

April 21, 1949

Willowbrook Now Treats

370 Children

A total of 370 child-patients is now under treatment at the Willowbrook State School, a state Department of Mental Hygiene facility, Dr. Frank B. Glasser, assistant director there, reported today.

Dr. Glasser said the number of children being treated there will reach the 600 mark by mid-May. A total of 1,200 mentally deficient children will eventually be under treatment at the facility.

Dr. Glasser said 90 "working patients", all adults, are also quartered at the Willowbrook school. These patients are all doing chores of various sorts at the facility.

The medical officer said slightly more than 125 medical and other types of employes are now at work at Willowbrook, and that six buildings at the tract are in use.

Five of these buildings, he said, are being used to house patients, while dining room and kitchen facilities are in operation in another.

The school occupies approximately 40 per cent of the Halloran VA Hospital tract; the remainder has been leased to the Veterans Administration by the state, owner of the property and buildings.

June 9, 1949

no article

July 16, 1949

Willowbrook To Have 600 Patients Soon

Registration Rate Now 10 to 12 Each Week, Says State School Director

Up to 600 mentally-retarded persons will be under treatment in the Willowbrook State School within four weeks, Dr. Harold H. Berman, director of the state Department of Mental Hygiene facility, announced today.

Dr. Berman said present patient enrollment at Willowbrook is 567, but that new patients are being registered at a rate of ten to 12 each week. This will bring enrollment at the school to the halfway mark by mid-August, he said.

Current plans call for gradual expansion of the school to a capacity enrollment of 1,200 within a year. Most of the patients now treated are children, many of them infants less than a year old.

In line with the expansion program, an additional building on what was formerly part of the Halloran VA Hospital tract was put in use within the past month. The number of persons employed in medical and service capacities at Willowbrook has been increased from less than 100 six months ago to 211 today, according to the facility's director.