

## TV closeup on Island

## Some cases of mental retardation predictable in unborn, he says

By JOHN NEEDHAM

that as many as one-third of the that in such cases retardation said, workers at the institute, cases of severe mental retardation are caused by something that on Forest Hill Rd. next to the Willowbrook State School, "can tell in advance" when an unborn child will suffer retardation. Dr. George A. Jervis said in some instances, Jervis born child will suffer retardation.

Infections are studied in mental re- Mayor's Committee on Mental Retardation, especially through a Relaxation that 12 community centers be set up in the city to study the mentally retarded. One of these was proposed for the Staten Island setup" although at Island.

Jervis said that in many cases it is "not necessary for a mentally retarded child to be kept in a hospital. The best thing is a good home."

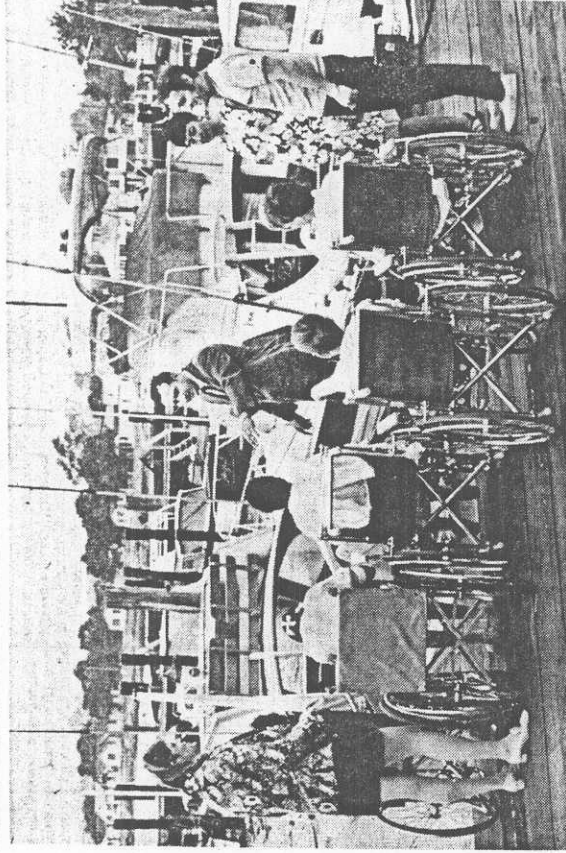
As a result of the panel's study, the federal government is planning stages. As a result of the panel's study, the federal government is planning stages. As a result of the panel's study, the federal government is planning stages.

The director summed up his and the institute's work: "Our big hope is prevention. It's not so much cure but prevention."

The institute is "mostly devoted to the severe forms of mental retardation," according to Dr. Jervis. "Its research is directed toward the causes of mental retardation, not so much toward educational factors, not so much toward social factors, and not so much toward medical aspects."

Although there is a 50-bed hospital at the institute, "only the cases we're interested in, that will give us some leads," he said. "We should function as a research center, studying causes rather than a cure, he said."

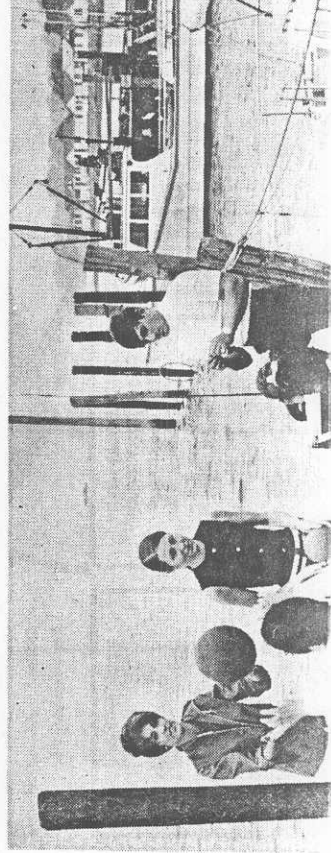
Dr. Jervis credited former President John F. Kennedy with being "instrumental in stimulating" the institute's work.



## Retarded children smell salt air...

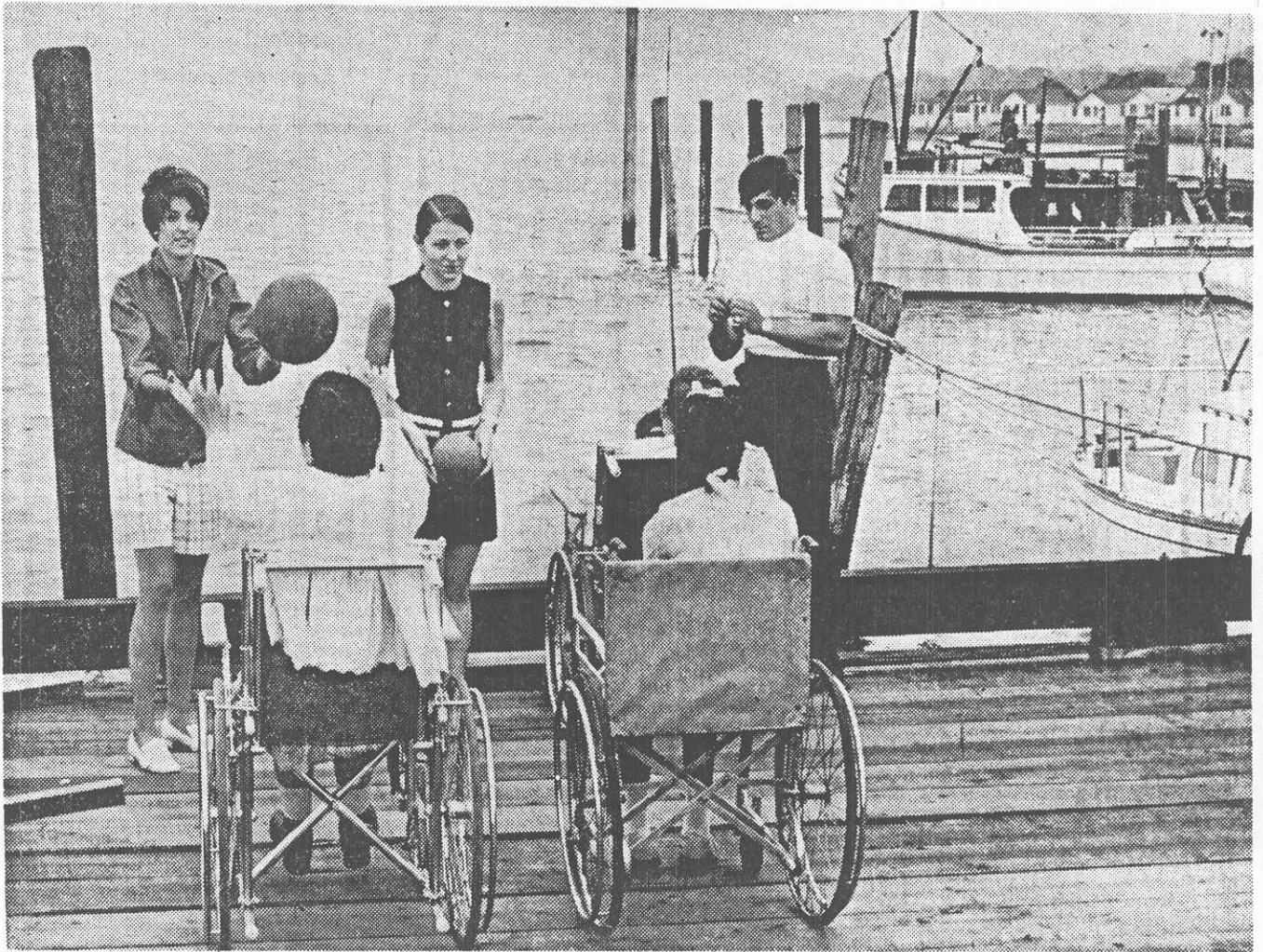
Explaining the lore of the sea to these Willowbrook State School children at Shoals Dock, Great Kills, are, left to right, Miss Diana Bergton, a teacher, Joseph Carlo, education supervisor, and Miss Louise Cognata and Al Lambert, also teachers.

S.I. Advance Photos by Frank J. Johns



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Al Lambert, also teachers.



*...and learn about the briny*

Assistant teachers, Miss Pamela Curran, left, and Mrs. Richard Detmar, play ball with these girls on Shoals Dock, while another assistant teacher, Charles Sutter, baits a hook for a boy who is doing some fishing.