

## Obituaries

### *Dr. Max Reiss, researcher at Willowbrook, leader in field*

Dr. Max Reiss, 70, of 350 Richmond Terr., New Brighton, director of research at Willowbrook State School since 1958 and one of the world's leading contributors to knowledge about the causes of mental retardation, died yesterday while vacationing in Wolfeboro, N.H.

Dr. Reiss' death was caused by a lung embolism, according to a medical associate.

A native of Austria, Dr. Reiss had been engaged in research in Great Britain for 18 years prior to his appointment to the Island institution.

From 1924 to 1938 he was a professor of pathopsychology and endocrinology at the German University in Prague, Czechoslovakia, where he had received a medical degree in 1925 and a doctorate in 1928.

During that period, he also served as director of the endocrinological department of the Burden Neurological Institute in Bristol, England.

From 1939 to 1946, he was director of the biochemical and endocrinological research unit

of the Bristol Mental Hospital and consultant in mental health to the Southwest Regional Hospital Board in England from 1946 to 1957.

During that time he acted as consultant for other hospitals in England.

At Willowbrook, Dr. Reiss directed a unit of 28 employes, including research scientists and pediatricians, conducting research in physiology, biochemistry, genetics and psychology.

He was a fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine, a member of the British Medical Association, and a founding member of the Society of Endocrinology, all

in England; a member of the Endocrine Society, the New York Academy of Science, and the American Psychiatric Association and a fellow of the American Society on Mental Deficiency and vice president of the American Academy on Mental Retardation.

He was a charter fellow of the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology and president of the International Society of Psychoneuroendocrinology.

Dr. Reiss was engaged in research in, and investigation of, life substances RNA and DNA in the brains of animals and their relationship to the causes and treatment of mental retardation.

He is survived by his wife, Jean.

A private service will be conducted in New Hampshire.