r. Berman Doing Sensationally Successful Work At Willowbrook School

mer Local Mental xpert Credited With Rousing Retarded Minds

v York Daily News de- full pages in two suc- ıese to articles on what he sensationally suc- rk of Dr. Harold H. former assistant super- at St. Lawrence Og- state hospital, as head owbrook School for re- dren on Staten Island. s by feature writer and titled, "Miracle eret Children." The illustrated with pho- ne showing Dr. Ber- the caption says, has zed the treatment" of ives.

was a commander in uring the last world er returning to civil his position here to brook, where he was r. Milton Jacobs, for- of the medical staff, of the employees at

rom the articles, e of interest to Dr. nds here, are given

4,000 children at including 1,000 in- , and the figure is t will reach the — 6,000 retarded nce destined to who now have their and live happily community of their

noted neuro-phy- rects the school, ease in numbers hat these children in greater propor- o the increase in pulation and the ties provided by e. Also, more and re taking advan- cilities.

lieved it was a o try to teach re- anything. Even if t to walk or dress es, it was argued, orgot everything o immobility.

his staff have

Dr. H. H. Berman

Here, too, research turns to study of animals. For example, methods of performing heart surgery that was once thought to be impossible were perfected after intensive study of reptiles' hearts. The animals may yet furnish some leads to the causes of mental deficiency in children.

One further point that Dr. Berman makes clear: a mentally deficient child is not an insane child. Mad persons, he explains, are people who were once sane. They become sick from a variety of causes and they can be cured. Cure is a word they cannot yet employ at Willowbrook.

The school is supported by state funds and Dr. Berman points out that it now costs $4,000,000 a year to operate. "And," he adds wryly, "there are other worthy causes besides ours, you know."

Regardless of the money problem, however, Berman insists that at Willowbrook the present program will be developed more and more so that these "secret children" will find they have a place in the world.

"Above all," Berman says, "they will be made aware that they are surrounded by persons who are trying their best to aid them."