

Nursing Chief Outlines Work

The Woman's Society of Christian Service of St. Mark's Methodist Church, Pleasant Plains, heard a talk by Mrs. Ethel Stevens, director of nursing at Willowbrook State School, at a meeting yesterday in the church lecture room.

Mrs. Stevens explained the mental, physical and spiritual training given to patients at Willowbrook.

Mrs. Frances Bergeson was appointed secretary of local church activities to fill a vacancy left by the resignation of Mrs. Victoria Donaghy.

Mrs. George Browne led the devotionals. Refreshments were served by the Go-Getters unit of the society.

A Christmas party will be held at the next meeting, Dec. 8 at 1:30 P.M. Members will take gifts to be sent to the Methodist Home for the Aged, Ocean Grove, N.J.

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STATE CITES 2 ISLANDERS

Two Staten Islanders have been awarded \$300 jointly for a money-saving idea they put to practice at Willowbrook State School, Frank L. Tolman, chairman of the New York State Employees' Merit Award Board, announced in Albany today.

The award went to Frank Angelilli, Willowbrook's head industrial shop worker, of 49 Roosevelt avenue, Meiers Corners, and Lucas Tesselone, tinsmith, of 245 Willard avenue, Westerleigh.

The cash award is accompanied by state Certificates of Meritorious Service.

At a cost of \$88, the two men adapted a hand-operated cushion filling machine for additional use in constructing crib mattresses. The idea cuts in half the cost of replacing crib mattresses at the state institution.

The average need for new mattresses at Willowbrook School is estimated at about 50 a month, according to the Department of Mental Hygiene. Utilization of the idea will eliminate the need of purchasing a power mattress-filling machine costing \$1,500.

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Committee to Be Organized To Help Retarded Children

An organizational meeting for parents, professional persons and other people interested in work with retarded children will take place Friday at 8:30 P. M. at the Elks Club, St. George. The group has not chosen a name pending completion of the organization.

Work in which the group will interest itself is education for children whose intelligence quotients are below 50, vocational guidance and training for older children in this group and the organization of social activities for the children.

Mrs. Carl Miners and Mrs. Raymond Flynn are the organizers of the new group. Bernard Fineson, president of the Association for the Help of Retarded Children, Manhattan, will attend the meeting to discuss the formation of similar groups in other boroughs and the advantages of joining the association which he heads.

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Aid Planned For Mentally Retarded

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Organization of a committee of parents and professional persons designed eventually to give aid to between 200 and 400 mentally retarded Island children was begun last night at a meeting of some 100 persons in the Elks Club, St. George. Most of those present were parents.

Mrs. Maureen Miner of West Brighton and Jerome Otis Ellis of Dongan Hills were named co-chairmen of a steering committee to direct organization of the group through the initial stages.

The group was offered use of the diagnostic facilities of Willowbrook State School by the institution's director, Dr. Harold Berman. Dr. Berman, pointed out, however, that state law forbids use by any group of the school for therapy for out patients.

The committee intends to employ its own specialists. It had been offered use of the Elks club-rooms for that purpose, Mr. Ellis said. Eventually, said Ellis, the group hopes to have its own center. Dr. Berman told the gathering that there are approximately 400 mentally retarded children on Staten Island.

Willowbrook School Workers Split Award for Money-Saver

Two employees of Willowbrook State School split a \$300 award Saturday for a money-saving invention they originated at the state institution.

The recipients were Frank Angelilli of 49 Roosevelt avenue, Meiers Corners, head industrial shop worker, and Lucas Tesselone

of 245 Willard avenue, Westerleigh, tinsmith at the school.

The award, presented by former Municipal Court Justice C. Ernest Smith, chairman of the school's Board of Visitors, was made by the State Employees Merit Award Board. They received it for adapting a cushion-filling machine for use in constructing crib mattresses. The improvement is expected to result in considerable savings.

At the same time, John P. Porpora, a cook at the institution, received his diploma from a state-perated culinary school in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Woman Heads Staff of Child Aid Group

Mrs. Carl G. Meiners of 201 Jefferson avenue, Grant City, was elected president of the newly-formed Staten Island Aid for the Mentally Retarded last night at a meeting in the Elks Club, St. George.

The organization, which has 112 members, will begin a program to aid mentally retarded children early next year. Committees will be chosen at the next meeting, Jan. 14.

Other officers named were Jerome O. Ellis, vice-president; Carl G. Meiners, treasurer; Charles Sullivan, secretary; George Kimmer, recording secretary, and Raymond Flynn, Mrs. Elizabeth McCarthy, Alex Wagner, Ivan Wilhelmson, Anthony Giacobbe, Edward R. Hook, Dr. Robert Guthrie and Mrs. William J. Hunter, board of directors.

The group has been offered the facilities of Willowbrook State School for diagnostic purposes. Treatment will be given children following advice from the school's staff.

Cooperation is being planned with the United Cerebral Palsy Association of Staten Island, of which Hook is president. The board will meet Jan. 7.