

STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE, Wednesday, June 13, 1973

## 2 Willowbrook employes found innocent by jury

A jury found two defendants charged with assaulting three severely retarded boys at Willowbrook State school innocent on all counts yesterday in Criminal Court.

Barbara Slayton, 21, of 163 York Ave., New Brighton, and Rita Garner, 17, of 177 Continental Pl., Mariners Harbor, both ward attendants at the institution had been arrested Dec. 6 by officers of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, which had been conducting an eight-month investigation into alleged child abuse at the institution.

Testimony by Edward Kelly, evidence but never appeared in the only witness to the alleged court.

Two doctors at the institution, including Dr. Miodrag Ristic, Kelly had testified that one of director, told the court that the the boys had been struck with a day following the alleged beat-severe blow to the head with a lings, they examined the three broomstick which had been boys and could find no evidence reportedly recovered as of serious injuries.