

Part in Publicity

Willowbrook Director Hit By New Union

Charges of "union busting and labor "spying" were fired today at Dr. Harold H. Berman, director of Willowbrook State School, at a demonstration at Willowbrook called by the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees.

The charges were immediately denied by Berman who said the demonstration was in line with the union's "attempt to create incidents," and by Thomas Conklin, president of Willowbrook Chapter, Civil Service Employees Association, which claims 1,400 members among the institution's 1,700 employees.

The demonstrators, who accused Berman of violating state executive orders on labor relations, said they represented 17 affiliates of the federation. The federation claims a membership of 100 among Willowbrook employees.

The demonstrators said Berman's policies reflect "the union-busting conspiracy which resulted in the current strike against six New York City voluntary hospitals." They said the federation's attempts to seek members at Willowbrook have met with "hysterical anti-labor policies."

Berman responded that the union had "failed to comply with prescribed rules and regulations" governing moves of labor unions wishing to organize employees in state institutions.

Conklin, who said he was speaking for the Willowbrook Chapter members, denied that Berman had refused to review labor matters with employees.

"Dr. Berman's statement, 'My door is open to all employees,' is fact, not fiction," Conklin said.

State School Gives Diplomas to 37

Thirty-seven students of the academic program at Willowbrook State School were awarded diplomas at graduation exercises in the institution's auditorium yesterday.

An address was given by former Municipal Court Justice C. Ernest Smith, president of Willowbrook's Board of Visitors. Mrs. Edna Westberg, a member of the board, gave diplomas. The greeting was by Dr. Harold Berman, the institution's director.

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