

years considered her career last night. She had just made the rounds of several wards in a building about midnight.

These were wards for girls. Apart from a plaintive cry, the wards were very quiet. On a night table in the corner were piles of nightgowns, since the bulk of the patients in this building, regardless of age, often wet their beds in their sleep.

In a room, neatly arranged, were the clothes to be worn in the morning by the patients. Each dress had the name of a patient. As the gray-haired supervisor left the last ward, she stood in the hallway for a few moments, fingering the keys with which she had locked every door as she left.

"When I came here 30 years ago," she said softly, "they would never have allowed more than 50 patients in that ward. Those are the most severely retarded female patients we have. Now that ward has 98 patients. Why do people work here? I have never known anyone who worked here for any length of time who did not eventually say: 'there's some good in every one of them.'"

The director of the school, Dr. Charles Greenburgh, who has been here since 1957 and in the State Department of Mental Hygiene for 34 years, does not try to conceal the fact that overcrowding has made it so difficult to maintain cleanliness and the high standards of efficiency today.

"I would be very happy if I had 1,000 less patients," he said. "But where are we going to place them. Am I going to say: 'No more admissions until we can cope with what we have?'"

"We are being flooded more and more with the severely retarded. Parents are less likely today to keep such retarded children in the home as long as they used to. They still feel guilty about bringing them here. But they now know how much harm it can do to their other children if they keep them at home."

#### Educables Trained for Jobs

Life in this school begins about 5:30 A.M., when nurses turn on lights in the wards and awaken patients. Those who are ambulatory and can dress themselves do so and help others.

Breakfast in dining rooms is well under way at 7:30, with attendants putting food on trays in accordance with an over-all formula worked out by the department in Albany. At this and other meals, food for those adult retardates without teeth is mashed.

During the week those patients who are considered educable are taken to unusual classrooms in a new building.

One of these classrooms—and all are light and airy—is an attractively furnished apartment of dining room, bedroom, and a kitchen equipped with four electric stoves, five sinks, cupboards, two refrigerators and a dishwasher. In this room girls are taught to care for an apartment.

This is one step preparing

had an argument with my boss, has repeatedly been ordered to be lost.

PROSE AND CONSIDERING COSTS TO 100,000 SALES IN A YEAR. (REPRINTED FROM THE NEW YORK TIMES)

New York Times

September 13, 1965

NEW YORK TIMES  
SEP 13 1965