

April 21, 1950

# Governor Dewey Extends Halloran Hospital Lease to 1953

## Veterans Retain About Half of Present Space

ALBANY, N. Y., April 20th (Special to The Staten Island Transcript)—Governor Dewey in a statement Thursday morning that, "I am happy to say that the State Department of Mental Hygiene and the United States Veterans Administration have worked out a satisfactory agreement to extend the use of the New York State Hospital, Willowbrook State School on Staten Island, which has been used by the Federal Government under the name Halloran Hospital.

Under the terms of the agreement, the Veterans Administration will retain about one half of the space it now has at the institution until December 31, 1952. The Veterans Administration has assigned the Department of Mental Hygiene that portion of the hospital now at the hospital, and that there are facilities for the other patients at the veterans' hospitals in and close to the City of New York.

The use by the Department of Mental Hygiene of the other half of the space will provide additional needed beds for mentally defective children, many of whom are presently patients in over crowded institutions throughout the State."

Mr. Edward A. Ruppell in a statement following the governors at the official ceremony today said, "The Governor's action today marks the culmination of many weeks of effort expanded to retain Halloran Hospital on Staten Island.

The solution arrived at, I believe, is the happiest that can be found to meet the State's needs where other Veterans Administration facilities are not yet available, and which still helps alleviate the desperate need for additional facilities for the State's mentally handicapped children.

It is a pleasure to go to Borough President Halloran, who has so generously supported my work and to Frank A. Favis, J. Joyce Klinger, George W. Gatz and Leo Balbach, who have given so much of their time and effort in assisting me to obtain our goal.

Our deep appreciation goes to Governor Dewey for the spirit