

Halloran Move At Albany Dies In Committee

**Braisted-Curry Resolution
Death Is Not Viewed as
Hurting Retention Drive**

(Advance Albany Bureau)

Concurrent resolutions by Staten Island members asking the governor to grant a new three-year lease on Halloran VA Hospital were casualties in the last-minute log jam of the state Legislature yesterday.

The measures, introduced by State Senator John M. Braisted Jr. and Assemblyman Edward V. Curry, died in committee, despite the efforts of both to move them out for a vote on the floor.

Curry said later that the resolutions were designed to bring to the attention of the governor the situation that would be created if the Veterans Administration goes ahead with its plans to shut down the Island hospital by June 1 because the state has failed to renew the VA's lease.

This objective was already accomplished, he said, when he, Braisted and Assemblyman William N. Reidy conferred with Dewey Wednesday, and the governor promised a full investigation into the matter and a future conference.

The presence of fellow legislators from all the other boroughs at the conference, Curry said, convinced the governor that the drive to retain Halloran is not just a local movement, but one backed by veterans' organizations throughout the city.



...lot of questions on Staten Island who are relying on the quote of terror. They'd go up to Albany to see Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, but it's a little rough on paraplegics to move around. So perhaps they can deliver their message to Gov. Dewey through this column.

Halloran Veterans Administration Hospital has been told by New York State to vacate its 1,307 wounded and sick by June 30. Paraplegics will be moved to other hospitals, TB patients to still another hospital, and so on. New York State, which now has reoccupied 40% of Halloran, roughly 1,250 beds, wants the veterans to vamoose in favor of mentally deficient children, for whom the buildings and grounds originally were set up.

Halloran has asked the State to give them an extension, until Dec. 30, 1952, when the NYU-Bellevue facilities will be available on East 23d St., so that the morale of their charges won't suffer and so that the Halloran staff, built up slowly and with great difficulty, won't be scattered to the four winds.

It seems a small favor for the wounded to ask, and a small favor for the State of New York to grant to these men. Halloran, to the wounded, has great traditions. It was something special. Ripping men out of there can have serious consequences.

The wounded are asking Gov. Dewey to give them two years. They gave up the rest of their lives.