

M I N U T E S

HOSPITAL SUPERINTENDENTS' MEETING

- Special Meeting -

June 15, 1959

Veterans' Service Building

St. Paul, Minnesota

Present: Moose Lake St. Peter Central Office
 Fergus Falls Cambridge Mr. Hursh
 Hastings Faribault Dr. Cameron
 Anoka Owatonna Dr. Vail
 Willmar Gillette Mr. Chapado
 Rochester State San.
 (represented by Superintendents, Acting Superintendents,
 and Business Managers)

Also represented Association of State Hospital Physicians
and Surgeons (Drs. Samuelson, and Textor)

Absent : Sandstone, Brainerd

There was no formal agenda. The business at hand was to go over in detail the current expense expectations of the institutions, to unify them; and to prepare a covering document in the form of letter or memorandum to messrs. Child and Shovell of the Conference Committee.

Hursh reported that he had talked with Child and Shovell and was informed that the Appropriation Bill for Welfare would be passed sometime this week. He stated that "there are only two points they are interested in: merit increases and maintenance allowances.... otherwise it is a closed book." That the Conference Committee was not willing to meet with the Superintendents.

Cameron expressed the hope that any document prepared today would go over Hursh's signature and suggested that in the event of significant differences, there might have to be two documents sent, one by the Department and the other by the Superintendents' Association.

A detailed review of the anticipated maintenance receipts and anticipated current expense deficits then ensued. Each institution was advised to make the necessary amendments or corrections.

The proposed covering document was read. Hursh objected that it was too long. Numerous corrections were made before the letter was in final form. Hursh indicated that he was willing to sign it.

Hursh indicated that the Governor was sympathetic and wanted a copy of the documents. He indicated that he (Hursh) was not willing to make a press release nor participate in a press conference, nor be willing to be present at a press conference which did not meet with his approval. He suggested that such an act would be offensive to the legislature"....This is offensive; it hurts the cause...they refuse to do business with other than the department head."

A vote was taken as to whether the superintendents should have a press conference. Vote: seven ayes, two noes.

It was decided that a different document (from that which had been prepared for Hursh's signature) or material would be used and that the press conference would be called by the Superintendents' Association.

Other Business

Summer trainees are not considered as part of normal personnel complement; psychiatric aide trainees are. In the instance of positions being lost, it is suggested that no employees be released until the new bill is passed, even then it should be possible to reduce by attrition.