

## New Willowbrook Research Unit Headed by Dr. Reiss

Dr. Max Reiss of Great Britain has been appointed director of research at Willowbrook State School.

In this position, Dr. Reiss will organize and direct a new unit to conduct research in mental retardation, combining the techniques of clinical psychiatry, biochemistry and endocrinology. The unit will use many modern techniques and will be made up of a group of scientists of several disciplines.

"Establishment of the new unit will, we hope, be the beginning of a large and comprehensive research program in the causes and nature of mental retardation," Dr. Paul H. Hoch, Commissioner of Mental Hygiene, said. "Only from work of this sort can we hope to see true prevention or treatment in mental deficiency.

"Until now we have had to place our main reliance on methods of compensation for the defect and substitutions for what has failed to develop. This still remains a significant and important part of our knowledge and one not to be underestimated by any means. The time has come when we can reasonably set our goal higher and look forward to more fundamental advances."

### Active in Research

A noted psycho-endocrinologist, Dr. Reiss recently arrived in this country from Great Britain where he had been active in research work for the past 18 years. From 1950 he had served as consultant in mental health of the South Western Regional Hospital Board under the Ministry of Health. In 1954 he was appointed honorary consultant to St. Ebba's Hospital, Epsom, and to the Royal Victoria Hospital at Netley, Hants, the War Office's main hospital for psychiatric casualties.

Dr. Reiss also served as honorary consultant and research director of Bristol mental hospitals; director of the Endocrinological Department of the Burden Neurological Institute, Bristol; and civilian consultant to the emergency medical service to the British Armed Forces.

Professor extraordinarius in pathological physiology, Dr. Reiss was graduated from the German University of Prague Medical School in 1925. He received his doctor of science degree from this university in 1928 and another from the University of Bristol, England, in 1951.