

7 State Institutions Adding To Our Pollution: Nickerson

Nassau Executive Eugene H. Nickerson charged yesterday that state institutions are endangering public cooperation in water pollution control and identified seven which he said were adding to the pollution.

One target of Nickerson's speech before the New York Water Pollution Control Association in Manhattan was the Willowbrook State School for mentally retarded children on Staten Island — recently criticized by Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

The others were Rome State School for mentally retarded children, Utica State Hospital for mentally

ill persons, Rockland State Hospital for mentally ill persons at Orangeburg, Matteawan State Hospital for mentally ill criminals at Beacon, Great Meadow Reformatory at Comstock and Clinton Prison at Danmora.

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"THE PUBLIC has a right," Nickerson declared, "to expect that the state, which is charged with enforcing control of water pollution, should itself lead the way by example."

He contended that proper sewage treatment is more important at state institutions than it is in private

factories because "the state may have trouble throwing stones at violators so long as it lives in a glass house."

"This can only lead to a feeling of cynicism and apathy among those who are being asked to clean their own houses," he said.

Noting that southeast Nassau's Sewer District 3 will receive from \$62 to \$69 million under the anti-water-pollution proposition approved in November, he warned that "we should be wary that the idea that public funds are a substitute for private responsibility does not develop."

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HE URGED tax incentives

for industrial participation in pollution control and a campaign to end public apathy.

The association's new president, Harold Thomas, has been a supervisor with the Port Washington Sewer District since 1951, and headed the Long Island section of the association in 1957.

John Peters, deputy commissioner of the Nassau Public Works Department, presented a paper at the meeting, entitled "Pilot Plant Studies for Wastewater Renovation in Nassau County."

STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 1966
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I should like to publicly express my sincere thanks and deep appreciation to the employees of Willowbrook State School and the Gouverneur Division of Willowbrook State School for their wholehearted cooperation and for the extraordinary efforts which they made, during the New York transit strike, to maintain all necessary services for the care of our almost 6,000 patients.

As a result of their dedication, all ward services were adequately staffed on all shifts. At no time were the patients in danger or neglected. Essential services for transportation, feeding, maintenance, engineering, laundry and all other supporting services were properly maintained.

The manner in which all the employees rallied and responded to the emergency was extremely gratifying and was indicative of the high sense of duty and responsibility which our employees have towards the performance of their assignments in caring for our patients.

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