

# SUNDAY NEWS

NEW YORK'S PICTURE NEWSPAPER ©

New York, N.Y. 10017, Sunday, May 22, 1966

## Set Up Center For Training The Retarded

An occupational training center for Staten Island's mentally retarded youths will open in September. School Superintendent Bernard E. Donovan has announced.

He said that four portable classrooms at PS 8, Great Kills, would be used to house 60 retarded youths until permanent facilities can be built.

The center is part of the school system's plan to set up permanent job training centers for older retardates in all five boroughs. Manhattan already has a center and another is scheduled to open this fall in Queens. Similar facilities are planned next year for Brooklyn and the Bronx.

### Hope for More Teachers

School authorities are hopeful that the increasing migration to the island will bring more specialized instructors to teach the retarded in the borough. "Once we establish the service on Staten Island, other facilities for helping the retarded will follow," an assistant director of the Children With Retarded Mental Development Bureau said.

Donovan's announcement was hailed by the parents of retarded children as well as by teachers and social agencies. Robert Gilson, director of the social services department at Willowbrook State School, said the new center is "one example of what concerted community action can accomplish."