play activities. The results of what may seem stern measures are gratifying to both the Maple boys and to Miss Lee. The boys anxiously look forward to Miss Lee's visits, eagerly taking part in the activities planned for them.

Mrs. Marge Reuvers, Patient Activities Assistant I assigned to recreation work in East Grove Division, has now completed training in Units IV and V of the Rehabilitation Therapies Patient Activities Assistant Training Program. Units IV and V are, respectively, sixty hours of classes in the Psychiatric Aspects of Patient Care, and eighty hours training in Supervised Experience in Nursing Service. In the latter, Mrs. Reuvers spent one week at Birch where she gave assistance with bathing, feeding, brushing teeth, keeping patients dry, giving special care to the diabetics, and applying hot packs and other special treatments. At Cedar for a week she helped with the dressing of the children, in feeding, and in supervision. In appraising her nursing experience, Mrs. Reuvers makes the following comment: "I believe that my working as a psychiatric aide for two weeks was in all respects a very profitable experience. I gained an insight into what actually goes on in the buildings. I observed how the patients live and saw how they react in their buildings as compared to how we of Recreation Therapies see them react in recreational activities. I now more fully realize the difficulties the aides have in dealing with the various behavior problems on the ward, in situations not frequently apparent to Recreation Therapies staff. I believe that I now will feel more competent in knowing how to fulfill the needs of the patients when carrying on ward-recreation activities."

Mr. Gary Schmidt, Patient Activities Assistant I assigned to recreation work in Sunnyside Division, on April 29 began the eighty hour Unit V training. His assignment will be a week each in Maple and Seneca buildings.

Since his employment in Recreation Therapies in September 1961, Mr. Kenneth Johnson, Patient Activities Assistant I, has been assigned to show ward movies. He is also responsible for the care and maintenance of the 16mm movie projectors used in his work. Seventeen 16mm movies are shown weekly and are attended by an estimated total of 1100 residents. Attendance at ward movies varies from building to building, dependent upon the intellect of the viewers and the interest the movie may provide them. Movies with action are preferred. Movies with little action and much dialogue are not shown. Generally, the majority of viewers are attracted to movies shown in color. Children, and adults of a lower level of intelligence, seem to experience real content and satisfaction when colored movies are shown. Almost all viewers enjoy the music usually featured with the movie. A resume of film attendance at the seventeen building areas is as follows:

- Cedar & Maple: Hyperactive as these girls and boys are, their attention span continues to increase to the stage where some view the picture in its entirety.
- Holly: The majority of whom are of a low intelligence, mostly severe, these women are generally inattentive although they are attracted to music and color.
- Poppy: These women are very cooperative and mannerly while the movie is in progress. There is a minimum of confusion, an unexpected attitude among mentally disturbed such as are housed at Poppy,
- Fern: A very large attentive audience, the ladies at Fern derive considerable knowledge from the films,, They are quite solicitous in preparing the dayroom for the movies.
- Willow: Reaction to movies is always favorable and attendance has been steadily increasing. The women favor comedy rather than dramatic type pictures,,
- Birch & Seneca: These residents, women and men respectively, react very favorably toward any movies shown them. Following the movie they enjoy chatting with Mr. Johnson, of whom they are always most considerate.
- Hospital: Though of a wide range of mental levels, the patients react with equal response, with all liking action, color, and music.
- Spruce & Fine: Small girls and boys, respectively, these children delight in color movies and those having much action. They seem to acquire much knowledge from the movies. Their attention span is surprisingly long
- Osage: Due to a population change attendance here has decreased. The movies are greatly appreciated by those who are able to watch and hear. Color and music are of primary appeal to these male patients,
- Dakota: Considering the mental level and type of adult male patients at this building, cooperativeness and attentiveness is surprisingly good. Loud music, and color, are appreciated by these hyperactive viewers.
- Elm: A theatre atmosphere prevails at Elm. These adult male residents of whom most are confined to wheel chair , garner much knowledge from the pictures.'
- Hickory: The men at Hickory always form a large appreciative audience. They eagerly await all movies shown them.
- Pawnee: One of the largest audiences, these men are mannerly and heartily enjoy movies, with western and sports movies being their favorites.
- Grandview: Mostly older men, the entire population turns out to view the weekly movie. They have never been critical of any movie, although they prefer action pictures having a western-type theme. The men always welcome Mr. Johnson most heartily and give him assistance in setting up the projector.

In addition to planning, organizing, conducting, and supervising a full schedule of central and ward-recreation activities, the Recreation Therapies staff assisted and supervised with the seating and lighting effects at the following special entertainments presented in the auditorium of Rogers Memorial Center:

On the afternoon of April 7 an audience of nine hundred was pleasantly entertained by a variety show sponsored under the auspices of the Albert Lea V.F.W. Auxiliary,. The residents were also delighted in having a former recreation employee, Miss Marlene Cram, an Albert Lea resident, lead in a song fest. Mrs. Ray Schultz, V.F.M. Auxiliary chairman, arranged for the happy occasion.

Clowns and comedy acts have been a never ending source of amusement for young and old alike. For the second year eleven hundred of our residents were honored by the visit here of the St. Paul Clown Club on April 21. Again sponsored by the Lions Clubs of Faribault and South St. Paul, the Clown Club presented a well diversified program featuring semi-professional talent. Needless to say, our residents were highly elated by the Clowns' visit.

On April 28 Mrs. Esther Bowles as mistress of ceremonies presented the Happiness Troupers, her dance students from the Savage and Lakeville areas. A close friend of our residents and a former recreation employee here, Mrs, Bowles has for many years brought groups of dance students to entertain here.

Three thousand one hundred and sixty-eight covered marshmallow rabbits and ducks were distributed to our population on April 10. Recreation Therapies personnel handled the distribution. This candy treat was received from Jerry Vogel of New York City in honor of his friend Gabe Porarro, a dancer who has appeared on Broadway in many shows. Through the Jerry Vogel Foundation our residents for a number of years have been the recipients of a special candy treat, a treat keenly relished, indeed.

The annual pool tournament is nearing completion. The winners and runner-ups from the ten buildings participating will meet for the final play-off scheduled to be held at West Cottage during the first week of May. Entrants in this year's contest have been closely matched. Many games were real challenges of wit and strategy, made all the more remarkable by the fact that the contestants determinedly practiced for the occasion.

The Recreation Therapies department in April completed plans for this year's resident picnic program. The picnic program will begin with picnics for the infirm and for the younger children, for residents from building areas where in case of rain the picnic could be conveniently transferred indoors. As part of the picnic schedule, there will be bus rides for certain cottages. Twenty picnics are programmed, two of which will be held on a Sunday for the convenience of cottages housing adult residents engaged in daily work assignments. Volunteers from the city of Faribault are planning to assist at a number of the picnics,

A recent University of Minnesota graduate with a M.A. in hospital recreation, Mr. Richard Kempter, Minneapolis, on March 27 joined the Rehabilitation Therapies department for three months training and experience preparatory to his assignment as a Patient Activities Leader I at Lino Lakes. Mr. Kempter's work program here will involve recreational therapy work on an individual and small group basis among male patients, among the mentally disturbed and among the blind. He will in addition assist with wheel chair activities and observe game-time activities. Mr. Kempter has also begun a weekly discussion group among twelve adults, men and women of mild and borderline levels of intellect, some of whom are considered as potential community placement prospects,

Each of the 226 residents observing birthdays in April mere on the 16th honored with an addressed birthday card, a dixie cup of ice cream., and a decorated cake square.

HANDICRAFTS

April 1963 Monthly Report

During April the Handicraft classes continued to work on the usual variety of activities. Glass attendance was irregular over the Easter weeks as many patients went home on vacation. The department reached a full schedule the last of the month as Mrs. Sterling completed her training classes. However, Mr. Berg, the Occupational Therapist, resigned to take another position so many were dropped in the O.T. program. Some were transferred to Craft Classes and will continue with activities that are beneficial to them.

The "Activities of Daily Living Classes," completed their breakfast menus this month making doughnuts, poached eggs on toast, and cocoa. The week previous to Easter they baked and decorated cookies, which they served with coffee to all patients attending Handicraft. Not only was this enjoyable for all classes but it offers an opportunity for members of the cooking classes to learn and practice proper etiquette for serving others.

The sewing classes are working on a variety of projects. Three girls are remodeling clothes (dress, skirt, and slacks). Projects completed are 2 aprons, 2 blouses, 2 dresses, 1 jumper, 2 pr. pajamas, and a housecoat.

The usual variety of crafts such as oil, figurine and textile painting, weaving, typing, knitting, leatherwork, etc., have been utilized by the patients this month. In addition Easter decorations and May baskets were made. A new craft tried by Beverly Hauschildt is a copper plaque in which the designs are cut from copper sheeting, tooled, and nailed, with escutcheon pins to a wooden plaque. Three boys are learning rug weaving and are enthusiastic about this craft. --- a new addition to our classes, takes great pride in his weaving. He is interested in planes too so is making a model helicopter in Jerry Johnson's class.

In woodcraft the boys have been reconditioning three bicycles which were donated to the Faribault State School and Hospital. They were completely disassembled, cleaned, new parts added where needed, painted, and reassembled again.

The twelve participants in the Thursday evening ceramics class are all progressing favorably, with each demonstrating varying degrees of skill. It is observed that the more skilled readily volunteer their assistance in guiding those less skilled than themselves. In assisting others, these individuals appear to have gained further confidence in their abilities and as a result have advanced in the class. Mrs. Svieven continues to work with ---, two-one hour periods weekly. At times we do not seem to be making much progress. Occasionally she is quite disturbed, tears off her clothing, so am unable to take her out of the hospital. Then frequently she is ready, looks forward to coming and responds well to activities tried. Her attention span is very short and she requires considerable encouragement to continue with any activity for any great length of time. However, at times, her behavior is such that one is encouraged to feel we are making progress, so she remains a constant challenge to this instructor.