

REHABILITATION THERAPIES DEPARTMENT  
May 1960, Monthly Report

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

The Recreation staff conducted or assisted at the folio-wing central activities:

- 5 Protestant, 5 Catholic, and 4 Lutheran church services
- 4 evening volunteer Bible classes
- 3 community sings
- 2 auditorium dances
- 4 outside dances
- 1 auditorium wheel-chair program
- 2 play-party programs
- 1 square dance
- 8 boys sports
- 2 girls sports
- 2 patient-employee softball Games
- 1 social grace party
- 1 modified sports activities for geriatric males
- 1 modified sports activities for geriatric females
- 2 modified sports activities for young hyperactive males
- 1 modified sports activities for young hyperactive females
- 4 3 5 . m m auditorium movie programs

An extensive central activities program of eight months' duration conducted by the Recreation staff was effectively concluded May 9 at which time the central summer activities program was initiated. The program concluded was designed and planned for gym-auditorium group activity according to the level of patients participating. These activities took place five mornings, five afternoons,, and seven evenings of each week. With the exception of auditorium movies during the month of f l a y and Sunday church services during the summer, the central summer activities program will involve the outdoors with focus on picnics, weekly street dances, softball, and intensive playground activity in games and sports.

After a week of preparation the Recreation staff began the annual patient picnics on May 17. Twenty picnics are scheduled for the season. Provision is made to permit all patients to participate, regardless of their physical and mental capability. Seven picnics were held during the month of May wherein a total of 1,063 patients were present; the largest group to attend was comprised of 335 persons from Willow, Hickory, and Elm. Numerous carnival games, and soft-ball too, were featured. The picnickers also enjoyed the opportunity to visit with each other in a leisurely fashion. The picnic menu consisted of hot dogs, relishes, potato salad, cookies, ice cream, and coffee. Iced lemonade was served to each patient upon his arrival at the picnic area.

By way of preparation for the patient picnics, the men of the Recreation staff repaired and painted much of the carnival equipment. They also originated and constructed a new game for use in the carnival, In the: form of a five-pin bowling machine, a portable bowling alley as it were, the game has proven most popular

with all patients who have used it. It is being considered as a possible game to use in various cottages during the year. Mr. Larson, grounds supervisor, has furnished the Recreation staff with a jeep and trailer to transport the picnic equipment. The staff is pleased with its maneuverability; it easily accommodates all necessary picnic items. The staff wishes the jeep was theirs permanently;

The Recreation staff has completed the scheduling of cottages for the summer playground activities program.. The playground program is presently being put into effect on those days when not prevented by either picnics or inclement weather. Various dormitory activities are in regular continuance on those days when the Recreation staff is not engaged in the summer's central program.

The month of May marks the commencement of all outdoor sports activities, and, whether by spectator or participant, softball is particularly preferred.. Teams meeting within a two-week period are: Women's Intramural Softball, Men's Intramural Softball, Women's Downtown Softball League, and Patients versus Employees.

Once again our institution is being represented in the Women's Downtown Softball League with a combined patient-employee team. Mrs. Geri Radatz, Patient Activities Worker of East Grove, began with a group of young women and patients through a process of elimination selected 10 finalists. The elimination was a difficult decision to make even after four sessions of good practice in fielding and batting. It was explained to the women of the necessity for the team to make the best impression possible, and that those players selected would be considered not only for sports skill but for behavior as well, in the determination to avoid vile language, and arguments and dissention. The hopefuls not chosen as one of the final 10 neither felt nor expressed resentment and accepted Mrs. Radatz' decision without question.

Regarding intramural softball among the men, Bernard Parkos, Patient Activities Worker of Sunnyside, finds that practice among the teams from the buildings concerned is gradually conditioning the players into shape. Excitement runs high, especially when the men play against the employees. This game seems to be a must for the patients to win, as they go all out to give their best. The ball season should be an interesting one for both the teams and the spectators.

With the advent of sunny weather many of the shut-in patients have been especially desirous to move about outdoors. Miss Marlene Cram, Patient Activities Worker of Greenacres, has on various occasions successfully taken large numbers of Osage wheel-chair and ambulatory patients out for walks, nature outings, and to a ball game. These patients have derived great pleasure from their various excursions. In need of wheel-chair pushers for the Osage patients, Miss Cram considered men from Glen. However, she was at first fearful to use them because few had ever been called upon to do this type of work.. She is pleased to report that with the exception of one person, who became too nervous to continue pushing, the venture was decidedly rewarding for both wheel-chair patients and pushers. The men of Glen. have become confident in their newly-discovered ability and as wheel-chair pushers they are eagerly awaiting their next assignment; the Osage patients are pleased in stabilizing friendship with their pushers.

Along similar motivation, Mrs. Effie Paquette, Patient Activities Leader of Skinner reports that with the arrival of warm weather

given a tour of Willow by their friends, and all of the Willow women proudly showed their fancy work and crocheting. Both groups of women thoroughly enjoyed their visit together. Such type of activity, seemingly inconsequential, creates much more of a home-like atmosphere in our institution; social relationships are renewed and a gratifying spirit of conviviality is effected.

The first of the Faribault Laker baseball games held at Bell Field was attended by 120 male patients on May 22.

In Handicrafts during May, emphasis was again placed on Industrial Sewing. Extra girls were called in to help. Items completed include six dozen napkins, eight tablecloths, and approximately six dozen pillowcases. Progress has been slow because of conflict with the regular sewing program which is given priority. Projects completed in regular sewing classes include skirts, dresses, housecoats, shorty pajamas, aprons, and slips. Girls also bring clothes of their own for repair. This is usually encouraged as it is felt that teaching of mending activities is an important function of this area.

In general craft classes drawing and painting continue to gain in popularity. new type of oil painting technique is being tested. Walco tilecraft bead mats are also a new favorite. Students enjoy working out the designs and the final project are attractive and salable. Linoleum scraps were donated by one of the local firms. These are being used to make linoleum mosaic hot pads. Designs can be varied from simple to complex, making a challenging activity for all types of individuals. Leather crafts continue as previously reported.

Weaving classes continue as before. Several patients have now ~~been~~ started on pattern looms and are doing very well. Others in the class continue to work on hemming and fringing and other needle crafts. Handicraft instructors are learning how to warp a large loom.

activities of Daily Living classes are now concentrating on desserts which is the final stage of the class program. They made individual graham-cracker pies, a variety of yeast breads, cinnamon rolls, tea rings, coffee cake, and hamburger buns (hamburgers were fried and eaten with the buns). When time permitted, each class spent a few minutes on some special task such as cleaning the stove and cupboards, defrosting the refrigerator, and ironing.

No new patients were added in Occupational Therapy. More patients were regularly seen in the Activities building instead of on the grade. Of patients now seen, Richard Brown continues to show the greatest degree of improvement. When weather permits, he is brought to Handicrafts and has remained for periods of over two hours. He works on puzzles, ceramics, and woodworking and does remarkably well considering his severe spastic involvement. as sitting tolerance mad general endurance increase, he is being included in more activities (church, movies, and special programs). Verbal communication is not good, but Richard is able to make his wishes clearly known. He is alert, understands directions well, and has good retention of what he ha? learned. He is learning the alphabet and numbers, slowly results.

Saturday, May 28, was an eventful date for an enthusiastic gathering of more than SCO patients who danced to the music of the Don Sward Dance Band from Minneapolis. The occasion was arranged through the beneficence of our friend Mr. Charles Koch and was sponsored by the Harry C. Holm American Legion Post 611 and the Teamsters Joint Council #32 of Minneapolis.

Fondly remembered by our patients as the Raggedy Ann lady, Mrs. Esther R. Bowles of Savage, Minnesota, children's dance director, brought students from her dance studio to entertain the patients on May 22. Two programs were presented in the auditorium.

Mrs. Marjorie I. . . Smith, Patient Activities Leader I of East Grove, has been on sick leave since May 10. Mrs. Mary Kane, Patient Activities Worker, has been on leave since the 16th of March due to the death of her mother and personal illness. Mr. Kenneth Kroska, Patient Activities Worker of Sunnyside, returned to work on May 29 from three weeks' sick leave for knee surgery.

We are grateful to Mrs. Schafflhuber who again donated several hundred useful magazines collected from neighbors for our institution.

Two hundred seventy-six patients observed their birthdays on May 10 with each receiving a birthday card, a birthday cupcake, and a cup of ice cream..

Barbering service gave 1,169 haircuts and 251 shaves.

The Cosmetic Therapists gave 488 haircuts, 89 permanents, and 93 finger waves.

We have the following vacancy in the Rehabilitation Therapies department, Barber.

Supervisor of Rehabilitation Therapies