

MAY 5, 1954

Visitors Tour Willowbrook State School

Willowbrook State School, observed Mental Health Week yesterday by holding open house for the public.

A group of students from Public School 228, Brooklyn, who have started a special project with regard to the state institution, presented a record player which was accepted by two children from the rehabilitation center at Willowbrook.

A dramatization entitled "Our Doctor Told Us" was offered by a group of employees, depicting an interview between parents of a retarded child and a social worker. The emotional problems involved in the care and treatment of such a child were brought out. Admission procedures in a state school were discussed. The school band played selections.

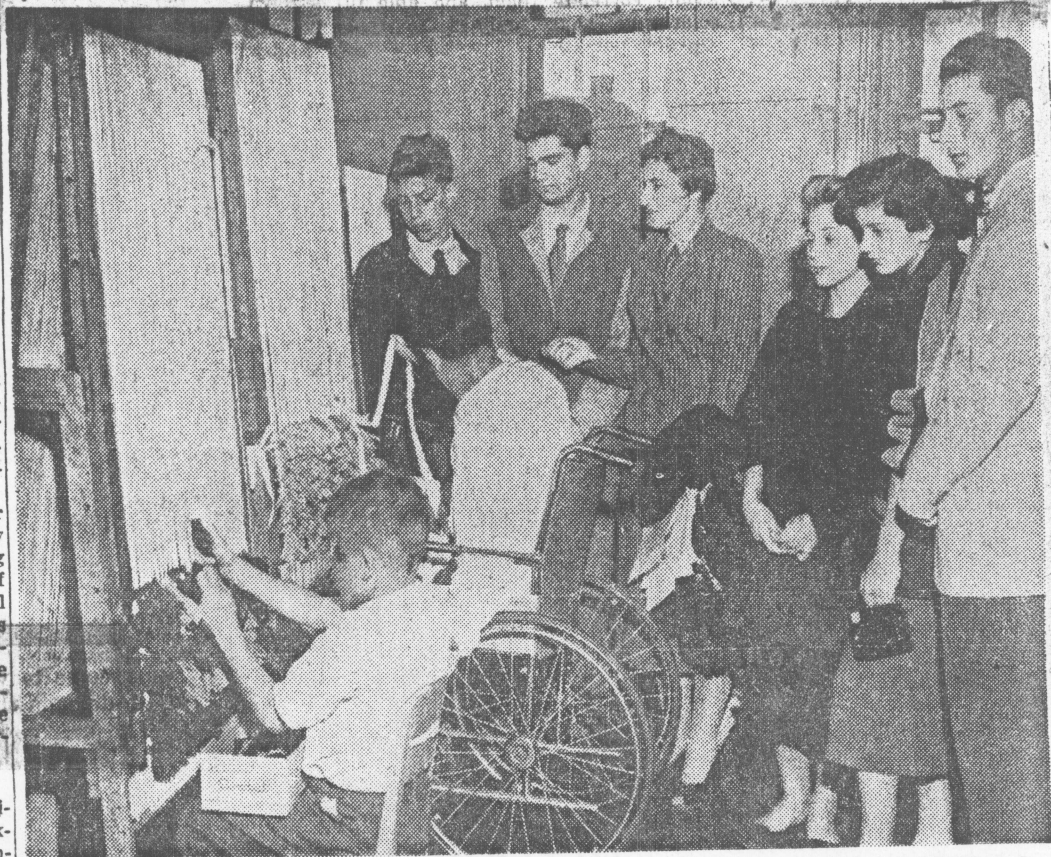
Director Gives Talk

Dr. H. H. Berman, school director, welcomed guests and explained the significance of Mental Health Week. He called attention to a \$350,000,000 bond issue recommended by Governor Dewey to meet the need for hospital beds and said it will insure that no desperately sick person will be turned away. The measure will come before the voters in the fall.

Mrs. Sara Dickerman spoke on behalf of the Benevolent Society for Retarded Children. Mrs. Carl Meiners, president of the Staten Island Aid for the Mentally Retarded, and several other members, represented that organization.

A question and answer period was held. At the conclusion of the program more than 100 visitors were received in the diagnostic and treatment clinics, medical-surgical units and kindergarten, academic, domestic science and occupational therapy classes.

Occupational Therapy in Action



At open house in Willowbrook State School, visitors from Public School 228, Brooklyn, watch boys work on looms in the occupational therapy section. The Brooklyn school donated a record player.