

# Practical Nursing Students to Triple

By MARK WIENER

Gov. Rockefeller will take time off from campaigning to make the principal address at graduation ceremonies of the School for Practical Nurses at Willowbrook State School Wednesday at 2:30 p.m.

A total of 43 students have completed the one-year course. In future years the number will be around 120.

Expansion of the school has come about without fanfare. When the school term starts in October, its enrollment will be about 110—a few short of its capacity because of the late date at which new openings were created.

Forty vacancies are open to employees of the state school system; 40 to employees of the mental hospital—both of which are under the auspices of the Department of Mental Hygiene—and 40 to the community. Stipends of \$3,000 a year are available to those who are not state employees.

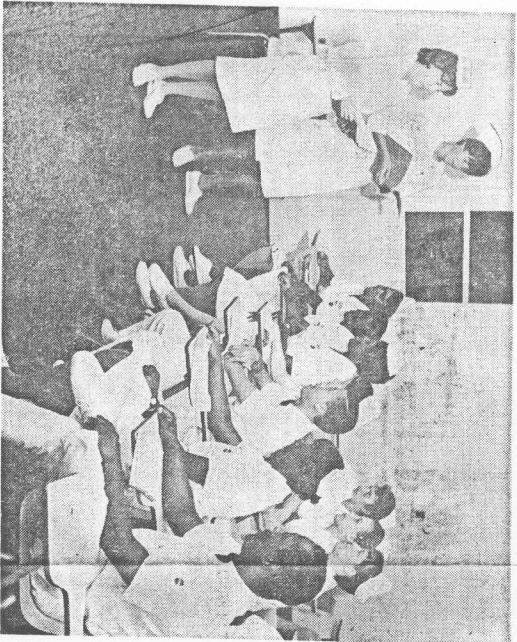
While the state employees become eligible to advance a salary step by completion of the course, neither they nor students from the community are obligated to service with the state.

The gain is in the number of practical nurses, many of whom continue on with the state, and the quality of service they will perform for patients in state institutions and elsewhere.

Miss Francis Ryan of Tottenville, principal of the school, is proud of her faculty of registered nurses, all of whom have at least a bachelor's degree, and the school's record of consistently turning out graduates who pass the state practical nurse exam. Only one student from the school has ever failed to pass the state test.

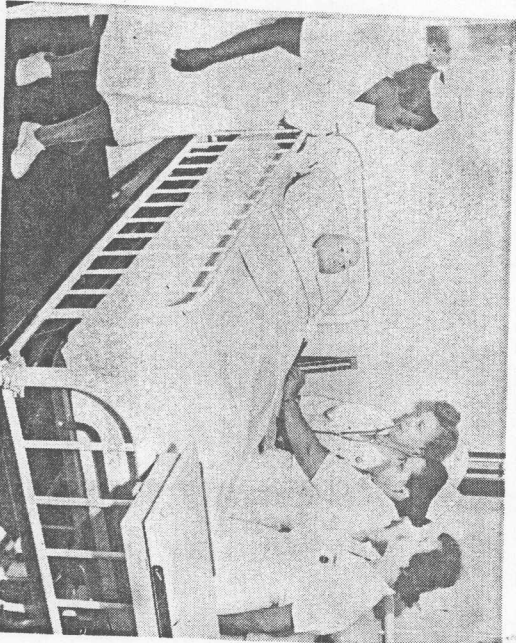
The school is conducted in gleaming quarters on the Willowbrook grounds and, through association with other hospitals, training covers the full range of hospital care.

The governor, Dr. Allan Miller, commissioner of the Mental Hygiene Department, and Dr. Jack Hammond, Willowbrook's director, will speak at the ceremonies, to which the public is invited. The ceremonies will pay tribute to the men and women graduates who have been prepared to bring a much-needed skill to hospital care.



Miss Anne Davis, left, and Miss Arlene Murray conduct a class for practical nurse students.

5. (Advance Photo by Barry G. Schmitt)



Working on a make-believe patient, Miss Vera Marger, rear right, shows Mrs. Harriet Grochowski, with stethoscope, and Mrs. Margaret Neumann of Huguenot how to minister to a patient. Watching left is another trainee, Mrs. Catherine Bridgewater of Willowbrook.



Miss Frances Ryan of Tottenville, principal, conducts an exam for three of her students.