

care of a tremendous variety of patients on a 24-hour-a-day, 7-day-a-week basis, year in and year out, I can only say that all our employes, at all levels, are doing their utmost to perform their various duties, and there are 2,337 employes at the present time. In many instances the employes give of themselves beyond their utmost, resulting in breakdowns of their own health.

It is not the fault of the employes of this institution that in recent years there has been such a tremendous increase in the patient population without a correspondingly proportionate increase in the number of employes allotted to us.

Nor is it the fault of the employes of this institution that they cannot perform more than one task at one time and that in the areas involving activities for patients and training programs for patients, this institution has not been allotted what either I or the Department of Mental Hygiene feel is an adequate number of personnel.

Gov. Rockefeller presented to the people, in February of this year, a true picture of the problems of mental retardation in this state when he had prepared, at his own expense, a filmed television program entitled, "Not Without Hope" which was shown on practically every television station in New York State.

Much of this film was prepared at Willowbrook. No attempt was made to minimize our deficiencies. Rather, we did present to the people, our great need for additional personnel. In that film Gov. Rockefeller stated that we had shown, "some of the good and some of the bad," as regards institutional programs.

He also commended the dedicated employes in the various institutions in New York State and repeated my own remark that we had school teachers, recreational therapists, occupational therapists and physical therapists at Willowbrook State School, "but not enough."

JACK HAMMOND, M. D.
Director,
Willowbrook State School

STATEN ISLAND SUNDAY ADVANCE
SEPTEMBER 26, 1965

School Director Praises Help

Once again I must write to thank you for the extremely fair, unemotional and unbiased coverage which The Advance gave to the Willowbrook State School during the recent period of severe criticism.

I am particularly grateful for your editorial of Sept. 13 in which you commend the dedicated and hardworking employes of the Willowbrook State School.

With the number of personnel presently allotted to this institution for the multitudinous types of activities required for the