

REHABILITATION THERAPIES DEPARTMENT  
November, 1960, Monthly Report

During the month of November the Rehabilitation Therapies Department continued to serve the patients of Faribault State School and Hospital through various activities programs. These programs, aimed at furthering the patients' social adjustment and development, are provided through central and dormitory activities schedules.

The Recreation Therapies staff conducted or assisted at the following large group central activities:

- 4 Protestant, 4 Catholic church services
- 4 community sing programs
- 7 social dances
- 5 wheel chair programs
- 15 play party programs
- 4 square dances
- 4 social grace and skill program parties
- 15 modified sports programs for boys
- 5 modified sports programs for adult males
- 4 modified sports for girls
- 8 modified sports for adult females
- 5 - 35 mm auditorium movies
- 49 - 16 mm dormitory movies

Thanksgiving day was made additionally festive for our residents, thanks to the generosity of friends who donated sufficient candy for distribution to every person in the institution. A group of girl scouts from Minneapolis donated 1,354 candy bars and sent more than 6,000 penny candies. For the diabetics, the Harry C. Molm American Legion Post 611 and the Teamsters Joint Council #32 of Minneapolis provided 85 various sugar-free candies and fruit cakes.

Friday morning play party games have been canceled for the past six weeks because of the presence of a contagious infection in the building scheduled for this activity. With this cancellation the entire Mohawk population one Friday morning was brought to the gymnasium for a morning of varied sports. The boys were divided into three groups and with the assistance of adult patient helpers the recreation worker engaged them in calisthenics, basketball, toss relay, ten pins, and a soft ball game in which a tennis racquet and plastic ball is used.

On Sunday afternoon, November 6, Mr. Lee Larson, a friend of the Harold Thubbers who have a son living in Mohawk, and his musical group provided entertainment and assistance at the regularly scheduled community sing.

Singing of a different nature took place on Friday evening, November 11, in observing Veterans' Day. Mr. Louis Kramer of the Faribault American Legion Post 43 spoke briefly about the day's significance after which the 800 in attendance joined in the singing of patriotic songs.

Mr. Charles Koch of Minneapolis arranged for the Variety Kings dance band to play for two patient dances on November 13. Prior to playing for the dances the band entertained the patients confined to our hospital. This program was sponsored by the Harry C. Molm American Legion Post 611 and Teamsters Joint Council #32 of Minneapolis.

Mrs. Jorgen Burke of Minneapolis, mother of James who lives in Mohawk cottage, arranged for two afternoon programs on November 27. These programs, put on by members of the Twin Cities Obedience Training Club, were very successful. Our audience was greatly intrigued by the twelve assorted dogs and the obedience demonstration their masters put them through.

Mr. Kenn Kroska, Patient Activities Leader II, participated with Mrs. Helen Stabbert, Volunteer Coordinator, and Mrs. Koger, Psychiatric Aide II of East Grove Division, in giving an orientation to a group of St. Olaf College students. After a question-and-answer period the group toured Pine and Birch cottages and several showed a sincere interest in serving as volunteers.

Recreation staff members began preparing for the handling of donated Christmas gifts on November 15. The selection of gifts by the Psychiatric Aides will begin on December 1. Cardboard bins have been placed around the gift selection room in Willow basement on tables to make it easier to display the articles. Another large room in the basement of Willow, used exclusively for the receiving and storing of gifts, was completely emptied and a sealer applied to the floor by the painters. It is hoped that this application will eliminate the dust caused by the constant foot traffic.

Each of the 247 residents having a birthday during the month of November received an addressed birthday card, a dixie cup of ice cream, and a decorated cake square.

Miss Barbara Wendler began employment on November 7 as a Patient Activities Worker in the East Grove Division. This position was vacated by Mrs. Geraldine Radatz last August.

Barbering service gave 1,783 haircuts and 371 shaves. Cosmetologists gave 59 permanents, 462 haircuts, and 86 finger waves.

In the handicraft department the instructors gave time to the making of sample Christmas decorations. The other members of the Rehab. department received instructions in the making of them at in-service training periods. All items were made of surplus or inexpensive material which can be obtained by the Psychiatric Aides from the Recreation or handicraft departments. Several craft classes helped with the making of Christmas decorations for Rogers building.

A few of the patients enrolled in sewing put aside their projects to help with the making of salable Christmas aprons and luncheon sets. The articles were made in bright Christmas colors with appropriate designs stamped on them. Other patients enrolled in sewing continued to work on new garments or shorten skirts and remodel clothing articles.

Those in the Activities of Daily Living Classes learned to prepare a macaroni and cheese dish, meat loaf and scalloped potatoes, spaghetti and meat balls, and a dessert. Each group also did some house cleaning, washing, and ironing.

Boys' handicraft classes have been resumed. There are two classes for school boys and two classes for adult males. This program for the school boys consists of the making of small, simple projects to acquaint them with the various toys and their function. The older boys are instructed in the proper care and use of the shop equipment. Projects are geared to the individual's previous experience and dexterity.

Nineteen patients are now scheduled to occupational therapy. Several of these have been referred by Dr. McGee, the orthopedic consultant. He continues to see these individuals regularly and prescribes treatment as necessary. Dr. McGee's patients are receiving a modified type of physical therapy. They will be referred to psychiatric nursing personnel for follow-up therapy later.

The Rehabilitation staff members attended four in-service training programs this month:

- 2 demonstrations and instructions in the making of simple Christmas decorations
- 1 movie, "Helping the Child Accept the Do's and Don't's"
- 1 movie, "Frustrating Four's and Fascinating Five's"

Staff members also attended four meetings at which programs and conference histories on new admits were discussed.

  
Supervisor of Rehabilitation Therapies