

Advance July 3, 1967

Willowbrook Chief Honored by State

The State Department of Mental Hygiene has awarded a Distinguished Service Citation to Dr. Jack Hammond, director of Willowbrook State School.

The commendation was presented by Mental Hygiene Commissioner Alan D. Miller at the quarterly conference of directors of state mental institutions last week at Kings Park State Hospital, Long Island.

AP Miller cited Dr. Ham-

mond for "compassionate understanding, dynamic resourcefulness and inspired leadership" in creating a better life for his patients.

Only one other similar citation has been awarded by the Mental Hygiene Department in recent years.

"Dr. Hammond's devotion to handicapped children has instilled enthusiasm in the personnel who work with the mentally retarded. His is the type of leadership which inspires in others a spirit of humanitarian service," commented the commissioner.

The commissioner praised Dr. Hammond for making "major improvements in such problem areas as overcrowding and understaffing at the school and for introducing innovations in the education of the retarded children."

Dr. Hammond has been director of Willowbrook since June, 1964.

THE NEW YORK TIMES, MONDAY, JULY 3, 1967

RETARDED TO GET MOVABLE HOUSING

State to Try Out Buildings as Way to Ease Crowding

By RICHARD L. MADDEN

Special to The New York Times
ALBANY, July 2—The state plans to use portable buildings to try to correct overcrowded conditions at its schools for the mentally retarded, Governor Rockefeller's office announced today.

Portable buildings are being constructed and are expected to be in use by the end of the summer at Willowbrook State School on Staten Island and at the Mount McGregor Division of the Rome State School in Wilton, N.Y., the Governor's office said.

The portable buildings can be built quicker and cheaper.

If the experiment proves satisfactory, similar measures may be adopted at other institutions, the announcement said.

Mr. Rockefeller said in a statement that overcrowding had continued at the 10 state schools for the retarded despite a new building program. There are now more than 27,000 patients at the 10 schools, including more than 5,500 at Willowbrook.

"Until proposed new facilities now in the planning or design stages are completed, we look to the use of the portable buildings as one of the promising immediate solutions to housing shortages," Mr. Rockefeller said.

Dr. Alan D. Miller, State Commissioner of Mental Hygiene, said the portable buildings would be leased by the state for three years.

At Willowbrook, two building complexes, housing 96 patients, will be built to provide about 21,000 square feet of floor space. Each complex will comprise 13 units made of fiberglass and resin-impregnated hardboard. Space in the unit will be used as living, dining and classroom areas.

The units will be leased from Hudson Valley Homes, Inc., of Latham, N. Y., through the Adirondack Lease Corporation at a cost of \$562,000 for the three-year period, the Governor's office said.

The portable units being built at Mount McGregor will house 48 residents at a cost of \$195,000 for three years.

The announcement said the units "will be firmly anchored on foundations, meeting all state building code requirements" but can be moved to other areas as needed.

STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE, MONDAY, JULY 3, 1967

Willowbrook Gets Portable Unit

ALBANY (AP) — Portable buildings that can be shifted to other areas as population needs warrant are being set up at the Mt. McGregor and Willowbrook schools for the mentally retarded.

The State Mental Hygiene Department described the buildings as small units linked to form "living and activities areas . . . firmly anchored on foundations and meeting all state building code requirements."

The building at the Mt. McGregor School, in Wilton, Saratoga County, has 10,000 square feet of space and can house 48 children. The units at Willow-

brook State School will house 96 patients. The department said.