

Menu follow-through is aim of dietitian at Willowbrook

By SUSAN FRY

Computer print-outs, 10,000 meals a day and a staff of over 200 are three of the most pressing responsibilities faced each day by Mrs. Lois Mosely in the kitchens of Willowbrook Developmental Center.

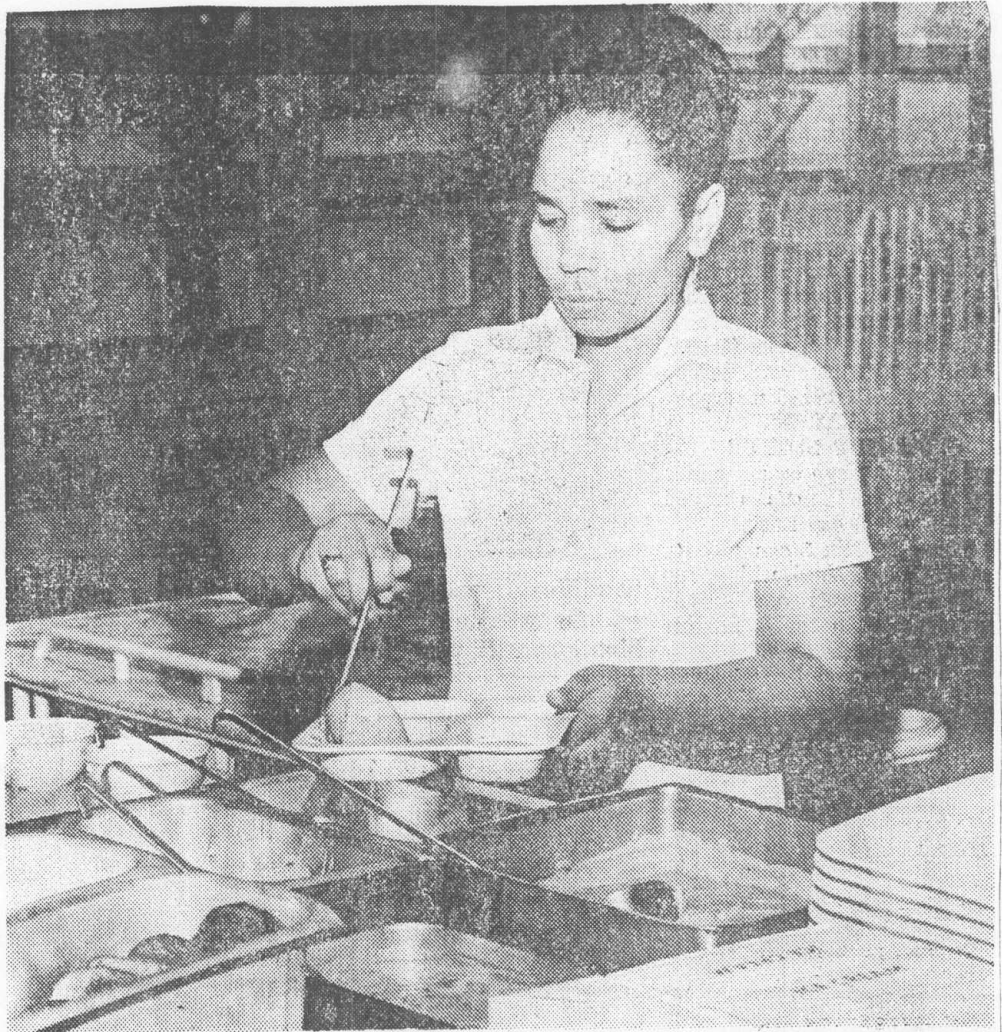
Outspoken, yet shy, very sensitive and loyal to the 3,345 residents whose appetites and health are her calling, Mrs. Mosely as supervising dietitian, is the boss of the food service department. She is presently doing the job of three since her two immediate superiors have been absent on sick leave and no substitutes have been brought in to help her.

Not only does she compose menus from computer print-outs sent from Albany, for each meal — which includes assigning special diets to many residents — but she also must order most of the food from Albany and purchase the rest from local merchants and see to it that her staff of three assistant dietitians, 75 cooks and kitchen helpers and 156 food service workers do their jobs . . . and do them well, she insists.

Asked why substitutes have not been hired, she shrugged her shoulders and answered, "Who knows?"

"This kind of department always suffers when an institution tries to make ends meet. We're the lowest things on the totem pole."

She told how her staff is underpaid, relative, she believes, to similar lines in other departments on civil service rolls. Food service workers are hired on a "grade 4" level in which the minimum annual salary is \$6,148, and regardless of the number of years worked, can only achieve "grade 7" status.



Mrs. Frances Wilkerson, a dining room attendant at Willowbrook Developmental Center, portions out lunch dishes according to a resident's prescribed diet. This job will be part of a food distribution program to be implemented at the center.

S.I. Advance Photos by Robert Parsons

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