

January 8, 1951

Change of Face

If there is a change in the
down of Halloran VA Hospital, it is the
gradualness of its execution.

Campaigns to retain Halloran prevented
sorry treatment of veterans and a heavy
blow at the borough's economy.

Time was gained for more suitable ar-
rangements for the transfer of ailing pa-
tients. Time was gained so that the hos-
pital's annual payroll of nearly \$7,000,000
was not lost immediately. The growing
Willowbrook State School had a chance to
take up the slack.

This doesn't mean that the loss of Hal-
loran won't be felt.

Just what the consequences will be for
borough veterans can't be determined fully
at this time. It does seem that provision
for their medical care will have to be ar-
ranged by other means.

The employment aspect also needs
study. VA technical and medical person-
nel will go to other institutions, meaning
that the borough will lose some of its newer
residents. For others, greater adjustments
are at hand, either looking for other em-
ployment or catching on at Willowbrook.

The shutdown of Halloran is almost
the equivalent of a large borough industry
moving out, but the situation has a greater
"human" element. At least the Willow-
brook State School will expand almost as
quickly as Halloran VA Hospital closes
down.