

follow-up --- B and MIG hearings. state's Commissioner of Mental Health has been replaced. The number of patients at the three institutions has been cut almost in half, from about 10,000 to about 5,000. There are no more straitjackets, no more solitary confinement, much less filth. The annual budget for patients in Alabama's three institutions has more than doubled, bringing the state rapidly up the national list for per-capita expenditures on the mentally disabled. When the state complained that it could not find the cash to pay for the required improvements, George Dean drew public attention to the sums set aside in the state budget for such events as the Junior Miss Pageant and the yearly Swine Show. A day before Alabama's legislators were called on to vote for an increased mentalhealth appropriation, Dean sent each of them a picture of a girl in a straitjacket, flies visible on her mouth and face. "That's part of our case." The legislators came through.

In addition to its other innovations, Wyatt drew attention to the situation of the institutionalized mentally retarded. Having committed no crime, representing no menace to society, many have for all practical purposes been sentenced to indeterminate confinement in so-called schools where they receive precious little schooling, where they are worked without pay, where they may be subjected to experiments of various sorts. By and large, this has been done with the best of intentions, but as Paul Friedman realized during the hearings on Partlow, "the mental-ly retarded have been sitting in the back of the bus even as far as the mentally handicapped are concerned."

Dr. Roos emphasizes that the mentally retarded share basic human needs for privacy, affection, dignity that are hard to come by in the places where they are stored, with their assembly line meals, car-wash showers, and no privacy whatever. The arrangements work against the