



DR. BERNARD TESSE

# Willowbrook Assistant Director To Head Bronx State School

Dr. Bernard Tesse assistant director of Willowbrook State School, has been appointed director of the new state school for the mentally retarded to be built next to the Bronx State Hospital, it was announced yesterday.

Dr. Tesse has been an assistant director at Willowbrook since 1960. He came to Willowbrook in 1950 as a psychiatrist, obtaining his appointment after only three weeks in the United States.

In 1951 he was promoted to senior psychiatrist and less than six months later, to supervisory psychiatrist of the school.

A native of Poland, he earned his diploma in medicine from Charles University, Prague, Czechoslovakia, in 1934. He is married and the couple has a son and a granddaughter.

Dr. Tesse was working in Germany before the outbreak

of World War II, where he and his family were imprisoned in concentration camps for three years by Hitler's Nazis. He and his wife and son were sent to different camps for two years but were reunited after the liberation in 1945.

In Germany he worked for several years as a medical officer in the International Refugee Organization, supervising the care of 12,000 displaced persons in various camps.

Dr. Tesse gives this reason for choosing psychiatry as his vocation: "I had been working in psychiatry a short time while abroad and found it to be a field where one can do the most good—especially in mental retardation, which I find challenging.

Mental retardation, he continued, encompasses practically all field of medicine.

Dr. Tesse was appointed to his new post by Dr. Alan D. Miller, state mental hygiene

commissioner. His annual salary will be \$20,585.

"At the Bronx school we expect to keep the patient population under 1,000 and hope to achieve a high ratio of personnel to student," Dr. Tesse said.

He added that the school, now in the architectural planning stage, will be one of the newest and most modern of its kind, designed to serve patients in their own community

**VIET WAR DEBATE**  
Staten Island Chapter, Young Americans for Freedom, will engage Richmond County Chapter, Student Peace Union, in a debate on American involvement in the Vietnam war next Wednesday at 8 p.m. in Cichon Legion Hall, Elm Park.