

A Chronology of the Faribault State Hospital

1879 - 1979

1877 J. L. Noyes, superintendent of the Minnesota Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind in Faribault, observed in his annual report "The existence in the state of quite a class of children of weak minds ... They are not reached by the public schools or any of the state institutions ... where, as a rule, their condition is soon determined and they they are returned to their homes, doomed to a life of ignorance and imbecility. This ought not so to be. 'Ought not,' for schools and institutions of learning are based on the principle that all human beings are capable of improvement; and it is the duty and for the interest of the state to see that these means are provided ... In their behalf and that of their parents, and in behalf of the rights of a common humanity, I ask that something be done for their improvement."

March 8, 1879 The Minnesota Legislature authorized the Board of Directors of the Minnesota Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind to establish an Experimental School for Imbeciles. The school was to serve "such children and youth as had drifted into the Insane Hospitals of the State and were found to be imbecile and feeble-minded, rather than lunatic, and seemed capable of improvement and instruction ..."

May 7, 1879 The Board leased the Fairview House in Faribault from George M. Gilmore for two years at \$600 a year to serve as the site of the Experimental School. The Fairview House had been built in 1872 as a Home for Invalids and had also served as a hotel. It stood at the northeast corner of the intersection of 5th Avenue and 2nd Street, NE until it was destroyed by fire on October 4, 1901.

- June, 1879 Dr. Henry M. Knight, superintendent of the Connecticut School for Imbeciles in Lakeville, arrived to direct preparations for the Experimental School until his son, Dr. George H. Knight could assume the acting superintendency in September.
- July 28, 1879 Nine boys and five girls were transferred to the Experimental School from the St. Peter Hospital for the Insane. In the next year and a half eleven additional students were received from the St. Peter and Rochester hospitals for the insane or from their own homes.
- March 7, 1881 Upon recommendations from the Board of Directors, the acting superintendent, and the Commission of Medical Examiners of the Hospitals for the Insane, the Legislature passed a bill, which had been introduced by R. A. Mott of Faribault, establishing a "Department for the Training of Imbeciles and the Custody of Idiots" as a permanent part of the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind. The Legislature also appropriated \$25,000 to be used for construction of a building to house the new Department.
- May 2, 1881 A contract was let for construction of the new building, to be located south of the School for the Blind on land once owned by Alexander Faribault. The building consisted of a 3-story main section and a 2-story annex to the south, with a basement extending the entire length. (In later years the building was further extended to the south by the addition of a central tower and two sections similar to the original two.)
- May 19, 1881 Dr. George H. Knight was appointed superintendent of the new Department.
- February, 1882 Fifty students moved into what was later to be called Center Building or Main Building.

- 1883 The superintendent's second biennial report indicated there were 41 students in the school and 59 applications pending. Annual total expenditures for the school had been \$8,469 in 1881 and \$10,055 in 1882. Dr. Knight recommended employment of a kindergarten teacher and need for a shop to provide "useful occupation." The charge to parents or counties of students was set at \$40 per year.
- April 20, 1884 A contract was let for an addition to Center Building to bring its capacity to about 100. A tower and 3-story section were to be built.
- April 20, 1885 Dr. Knight resigned as superintendent to become superintendent of the Connecticut School for Imbeciles, in which position both his father and older brother had served. He served there 27 years.
- September 1, 1885 Dr. Arthur C. Rogers, a physician at the federal training school for Indians near Salem, Oregon, who had previously worked in the School for Feeble-Minded at Glenwood, Iowa, arrived to become the new superintendent; Dr. Rogers served in this capacity until his death in 1917.
- January-February, 1886 A diphtheria epidemic resulted in the death of four children. Generally, however, 70% of the deaths occurring among students were attributed to tuberculosis.
- 1886 At this time a distinction was made between a school industrial department for "improvable imbeciles and cured epileptics" and a home department for "idiots, unimprovable imbeciles, juvenile insane, epileptic under treatment, and adult imbeciles." Dr. Rogers recommended construction of a detached "custodial building" for the latter group. Two more teachers were added and Laura Baker was appointed principal teacher. (Laura Baker later left to establish her own residential school for the mentally deficient in Northfield.) Training activities included sewing classes for girls, scroll saw and carpentry work for boys, gymnastics, and mat weaving.

- 1887 A two-section south wing of Center Building was completed. School population averaged 104 for the year. A teacher was employed for the summer to train students in speech articulation.
- 1888 Students in the school industrial department spent half time in school, half in shops, housework, or farming (800 bushels of potatoes were harvested). The school rooms were located in a building which had been built behind the Center Building. Because the laundry occupied the first floor and a brush factory, started as an industrial training enterprise, the second, the school rooms were surrounded by noise. While students were not to be idle, they were also to have recreation and pleasure. A band leader was employed and a brass band organized. A summer camping program was established at Linden Park, near Cannon Lake. This program was discontinued in 1894 and was replaced by picnics and rides on Dr. Rogers' launch. Dr. Rogers recommended construction of a hospital for epileptics.
- March 1, 1890 Two hundred acres of farm land were purchased from George Gilmore for the purpose of establishing a Farm Colony where men and boys could live and be regularly engaged in farming and gardening. That summer it "became the home of ten boys who were practically of but little help, and required considerable care. They were all sent there because they did not classify anywhere else. They were nearly all epileptic, paralytic, or vicious in their tendencies. Despite this the farm had a balance credit of \$714.76 for the year ..." The Farm Colony group was named "Barron Club" in 1892 in memory of H. E. Barron, who had served as steward for many years. By 1898, however, the Farm Colony was also being referred to as "Springdale."
- 1890 An oculist and aurist (vision and hearing specialist) was employed on a consulting basis. There were 303 residents in the institution, of whom 200 were living in the south wing of Center Building.

A phonograph was purchased to provide entertainment. Sundays were observed by residents either attending church in Faribault, accompanied by teachers and attendants, or by "plain talks" given by Dr. Rogers and the teaching staff.

1891 A first-class dissolving view stereopticon was purchased out of the Amusement Fund. Also purchased were photographic apparatus and supplies to make lantern slides which might be "especially adapted to the appreciation and culture of our pupils."

1892 Dr. Rogers requested a detached hospital for contagious diseases after there had been epidemics of diphtheria, scarlet fever, and measles during the previous biennium. He also recommended separate living quarters for epileptics and more space for "custodial" residents. Need for an electric light generating plant was recognized. The brush factory, started as an enterprise that afforded good occupational training, could not keep up with demand "without taking boys from school ... and sacrificing the training feature to the business interest of the enterprise." About 800 dozen brushes were sold each year to wholesale houses and state institutions. The Farm Colony's dairy furnished about 35,000 gallons of milk. A fund was started for the purchase of a merry-go-round.

1893 The training department joined twelve other American institutions in an exhibit at the Columbian Exposition in Chicago. An award was won for "work accomplished by pupils both in what they learn from books and in varied industries, illustrating the beneficent provision of the state for its feeble-minded."

April 1, 1894 A girls' custodial building, originally named Sunnyside but later re-named Chippewa, was occupied by 130 girls and women who had been living in the south wing of Center. Custodial males continued to occupy the south wing. However, it was recommended that \$75,000 be appropriated for a boys' custodial building.

1894 A "pleasant cottage residence" to the north of Center was built for the superintendent and his family. Population averaged 400 during the preceding biennium.

August 25, 1895 A custodial building for girls and women was opened and named Skinner Hall after the recently-deceased George E. Skinner, a long-time member of the Board of Directors. (In recent years the building was re-named Ivy.) Its capacity was 160 and it was believed that "no superior building for this purpose exists in this country." Residents to occupy this building were transferred from Sunnyside, which then became the "boys' custodial building" and was occupied by males transferred from Center.

1895 A merry-go-round was purchased and installed on the grounds in front of Sunnyside. Dr. Rogers solicited animals to be housed in a campus "zoo." In the next few years the zoo acquired an owl, wolf, deer, foxes, guinea pigs, prairie dogs, squirrels, raccoons, and other animals. An additional 143 acres of land were purchased for farming.

1896 There were 108 epileptics among the resident population of 500. Some of the epileptics, previously removed from the school department, were housed in the "two new detached brick buildings" (Sunnyside and Skinner Hall). There were 184 pupils in the school department, served by 10 teachers.

September, 1896 A training class for attendants and nurses was organized. It contemplated two years of study and practical work, with wages being gradually increased as proficiency increased.

February 18, 1897 A boys' epileptic department called "The Retreat" was organized in the south wing of the Center Building.

September 1, 1897 Laura Baker, who had been the school's principal for 12 years, left to open a private school in Northfield. She was succeeded by Margaret McLean.

June 13, 1898 "The Annex," a cottage for 50 epileptic girls, was opened. This building was later named "Lilacs" and, about 1953,^{re-} named Huron.

1898 A.R.T. Wylie was employed as pharmacist. Wylie was a trained psychologist. With Rogers' help, he established a psychological research laboratory to conduct studies of sensory response (taste, smell, hearing, sight, touch), memory, and motor ability (reaction time, fatigue) in the mentally deficient. Wylie was the first psychologist ever employed in such an institution. The results of his pioneering experimental work were published in the Journal of Psycho-Asthenics, of which Rogers was editor.

Because the Springdale farm cottage was crowded with 25 men, a request was made to add wings to its north and south. A piggery was constructed. Dr. Rogers recommended to the Legislature that there be some systematic method of oversight of pupils leaving the school and a process for establishing life guardianship. (A law providing for such guardianship was passed in 1917, but only after Rogers' death.)

September 31, 1898 The first class of attendants and nurses graduated from the training program. The course covered "physiology, hygiene, child study, nursing, sanitation, heating, and ventilation, together with the practical care of children as represented by their daily employment." Rogers saw the increase in wages earned by the attendants' increasingly better work performance as "the beginning of a practical civil service."

1899 The school portion of the Main Building was enlarged to accommodate a gymnasium, tailor shop, and print shop. A launch was purchased to be used on picnic excursions at Cannon Lake. A "magniscope" with films and a pony carriage were purchased for resident recreation. A

number of pupils were taken on an excursion by train and boat to visit the Minnehaha Falls area of Minneapolis.

March 1, 1900 A 40-bed Hospital was opened. It was smaller than Dr. Rogers had requested, but south and east wings were added in the next few years. After a much larger hospital was built in 1938, the old hospital was re-named Oaks.

March 17, 1901 Lind Cottage for epileptic boys was opened. It was situated southwest of Springdale and was to be the start of a Colony for Epileptics.

1901 A "State Board of Control of State Institutions" replaced the Board of Directors of the Minnesota Institute for Defectives as the governing body of the three state institutions in Faribault. In addition to their academic lessons, pupils in the school department received instruction and training in music, gymnastics, sloyd (wood carving), rope-making, wood-turning, mat-making, brush-making, torchon lace (introduced by a Norwegian woman whom Dr. Rogers brought to the institution in 1891), ironing, net-making, and printing. A printed newspaper, designed for residents, staff, and friends of the institution and named "The North Star," was begun.

J2 A second cottage (Glen) at the Epileptic Colony was opened, allowing discontinuation of the program for epileptic males that had been known as "The Retreat."

1902 A cottage for 60 epileptic girls (Skinner Hall Annex 1, later re-named Iris) was built northeast of Skinner Hall. A U. S. Post Office substation ("Station A") was installed in the tower basement of the Center Building. About 100 "children" were taken to the State Fair. The population had climbed to 887, but almost one-fourth (201) were on vacation on June 30. The mental condition of those present was given as follows:

Feeble minded, high grade	125
Feeble minded, medium grade	107
Feeble minded, low grade	215
Idio-imbecile	207
Idiots	32

December 20, 1902 A fire burned the roof and attic of the middle section of Center Building. The city fire department responded promptly, but there was a lack of water pressure. A messenger was dispatched to the School for the Deaf, whereupon the engineer there started the fire pump and "gave us sufficient water pressure to enable the firemen to quickly control the flames." After the fire the entrance to the tower section of the building was moved from the east to the north side and offices for the superintendent and physicians were constructed above the former entrance.

1904 A second Skinner Hall Annex for 60 females (later named Daisy), and an Annex to Sunnyside with a capacity for fifty persons (named Pawnee in recent years), were opened. The assembly hall in the main building was reconstructed; the roof and walls were raised, a horseshoe-shaped "gallery" (balcony) was added, and the porches enclosed to provide interior corridors. Seating capacity in the hall exceeded 500.

The per capita annual cost of institution care was \$162. Dances were held every Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Concerts by the band were given frequently.

May 13, 1905

The first burial of a resident took place in the institution's cemetery south of the main campus. Previously those who died while in residence had been buried either in Faribault or in their home community.

September, 1905

A tuberculosis hospital, with 28 beds and a large sun room, was opened. "It is constructed after the Spanish Mission type, its architecture giving it a distinct individuality among the other buildings." The building was later named Skinner Hall Annex 4 after it ceased to function as ^atuberculosis hospital, and still later was re-named Rose.

March 1, 1906

The institution's name, which had been Minnesota School for Feeble-Minded~~x~~ since 1885, was changed by adding "And Colony for Epileptics."

April, 1906

An administration building for the Epileptic Colony was erected. It provided "quarters for a physician in charge of the group, and fourteen beds for male patients of the better class." Plans were made to add wings to the building to accommodate more patients. The building was eventually named Haven.

1906

Among the purchases made from the Children's Amusement Fund were "base-ball goods and croquet sets," a billiard table for boys, a Victor phonograph, and seven burros.

Basketry and carpet weaving were added to the list of manual training occupations, which already included sloyd, lace-making, printing, brush making, tailoring, dress making, and laundering. Completion of an addition to the stone Shops Building "will afford room for the employment of a large number of boys...in

brush making and cabinet work. Shoe repairing, and possibly later on manufacturing, will be carried on systematically hereafter..." The superintendent's biennial report also refers, by photographs only, to two new industries: stone-crushing and cement mixing (for building sidewalks), and a sorghum syrup factory. "The experiment of detailing large classes of small boys, direct from school, to the garden, at regular times during the summer season, has proven satisfactory."

1908 A 60-bed custodial building for girls and a 45-bed building for boys were opened. The former

A root cellar with 20,000 bushel capacity, an ice house to hold 900 tons of ice, and a greenhouse were all built of concrete and largely by "inmates."

On August 1 there were 396 applications for admission. With the population already over 1100, Dr. Rogers recommended that the population not be allowed to exceed 1500. Much ahead of events as usual, he suggested that another institution for the retarded and epileptic be started. (This did not occur until 1925). He also recommended purchase of farm land and building residences on them to establish adult male residents on a farm colony. These houses should be "corresponding in character to the homes of the average progressive Minnesota farmers."

1909 A Central Kitchen, located south of the Center Building, was finally built and placed in service. It had been planned several years earlier, but legislative appropriations had to be increased

before it could be completed. It replaced 12 widely-scattered kitchens and was to provide greater uniformity and efficiency in food preparation. "We have experienced no difficulty in serving bulky food hot and appetizing at all of our buildings, including the colony for male epileptics and the dairy farm, situated about one-half mile from the kitchen." However, plans were made for a subway delivery system that "will enable the service to be made a little more nearly uniform as to time than is possible from the one (horse-drawn) wagon serving the several distant departments in succession."

A new working boys building, named Hillcrest, featured "plunge and shower baths" and a boxball and billiard room "for indoor winter amusement for this one group after their day's work is done."

A Colony Farm was established in Walcott township with the purchase of 507 acres of first-class land. Located one and a half miles south of the Main Building, it was four and a half miles away by road.

1910 A hydrotherapy room and equipment were added to the Colony for Epileptics to improve the health, morale, and happiness of its residents.

A building known as Skinner Hall Annex was opened for "low grade custodial and physically helpless children." It featured an open air court "with sunshine or shade as required" and where the children could be "screened from public curiosity."

A working girls' building, ~~Rev~~ interview, was opened in the fall. In later years, when it was occupied by men, the building was re-named Sioux.

September 1, 1910 Fred Kuhlmann was employed as a research psychologist. He was to perform psychological examinations of residents and participate

with Dr. Rogers in family studies to establish possible hereditary causes for mental deficiency. Kuhlmann was one of the pioneers in the use, development, and theory of psychological testing in relation to normal and abnormal intelligence. The Kuhlmann-Binet Test became an internationally accepted version of the general intelligence test developed by Alfred Binet.

December, 1910

A.R.T. Wylie, who had served the institution as pharmacist, psychologist, and physician, resigned to take the post of superintendent of the Grafton, N.D. State School.

1911 An addition accommodating 15 men was built on the old residence acquired with the Walcott farm. A new dairy barn and silos ~~was~~ were constructed south of the campus in an area called "Peaceful Valley."

Saidee Devitt, a trained field worker, began work on the family pedigrees of residents. By August, 1912, studies of 65 families had been completed, representing 99 of the institution's inmates.

1912 In the past two-year period there were 482 admissions or re-admissions, 141 discharged or dropped, and 175 deaths." The work of the State Agents has been very helpful in following up and reporting the conditions governing the inmates that for various reasons have gone out from this institution..." Among the major causes of death were: tuberculosis (61), pneumonia (38), and epilepsy (27).

January 26, 1913

The hay barn and part of the old dairy near Springdale burned.

1913 Sunnyside Annex II (later re-named Dakota) was opened. Ceiling tracks were installed in the tunnel system so that food deliveries from the Central Kitchen could be made in trolleyed carts.

The legislature authorized a summer training school for students of mental deficiency. The first session was held in June and July. For some years a majority of special class teachers

in Minnesota attended these summer courses.

Examples of crafts and other school work done by pupils were exhibited at the Minnesota state fair, National Education Association meeting in St. Paul, at women's clubs, art societies, and county fairs. A permanent exhibit was placed in the department of sociology at the University of Minnesota.

1914 Dr. Kuhlmann, the director of research, provided routine mental examinations of all those admitted. He also did extensive examinations in the public schools in order to perfect the norms for the Kuhlmann-Binet test. The study of social and hereditary conditions associated with mental deficiency was completed for 377 families, representing 477 or nearly a third of the inmates. A second field worker, Marie Curial, had been added to the project. One result of these studies was the publication (in 1918) of "The Vale of Siddem" by Maud Merrill (later to become a famous psychologist) and Rogers. The book purported to show how one small area of the state contributed heavily to social problems because of the high occurrence of mental deficiency there. A much later outgrowth of the family pedigree studies was the follow-up study published in 1965 by Sheldon and Elizabeth Reed, "Mental Retardation: A Family Study."

1915 A dormitory building was constructed at the Grandview Farm Colony.

1916 On August 1 the population was 1,639, of whom 530 were classified in the school department, 743 as custodial, 130 in the farm colonies, and 232 in the epileptic colonies.

Arrangement was made with the division of nervous and mental diseases of the University of Minnesota for "the pathological study of brain tissue in the various degrees of mental deficiency." A water tank and tower were erected south of the Main Building.

January 2, 1917

Dr. A. C. Rogers, who had been superintendent for 31 years, died. He had given the institution a reputation as one of the best in the nation and the world. He was devoted not only to the amelioration of mental deficiency, but to its scientific study and prevention. He was innovative, originating or adopting whatever programs he thought would benefit the residents, staff, the professional community, or the public. He was the acknowledged leader of other superintendents of institutions for the mentally deficient. Until his death, he had been the first and only editor of their scientific journal, "The Journal of Psycho-Asthenics."

1917 As if to honor Dr. Rogers, the Minnesota legislature passed a law providing for involuntary commitment of mentally deficient persons to state guardianship in order to provide them the care, protection, and training necessary. (Rogers had proposed something of this sort in the 1890s.)

June 1, 1917

Guy C. Hanna became superintendent.

1918 The per capita cost was, under war conditions, reduced from \$205 to \$180, the same as it had been ten years before. Because of the profits realized from the farm (\$36,000) and from other industries, the net per capita cost was only \$145.

A building for custodial girls, designed to accommodate 90, was completed. This building was later re-named Poppy.

October, 1918

The institution experienced a severe epidemic of influenza. Almost a third of the residents were affected and, of these, approximately 11% died.

1919 The institution had an accredited training school for nurses, affiliated with the Minneapolis City Hospital. Student nurses spent two years in training at the institution and their third year in Minneapolis. (It is thought this program was actually started several years earlier.)

January 1, 1920 A new state law mandated an 8-hour day for employees. This required considerable reorganization of staffing and a 20% increase in staff, bringing the number to 325.

February, 1920 A new dormitory for women employees was occupied. The building served as a dormitory for 45 years, but was then converted to other uses and renamed Wylie Hall.

1920 An electric elevator was installed in the hospital (Oaks). During the past biennium the waiting list for admission (about 500) was practically obliterated by "the re-organization of the population so as to use all available space." Mr. Hanna also noted that "The character of the population has changed noticeably. No males are being received who have the intelligence to do the simplest kind of manual labor, it being a rare thing to have an application for the admission of an adult male who rates as high as six years mentally. On the other hand there is quite a demand for the admission of females from 15 to 25 years of age who test as high as eight or ten years mentally. Practically all of these girls are the mothers of illegitimate children and have caused considerable trouble in their communities." Possibly as a result of the changing admission pattern or the crowding, the number of escapes from the institution increased considerably.

September, 1921 The Research Department directed by Fred Kuhlmann was moved to St. Paul. It later became known as the Bureau for Psychological Research in the State Department of Institutions (and later the

Department of Public Welfare). A survey of the mental condition of the entire resident population, using the 1916 Terman-Binet intelligence test, had just been completed. It showed approximately 30% of the population at IQ 25 or below ("idiot" level), 40% between IQ 26 and 50 ("imbecile"), 25% between IQ 51 and 75 ("moron"), and less than 5% at IQ 76 or above (borderline).

1922 Mohawk Cottage for 62 male residents was opened, as was the Dairy Cottage for 20. A bridge was built over the Straight River, connecting the main campus with the Walcott and Grandview farm colonies and shortening the distance from five to two and a half miles. A dam was built in the Straight River "to back up water for ice cutting." The institution had over 2,000 residents. There were 300 employees, of whom two-thirds were women. Amusements included two dances a week and moving pictures once a week. During the summer months each group of inmates had a picnic at the river and band concerts were given on the lawn once a week. Once a year a lawn fete was presented. Religious exercises were held every Sunday. During the school year a short chapel exercise of twenty or thirty minutes was held daily in charge of the school principal. "A radio outfit has been installed in the chapel and concerts from as far away as New York are picked up."

June 1, 1924 Laurel cottage for 60 girls was occupied.

1925 West cottage for 60 males was opened; it cost approximately \$75,000. An addition to Skinner Hall Annex I (Fern East) was built for 40 women. There was also an addition made to the central kitchen. "A new switchboard with a hundred numbers" replaced one that had been installed at the turn of the century. The basement of the Women Employees' Building (Wvlie "111")

finished; the dressmaking and tailoring departments were moved there. A coal conveyer was built so that the 12,000 tons of each needed per year would no longer have to be handled by (resident) manual labor. Pursuant to recommendations made by Rogers, Hanna and many others, the legislature passed a law permitting sterilization of the mentally deficient. The program was actually started in the spring of 1926.

June 1, 1925

The first building of the Colony for Epileptics at Cambridge was opened and 50 patients who had occupied Cottage 2 of the Faribault Epileptic Colony were transferred there.

January, 1927

The entire population was immunized against scarlet fever and diphtheria; 5,793 hypodermic injections were given, as each person received three doses a week apart.

August 22, 1927

Mr. Hanna, who had been superintendent for ten years, left Faribault to become superintendent of the Colony for Epileptics at Cambridge. He was succeeded by Dr. J. M. Murdock, who had distinguished himself as superintendent of the Polk State School in Pennsylvania from 1896 to 1926. He had been president of the Association of Medical Officers of American Institutions for Idiots and Feeble-Minded Persons in 1903.*

*That Association, organized in 1876, was later transformed into the American Association on Mental Deficiency. During its 103 years existence seven persons who have been associated with Faribault State Hospital have served as its president. Dr. H.M. Knight, 1878-79; Dr. George H. Knight, 1887-1888; Dr. A. C. Rogers, 1889-1900; Dr. J. M. Murdock, 1902-1903; Dr. A.R.T. Wylie, 1910 - 1911 and 1925-1926; Dr. Fred. Kuhlmann, 1939-1940; and Dr. E. J. Engberg, 1951-1952.

1928 During the previous biennium there were 542 admissions. The population rose to 1,979, even though 112 were discharged to relatives, 86 were sent to group homes or foster care, and 88 were transferred to Cambridge.

Laurel building was being used to house "high-grade delinquent girls", who required, on admission, a vast amount of intensive treatment for venereal infections. These residents also accounted for a high proportion of the 163 sterilization operations performed during the biennium.

1930 Osage building for 100 infirm males was built. Sleeping porches were added to the hospital (Oaks). There were 627 acres under cultivation, including 70 acres for potatoes (7300 bushels per year) and 85 for vegetables. A herd of 70 cows supplied all the milk needed for the residents. A plum orchard and raspberry and strawberry patches were planted.

April 1, 1932 Holly building for 100 infirm females, built at a cost of \$133,000, was occupied. There had been an increasing number of "extremely helpless, paralytic and infirm patients."

1932 The number of residents increased to 2,217. There were 336 employees, an increase since 1920 of only 11, while the population had risen by 500. Per capita annual cost, which had risen from \$180 in 1918 to \$251 in 1930, fell back to \$212.

The three functions of the institution were:

"1. The educating of the high-grade pupil by properly adapted school, shop and farm occupations, to fit him for life outside the institution under favorable conditions.

2. To tenderly, humanely and economically care for the very helpless child whose presence in the home entails a burden

3. To provide the intermediate grade incapable of adaptation in the outside world useful employment, congenial companionship and a good home.

Among the many improvements reported at this time were the replacement of foot-power sewing machines by "electric-power machines", equipping the tailor shop with an "electric cutter", and installing "electric radios" in a number of buildings.

January 1, 1934

Natural-gas-burning equipment was installed and natural gas used exclusively for heating. Oil-burning equipment was placed on standby; oil storage had a 60,000 gallon capacity. A four-ton mechanical refrigeration plant was installed in the main kitchen to replace the old ice coolers.

- 1934 An athletic field, with a baseball diamond and a spectator stand protected by a wire-mesh screen, was created. It became the home site of a regular series of amateur games by the city team, ~~the Fairbault Fairies~~. Residents of the institution were avid fans, particularly as some of the employees played on the team.

Underground wiring and modern street lighting replaced the old wooden poles and overhead wires.

Seventy-two apple trees, 40 plum trees, 100 current bushes, 250 gooseberry bushes, and 250 grapevines were planed. Weather conditions, however, were not favorable to plants and crops.

The social service department was very active "in the study of children being considered for parole" and "in conducting groups of students interested in social welfare through the school and giving information concerning the methods in vogue in the training and treatment of the feeble-minded".

18, 1935

Dr. A.R.T. Wylie, who had first been employed at the institution as pharmacist and psychologist in 1898, who had become a physician by 1906, who had been superintendent at Grafton, N.D. from 1910 to 1935, and who had served two terms as president of the American Association on Mental Deficiency, returned to the staff as Junior Physician.

1936 Long periods of summer drought threatened the annual yields of garden products; a sprinkling system for the garden was requested and eventually installed.

Dr. Murdock requested a new school building to replace the antiquated, hazardous facilities in Center. He recommended classrooms sufficient for 500 and industrial training and recreational facilities for an additional 1,000. (A school building of somewhat more modest size was eventually provided in 1958).

June 30, 1937

Dr. Murdock retired as superintendent and was succeeded by Dr. Edward J. Engerg, a psychiatrist from St. Paul.

July 12, 1937

A new 205-bed hospital, built as a W.P.A. project, was opened for patients. In addition to medical and surgical care, the hospital was used as a receiving service for new admissions. W.P.A. also built a third-story addition to Annex I (Pawnee), of the Boy's Custodial Division and a second story over the plumbing shop in the power plant to house male employees.

April, 1938

Dr. Leonard Hugunin was appointed as the first full-time dentist. He replaced Dr. George W. Wood, who had served on a part-time basis for nearly 20 years. Dr. Hugunin remained on the staff until his death in 1967.

The Children's library had 3,200 volumes, with a circulation of 30,000 books and periodicals annually. The staff library owned 2,800 volumes, besides a small medical library.

June 30, 1938

Population had increased to 2,426. The old hospital building (Oaks)

was to be remodeled as a custodial building for 120 women. During the previous biennium 209 females and 66 males were released; ten boys and eight girls were discharged as normal.

Since the start of the sterilization program in 1926, 1,023 women and 186 men have been sterilized.

October, 1938

The new hospital received provisional approval of the American College of Surgeons.

June 6, 1939

The State Board of Control, which had been the governing body of the institution since 1901, went out of existence. It was replaced by a new Division of Public Institutions, whose director was appointed by the governor.

October 11, 1939

The hospital became a member of the American Hospital Association.

1940

The population reached 2, 516. There were 706 admissions during the biennium, including 54 pregnant women.

Children born in the institution remained until three months of age, at which time the county of residence made arrangements for their care.

As the institution grew, fewer children attended school. An average of 224 received kindergarten and primary instruction; 117 others received crafts instruction. "Boys beyond school age are trained as helpers in the shops, the gardens, at the farm, dairy and greenhouse, while the older girls learn laundry, waitress work, hospital maid service, and housework." A male physical education instructor was added to provide indoor and outdoor sports instruction for the boys. Five W.P.A. workers were available for recreation and adult education.

March 30, 1941

Dr. A.R.T. Wylie, who had originally joined the staff in 1898, died.

June 30, 1942

Population rose to 2,550; staff numbered 346. In ten years the number of residents had increased by 333, the number of staff by 10. Annual per capita cost was \$235, considerably less than it had been before the Depression.

"The school department is in charge of the recreational activities which are provided for everyone throughout the year... The boys' band and orchestra furnish music for the evening entertainments, as well as for the band concerts during the summer. The Sunday choir is selected from the regular vocal music classes. A news reel is shown every Wednesday during assembly period."

"We are trying to make the library a center for hobby activities as well as reading. Some of the boys have constructed games and puzzles ... The making of book posters and writing of book reviews are encouraged ... Two puppet shows have been given by the children under the direction of the librarian. Two articles have been written by the librarian for publication: 'Minnesota's Mentally Deficient Enjoy Their Library', and 'Good Books for Slow Readers.'"

Eighteen male staff members were on military leave.

Plans and specifications were drawn up for four new buildings to house 500 inmates, but war conditions halted progress. A new type of diet, consisting of ground and soft foods for those who could not chew, was introduced in the infirmary buildings.

1944 War conditions placed a burden on staff to carry extra duties and work overtime. Nine men and one woman were granted leaves of absence to work in war industries. Employees acted as air raid wardens. blood donors. and contributors to war fund drives. Beginning in August, 1943, at the request of the Naval Air Station

in Minneapolis, the institution acted as weather observer to give telephone warning of approaching storms.

August, 1944

A program of inservice training for employees was instituted with the help of the State Department of Administration. Three courses were given: Job Methods, Job Instruction, and Job Relations. The program was felt to be incomplete and hampered by rapid personnel turnover, but Dr. Engberg resolved to have a complete program of inservice training.

July, 1945

In accordance with legislative direction, 233 educable children were transferred to the State Public School at Owatonna and 52 defective delinquent male adults were transferred to the State Reformatory for Men at St. Cloud. In the following year, there were 458 admissions, of generally lower intelligence than those transferred and many of them in very poor physical condition at the time they were received. The death rate more than doubled what it had been previously.

January, 1946

A threatened diphtheria epidemic developed after one female attendant was discovered to have been ill with the disease. Four inmates and seven employees, of whom one died, developed the disease, but the administration of anti-toxin avoided further spread. Because of the transfer of the educable children to Owatonna, the school and library began dealing with some of the lower functioning children, experiencing frustrations but also finding that "they receive just as much satisfaction from simple readers, picture books, magazines, and story hours, as do better readers from more difficult material."

The fourth floor of the hospital was remodeled to serve as a temporary isolation unit for active cases of tuberculosis. In the next two years 61 patients were admitted to this unit, 18 of whom died.

Employees began returning from military leave and work in war industries. Some had been gone as long as five years.

Per capita cost, which had been \$235 in 1941-42, rose rapidly to \$342 in 1945-46.

May, 1947

The long-awaited four new dormitory buildings, considered annexes of the hospital and designed to house multiply-handicapped or hyperactive, low functioning children, were opened. (These buildings are now known as Pine, Maple, Spruce, and Cedar).

1948 An "Association of Friends of the Mentally Retarded" (now known as the Minnesota Association for Retarded Citizens) was organized. The institution's Social Service Department suggested patients who do not receive any attention from home and who might be remembered by gifts from the Association.

Population rose to 2,792, an increase of nearly 250 during the biennium. Staffing increased from 332 to 410.

1949 The name "Minnesota School for Feeble Minded and Colony for Epileptics," which had remained unchanged since 1906, was modified by legislative action to "Minnesota School and Colony." Under the leadership of Gov. Luther Youngdahl, the State embarked on an ambitious Mental Health Program whose impact was immediately felt at the institution. "Attendants" were re-classified as "Psychiatric Aides." In September, an orientation and inservice training program was instituted for all Aides; 270 were required to attend, and the lectures were open to other employees who might be interested. A nurse instructor was employed. Social service staff was increased from one to three. A psychologist was employed, the first since Fred Kuhlmann had been moved to St. Paul in 1921. Increased appropriations allowed for many improvements in the food and food service. More fresh fruits and vegetables, milk and butter with every meal, more and a greater variety of

meats, and a better quality of baked goods were some of the improvements noted. The horse-drawn food wagon was finally replaced by a truck and Aervoids were used instead of open containers to carry food to the outlying buildings. Plastic dishes and stainless steel utensils replaced aluminum ones.

In a competition sponsored by the National Mental Health Foundation. Clara Shafer and Carl Norlin were selected by a committee of staff members as the outstanding female and male psychiatric aides of the year.

May 1, 1950

To carry out one of the prime program goals of the new Mental Health Program, seven recreational workers were employed. "The patients are very enthusiastic over the program and look forward to the continued activities of the department. The schedule of recreational activities will reach all the buildings in the institution."

1951 On recommendation of the dental department, the fluoride content of the water supply was tested; consideration was to be given to adding fluoride to the water to reduce dental caries among young patients.

A full-time, State-paid Chaplain was employed for the first time. Services of community ministers and priests were continued, but religious education, public education, volunteer involvement, and ministering to the multiply-handicapped were greatly enhanced by the new Chaplain.

September 1, 1951

The education and training functions were divided between two departments: a school department for children and a patient program department for adults. This reorganization was made necessary by the huge changes in population characteristics and by the new therapies and programs introduced (recreation, occupational therapy, industrial therapy, etc.)

1952 Three new buildings, two for male and one for female adult infirm or crippled patients, were opened. These were named Elm, Hickory, and Willow, respectively. These buildings, along with the four re-named Hospital Annexes (Pine, Maple, Spruce, Cedar), constituted one of four large administrative units^(DIVISIONS) of residential buildings. This one was named East Grove Unit; the others were Sunnyside, Skinner, and Center. Many buildings were re-named at this time to reflect the unit organization: trees for East Grove, flowers for Skinner, Indian tribes for Sunnyside, while Center Unit's buildings retained their names.

Beginning January 28, 15 patients were admitted each week until 300 had been admitted to fill the new buildings. The number of staff increased to 628, while population rose to 3,077. To make room for additional admissions from the waiting list, 53 males were transferred to the Sandstone State Hospital.

-- Infectious diarrhea (Shigella), which had first occurred among the girls in Spruce in 1948, reached epidemic proportions in 1951 and 1952, affecting over 260 patients.

Milk production at the dairy was 2.8 million pounds, a decrease from the previous biennium due to reducing the milking schedule and the working hours of the patients assigned to the dairy. More power machinery was added to the farming operation; the number of horses was reduced to 12.

An addition was made to the central kitchen to accomodate a new vegetable preparation room, enlarged bakery and butcher shop, increased refrigeration space, and a freight elevator. An ice cream machine and a bread slicing-wrapping machine were installed.

1953 On July 1st, the institution became a part of the Department of Public Welfare, which succeeded and absorbed the Division of Public Institution.

A new greenhouse situated east of Osage was completed.

Electroencephalograph equipment was purchased and installed in the Hospital. Patients with epilepsy or with a history of seizures began receiving regular EEG examinations.

September, 1953 An outbreak of infectious hepatitis was noted. It lasted a year and affected 200 patients and 15 employees.

October 18, 1953 Fire destroyed the dairy barn south of the main campus. After much study and consultation with dairy experts, plans were made to replace the barn with a "loose-housing" shed and yard and a separate milking parlor.

October, 1954 The medical staff began to prescribe reserpine, a tranquilizing medication, for patients who were hyperactive, aggressive, or destructive. By June, 1956, 218 patients were receiving tranquilizing medication.

1955 The legislature appropriated money to replace the old Main Building with five new buildings. It also changed the name of the institution to Faribault State ^{School &} Hospital, thus removing the concept of a "colony" with which it had been associated for 50 years.

Population attained its all-time high in mid-year: 3355.

The Ramsey County Tuberculosis Preventorium was leased by the State in order to create additional institution space for the mentally retarded. Re-named Lake Owasso Children's Home, it was placed under the administrative control of Faribault. At the same time, the Sauk Centre Children's Home for young boys was closed. A series of transfers, beginning on November 3,

had 26 residents of Sauk Centre come to Faribault, 53 go to Lake Owasso, and 40 Faribault residents go to Lake Owasso. Female residents were transferred to Lake Owasso later; in 1958 Lake Owasso's population was converted completely to females. Faribault provided the professional, maintenance, and support services to Lake Owasso until administrative control was transferred to Cambridge State School and Hospital in 1961.

November 15, 1955

A reception was held in the assembly hall of the Main Building in honor of the completion of 50 years of service to the institution by Fred Rissman, electrician. Mr. Rissman later retired with more than 52 years of service, the record for institution employees.

1956

With the employment of a Clinical Director, the institution was reorganized into a Clinical Service and an Administrative Service the latter headed by the Assistant Superintendent.

On April 14, the Minneapolis Association for Retarded Children gave an Appreciation Tea in the assembly hall for all employees of the institution.

On July 1 there were 639 staff positions authorized. At the same time 1,488 patients were engaged in Industrial Therapy, working in patient care, dietary, laundry, janitorial, farm, dairy, and other service areas. They were paid up to \$1.00 per month for their labor.

The new Salk anti-polio vaccine was administered to 900 children at Faribault and Lake Owasso.

The Walcott Farm building was closed, its patients transferred to other buildings, and farming operations there discontinued.

1957

On May 17 a wrecking ball was set upon the north wing of Old Main to make way for a new Administration Building. By May the debris was cleared and excavation for the new building's

foundation was started.

Dr. H. H. Bruhl, staff pediatrician, undertook a study of mentally retarded patients with a diagnosis of phenylketonuria. A newly-developed diet had been found effective in preventing children with this inherited characteristic from becoming retarded. Bruhl set out to learn its possible effects on those already severely affected. The biochemical studies involving PKU were the first in a series of research programs that Bruhl conducted over the next 15 years. It was the first active period of research at the institution since the Rogers-Kuhlman era (1910-1920).

December 15, 1957

A patient discovered to be missing this bitter cold day set off an extensive round-the-clock search for the next two weeks. His body was only discovered (in Walcott township) after a massive shoulder-to-shoulder search was organized, involving many employees and community volunteers.

March 7, 1958

Another outbreak of Shigellosis started with the young girls in Spruce but spreading quickly to other buildings; it eventually affected about 300 patients.

May 17, 1958

A daily bulletin of information for staff was begun. A contest resulted in its being named, "The Bellringer".

July 14, 1958

Transfer of patients to the new Brainerd State School and Hospital was begun according to a plan to regionalize the three state mental retardation institutions at Faribault, Cambridge, and Brainerd. Faribault was to serve the southernmost 36 counties. Approximately 500 were to be transferred to Brainerd as buildings were completed there. However, the first buildings were designed for those of relatively high functional ability, and so the most capable patients who were to be transferred left

first. This resulted in a considerable loss of patient labor and a need for more staff help to care for the more severely retarded who then were admitted to Faribault. There was a simultaneous interchange of patients between Faribault and Cambridge to effect the regionalization plan. By June 30, 1960 a total of 350 patients had been transferred from Faribault to the other institutions.

- September 23, 1958 The first of two new dormitories designed to replace the housing afforded by old Main was opened. Birch was designed to house 100 adult females, non-ambulant or semi-ambulant. On October 9, the counterpart building for males, Seneca, was opened.
- November 10, 1958 Administrative offices began their move to the new Administration Building.
- Decmeber, 1958 The new Warehouse was completed and occupied.
- January 1, 1959 Station A, which had functioned as a postal sub-station since 1902, ceased operation. Dwindling postal receipts and the amount of space it required did not warrant its continuation.
- March 10, 1959 A fire in Haven burned the roof off and made parts of the building uninhabitable.
- March 26, 1959 The school department began moving into the new school and activities building, which was given the name Rogers Memorial Center. The building had first been requested by Dr. Murdoch in 1936. As classes began to meet there, the principal was moved to write: "Everything is so elegant and everyone so impressed with their new surroundings that an awed hush is prevalent all over the place." On the next day the 900-seat auditorium was the site of Good Friday services.
- April 11, 1959 A dedication ceremony for Rogers Memorial Center was attended by more than 600 staff, residents, family members, community representatives, and dignitaries.

- June 15, 1959 Work started to raze the remaining South and Center sections of Center Building. Eventually a parking lot covered these portions of the site.
- August, 1959 An occupational therapist was employed for the first time; the purpose was to improve training programs for the physically handicapped.
- September 14, 1959 An organized volunteer recruitment program was begun with the employment of a Volunteer Services Coordinator. Although gifts to the institution, entertainment for the residents, and personal services had been given from the earliest days, it was hoped that these would now receive special emphasis and would alleviate the rather stark living conditions in the institution.
- October, 1959 Garden production, down somewhat from the last year, was still considerable:
- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 393 bu. green & wax beans | 914 bu. onions |
| 1,662 bu. beets | 283 bu. radishes |
| 677 bu. cucumbers | 9,025 lb. asparagus |
| 103 bu. peppers | 25,050 lb. rhubarb |
| 743 bu. tomatoes | 76 ton cabbage |
| 1,509 bu. carrots | 25 ton squash |
| 700 bu. turnips | 5,600 doz. green onions |
| | 4,035 doz. sweet corn |
- Animal feed (oats, corn, alfalfa) was grown on 740 acres.
- 1960 A new water tower was erected west of the power plant.
- July 19, 1961 A new laundry, with the most up-to-date equipment available and designed to minimize the need for staff and patient labor, began operation.
- 1961 During the summer, a new entrance highway and campus circle road was built. The road bisecting Circle Park was filled in.
- June 30, 1962 Population declined to 3,131 due to the transfer of an additional 184 patients to Brainerd. Despite an increase in the number of staff positions to 718, recruitment difficulties and the loss of patient help placed severe strain on the staff's ability to give proper care.

1963 The legislature appropriated \$1,600,000 for a new central kitchen and cottage food serving facilities (cafeterias). Food delivery would be in overland trucks and would do away with the tunnel delivery system. The project also involved razing Huron and the old laundry.

Nearly 200 patients were accorded off-campus privileges as an attempt was made to loosen old, repressive attitudes and customs. The Annex for Defective Delinquents at St. Cloud Reformatory was abolished. Many of its remaining inmates were transferred to Faribault, including some who had originally been sent to St. Cloud from Faribault in 1945. The "Defective Delinquent", a cause of considerable concern in the 1940's and 1950's, was no longer thought to be hopeless. Those transferred from St. Cloud were discharged in a relatively short time.

August, 1963

A need for additional classrooms was filled by re-modeling the Women Employees' Building. Employees were no longer to be given lodging on campus, with the exception of a few who were considered essential. The building was renamed Wylie Hall.

1964 Population decreased to 2,908 by June 30. Another 139 patients had been transferred to Brainerd during the biennium. The opening of a large community group home in St. Paul also permitted the placement of patients thought ready for discharge.

A new interest in mental retardation generated by the President of the United States resulted in new federal legislation to improve both institution and community programs. The institution applied for and received a federal grant for a Hospital Improvement Program to better measure and classify patient functional behavior in relation to diagnosis and social background. Another grant of \$25,000 was obtained to provide improved inservice training for staff.

August, 1964

A 120-bed building (Linden) for men was opened. This was to be the first half of a planned 250-bed building which would replace four of the older buildings. Huron, Grandview, and the former Epileptic Colony buildings, Lind and Glen, were vacated and razed. (Continued decline in institution population made the completion of Linden superfluous; the project was eventually dropped).

July, 1965

In response to a new emphasis from the Department of Public Welfare, a Humane Practices Committee, consisting of staff, parents of residents, and representatives of voluntary groups, was formed to recommend changes in institutional environment and practices.

August 30, 1965

A speech therapist was employed; no such person had been available since the days of Dr. Rogers.

September 26, 1965

In response to a request from some parents, a Parent-Staff Group was organized for Pawnee building for the purpose of improving communications and opening the institution to greater parent participation. Similar groups were soon organized for many other buildings on campus.

March, 1966

Administrative re-organization of the institution replaced the four "divisions" with six "units". The change was designed to replace a "custodial" attitude toward patients with a "treatment attitude and to lessen the authoritarian style of administration. The unit directors appointed were all physicians or nurses; other professional staff were assigned to assist them in planning and carrying out treatment programs. Gradually a multi-disciplinary "team" approach produced a renewed emphasis on developmental programming for residents such as had marked the

institution's early days.

March 31, 1966

A Hospital Auxiliary was organized and undertook a project to develop and operate a canteen for residents. The Pink Lady Coffee Cup Canteen opened on May 25 in Rogers Building and operated with Auxiliary volunteers until 1978.

June 30, 1966

Population declined to 2,761 as more residents were released from the institution and fewer were admitted. However, the functional level of those remaining required additional staff attention; the employee complement was 971.

1966

Under the federal Manpower Development and Training Act, a cooperative program was undertaken with the State Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and the Faribault Area Vocational-Technical School to train residents for occupations in the community. Programs in housekeeping-janitorial service, food service, and nursing assistance proved very successful in training residents for work and resulted in the discharge of most of the participants.

January, 1967

A Foster Grandparent Program, sponsored by the Minnesota Association for Retarded Children and funded by the federal government, got under way. Eligible older citizens were employed and assigned to provide companionship to retarded children.

May, 1967

Federal assistance for education of the mentally retarded was obtained for Project Teach, a program integrating training and education of retarded children with their daily living routines. At its height Project Teach involved 250 children and employed 75 part-time teacher aides to carry out programs designed by teachers, occupational therapists, speech therapists, and child development specialists.

July 1, 1967

In order to qualify for federal medical assistance funds for the handicapped, the name of the institution was again changed, to Faribault State Hospital.

The legislature, again responding to public demand for better care and programs for the retarded, increased the staff complement to 1,128 positions.

May, 1968

After several years of fruitless recruitment, a registered physical therapist was employed.

June 30, 1968

Dr. E. J. Engberg retired as Superintendent; he had served since July 1, 1937. Not especially innovative, he was nevertheless widely respected. "Those who worked with him and knew him for many years...will greatly miss his leadership, his keen understanding of the mentally retarded, and his patience and helpfulness. His sensitivity to the needs of our residents and their families was one of his outstanding and much appreciated gifts."

July 1, 1968

In keeping with Department of Public Welfare policy to divide administrative and program responsibility in institutions, Dr. Roger A. Johnson, who had been a staff physician, was appointed Medical Director and a search was begun for a qualified Hospital Administrator. In the interim dual administration was carried out with M. E. Krafve, Assistant Supervintendent. Together the new dual administration undertook a study of the organizational structure of units, departments, and resident distribution.

July, 1968

Springdale was vacated. This, the earliest of Dr. Rogers' farm colonies, was no longer needed or fit for habitation. The building was razed in 1970.

August 12, 1968

The appointment of a Program Director resulted in increased efforts to train severely and profoundly retarded residents in self-care skills and social behavior. Consultants in psychology and psychiatry were obtained from the University of Minnesota and private practice. These were expert in the new behavior modification techniques and were assigned to develop training programs in Dakota, Maple, and Cedar buildings (later also in

Pawnee, Seneca, Poppy, Iris, and Holly.) Day Activity Centers (DACs) were set up to insure that part of each day was given over to training residents in small groups. By November, 1969, there were 56 DACs in operation on campus.

August 19, 1968

In accordance with plans developed by the Department of Public Welfare over the previous two years, the transfer of 380 residents from Faribault to the newly established Minnesota Valley Social Adaptation Center at St. Peter State Hospital was begun. The plan called for creation of regional units for the mentally retarded on the various state hospital campuses and was a result of greatly improved treatment of the mentally ill and consequent availability of space.

Subsequently, 107 residents were transferred to Hastings State Hospital, 191 to Rochester, and smaller numbers to Moose Lake and Fergus Falls. These transfers coincided with a quickly expanding program to develop community residential resources for the mentally retarded. Several large group homes in St. Paul, Marshall, and Hennepin County accepted many residents from Faribault. Within the next four years the institution's population was reduced by 1,000; by June 30, 1972, there were 1,463 residents.

November, 1968

The institution's farming operations (feed crops, vegetable gardens, piggery, dairy) were completely closed down. The dairy herd was auctioned off on November 25 and 26. "Although the farm has been profitable...with a greater number of able patients returning to their home community or to other facilities...the farm no longer serves economically or therapeutically the purpose for which it was established several decades ago."

1969 A Work Activity Center (WAC) was set up in the former Dairy Cottage. Contracts to do assembly, packaging, and other work for private firms were obtained. The WAC was moved to the Hickory basement for the next winter and eventually was moved to Rose when that building was no longer needed as a residence. A second Hospital Improvement Grant was obtained for the purpose of providing training to lower functioning adult residents. A program for a select group of women was started in Iris; staffing and supplies were also furnished to assist the program already begun in Dakota.

June 23, 1969

Harold Gillespie was appointed Hospital Administrator. Plans for administrative reorganization under the dual administration were vigorously pursued.

January, 1970

More than 800 of the 1,750 residents were transferred between buildings in order to achieve more homogeneous groupings and program specialization. It was the first such reclassification since 1954. At the same time the number of residential units was increased from six to nine.

1970 With the opening of a unit for the mentally retarded at the Rochester State Hospital, residents began transferring there. Faribault's receiving district was reduced to Hennepin, Dakota, Rice, Steele, and Freeborn counties.

A Federal program of medical assistance to the disabled began paying the major share of the cost of care in the institution for eligible residents.

Closing of the Owatonna State School resulted in the transfer of a number of students and 20 employees to Faribault.

A special program for residents with autistic behavior was started in Laurel. A variety of professionals, technicians,

and consultants in psychiatry and psychology worked at increasing the social awareness and contact of the children involved.

A Cooperative Vocational Rehabilitation Program was developed between the institution and the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. Staff was furnished by both agencies to provide vocational evaluation, training, counseling, and placement for residents.

June 19, 1970

Dr. Roger Johnson resigned as Medical Director and was replaced by Dr. H. H. Bruhl. Within a few months, and with the blessing of the Department of Public Welfare, the dual administration was extended to a triple administration of Hospital Administrator, Medical Director, and Program Director. The latter position was filled by Arnold A. Madow, formerly the Chief Psychologist.

1971 Staffing began to decline in response to the greatly reduced resident population. Positions were transferred to other institutions as they received residents from Faribault. Although staffing ratios were the highest they had ever been, greatly expanded expectations for the training of residents created demand for even more staff.

1972 An action was brought against the Commissioner of Welfare and six state institutions, including Faribault, in U. S. District Court alleging violation of the constitutional rights of their mentally retarded residents because of inadequate treatment. A finding in favor of the plaintiffs was accompanied by court-ordered remedies.

Because of inadequate provisions for Life Safety Code compliance, Chippewa building was closed (and later razed). It had been the second building on the campus and home to many of the more self-sufficient residents for 78 years.

A fire in Sioux resulted in its partial closure. It was closed a year later and eventually razed.

August, 1972

A new law mandating public school education for institution residents was implemented by the Faribault Public Schools. Classes were established in a former industrial building on the north edge of the city, as well as in some of the residential buildings. The Faribault Area Training and Education Center assumed responsibility for the education of 250 child residents, thus permitting institution education staff to concentrate on adult residents. A greatly-reduced Project Teach Program continued to function during the first year; but ended in 1973 when the school district took on the responsibility for all children. ~~In the fall of 1974 the institution removed residents from Dakota building and leased it to the school district, ending the need for the industrial building.~~

March, 1973

Residential units of the institution were inspected by the Department of Public Welfare for compliance with a new state law regulating residential services to the mentally retarded. A provisional license was granted; it mandated many changes in facilities and staff practices.

In response to legislative pressure to close down unneeded state hospitals, the Department of Public Welfare nominated Faribault State Hospital for closure. The announcement struck staff, families, and the local community with surprise and dismay. Although the plan was later withdrawn, the concern remained years afterward.

A program of treatment and research involving residents with severe self-injurious behavior (SIB) was begun in Cedar building. Residents from Faribault and other state institutions were transferred there, placed under close observation (including

use of closed-circuit television) and treated by various techniques of behavior modification and replacement. It was found that no single method was successful in all cases, but apparently long-lasting reduction of self-injury was achieved in most of the residents. The program was terminated in 1977 as population of the unit declined and staff turnover resulted in reduced success with the remaining residents.

July, 1973

Transferring of residents to the newly established unit for mentally retarded persons at Willmar State Hospital was begun. A total of 87 left during the next few months.

In accordance with Department of Public Welfare policy, a Resident Advocate was appointed to represent residents in relations with staff and to protect the rights of residents to humane treatment.

October 28, 1973

An Advisory Board, required by the licensing rule for residential facilities, held its first meeting with the institution's administration. Members were selected from among residents and parents, voluntary organizations, professionals, and the general public.

November, 1973

Iris and Daisy cottages were closed.