

Mr. Jarlo Leirfallom, Commissioner  
Department of Public Welfare

Dr. E. J. Engberg, Supt. June 14, 1954

Superintendent's Monthly Report

The Superintendent's Report for the month of May is being submitted in accordance with our former procedure, awaiting further information as to your wishes in regard to it. The reports of the Medical, Engineering, Construction, Psychology Departments; of the Farmer, of the Business Manager's Office, of the visitors to the institution, the personnel changes, the In-Service Training and by the School Principal, are being submitted.

Officials visits to the institution were made by the following:

May 5 Mr. Clair Richardson of Citizens Mental Health Society visited in regard to O'Brien House,  
May 13 Dr. Callahan of State Office visited Institution.  
May 21 Miss Haberlin, State Dietitian, visited institution today.  
May 26 Mr. Erickson of State Office visited Institution today,  
May 26 Mr. Elmer Hill, consultant dermatologist from Minneapolis visited Hospital.

Superintendent and/or staff members attended the following meetings during the month:

May 6 Mrs. Blomquist, Director of Nursing, Mrs. Kenney, Nurse Instructor, Mr. Madow, Psychologist, and Dr. Ozolins, Staff Physician, attended conference at Anoka State Hospital on Research in Improvements of Nursing Care of Mentally ill.  
May 7 Mrs. Blomquist, Director of Nursing, attended meeting with Miss Crawford today.  
May 11 Mr. William Roevers, School Principal, attended meeting of Educational Council at University venue  
May 12 Mr. Madow, Psychologist, attended meeting of Conference Committee on Mental efficiency.  
May 13 Mrs. Blomquist, Director of Nursing, Mrs. Kenney, Nurse Instructor, Mr. Thompson, Pharmacist, and Mrs. McEvoy of Central Supply, attended Upper Midwest Hospital Conference at St. Paul Hotel,  
May 15 Superintendent attended meeting of Minnesota Society of Neurology and Psychiatry in Rochester.  
May 18-22 Dr. Engberg attended meeting of American Association on Mental efficiency in Atlantic City, New Jersey.  
May 21 Miss Haberlin, State dietitian, visited,  
May 24-26 Mr. John McQuoid, Personnel Director, attended meeting of Personnel Directors in St. Cloud.  
May 26-29 Mr. Raymond Roach, Patient Program Supervisor, and six members of his staff attended Institute on Hospital Recreation.

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Our summer picnics for the patients in the various buildings started on May 25th and the following picnic menu will be used for all except the infirm type patients:

Canteen Sandwiches  
Cheese Sandwiches  
Baked Beans  
Sweet Pickles  
Ice Cream Cones  
Coffee

for the infirm type patients:

Groaned Chicken  
Creamed Peas  
Mashed Potatoes  
Ice Cream  
Cookies  
Milk

We participated in the American Cancer Drive and the report received on May 17th from Mr. McQuoid, who was in charge, showed that 232.00 had been contributed by our employees.

On June 3rd, Rev. Shields, the local Methodist minister, and Rev. Siewert of the Evangelical United Brethren Church interviewed the Superintendent as official delegates of the Faribault Ministerial Association, because at the previous meeting of their group considerable discussion had occurred in regard to the publicity in regard to the fire hazards existing in the Center Building and they desired to know what assistance, if any, they could render in having this danger corrected. I indicated my appreciation of their interest and corrected the impression they were under that the Legislature has done nothing to meet the fire hazards existing, not only in this building, but in others and that work will be started shortly in accordance with the recommendations made by Clark & Kline as a result of special studies made by that firm. I informed them of the great interest that you have taken in this matter, not only as it concerns this institution, but of all in your department. I explained to them that it had been decided that the initial survey should be made at St. Peter, Braille and Sightsaving School and at this institution, but that similar studies ultimately would be made at all other institutions of the Department. I also explained that it had been agreed that the initial corrections should be made in one or a few institutions at a time and that they be completed before similar work would be undertaken in other institutions rather than piece meal work be done in all of the institutions at one time. They were very much interested and pleased to know that a real start is being made towards the end of meeting fire hazards in all institutions. I pointed out to them that they could be of very real help in emphasizing to the general public and to the local Senator and Representative the importance of recognizing the special needs of mental defectives. I felt the approach should be on the basis of long-range planning. A sufficient number of beds should be provided in various institutions for those needing institutional care at any given time and to relieve whatever overcrowding exists in existing institutions. I emphasized the shortage of staff that exists and

explained that I felt that this situation is one which should be mot adequately as rapidly as possible. An adequate staff in itself would reduce the danger of fires and would also reduce the loss of life should serious fire occur in addition to providing necessary nursing and other services, I thanked them for the interest evidenced by coming for this interview and stated that the support of such individuals and organisations of their type could be of great help to us. I assured them that not only I but you and your staff would appreciate their active support not only for meeting the needs for the patients in this institution, but for all those persons in the institutions in your department. Eventually all these institutions would thereby reach acceptable standards and the mental defectives would not have been unrecognized and neglected.

EJE:gb

Enclosures

Patient Program Supervisor's Report submitted June 11, 1954 (gb)