

STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE, FRIDAY, MAY 24, 1968

## Willowbrook School heads list of most understaffed facilities

A survey of mental hospitals throughout the state, including Willowbrook State School, finds these institutions greatly understaffed, with 5,000 unfilled jobs existing.

At Willowbrook, the survey listed 450 vacancies for the position of attendant, the highest number of vacancies for any of the state institutions.

The research, conducted by the American Federation of

State, County and Municipal Employes, AFL-CIO, was the beginning of a cooperative program with the state Mental Hygiene Department "to re-evaluate the entire career promotional opportunities for mental hygiene employees," according to the union.

The survey also delved into the "prevalent practice" of hospital workers being required to perform work over and above their own job category.

According to the union, 95 per cent of the hospital attendants questioned were working at high levels without compensation or recognition.

A union representative has announced plans to visit Willowbrook Tuesday to further investigate conditions there. The visit is part of a \$75,000 study and research program now in progress under the supervision of Dr. Alan Miller, commissioner of the Mental Hygiene Department, and Dr. Hugh Lafave, assistant commissioner.

STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE, THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 1968

### 21 get diplomas at state school

Twenty - one students were graduated from Willowbrook State School yesterday at exercises in the school.

The class was presented by Dr. Jack Hammond, director. Diplomas were awarded by Mrs. Mary C. Ellis, secretary of the institution's board of visitors. Mrs. Greta S. Moulton, another board member, was the principal speaker.