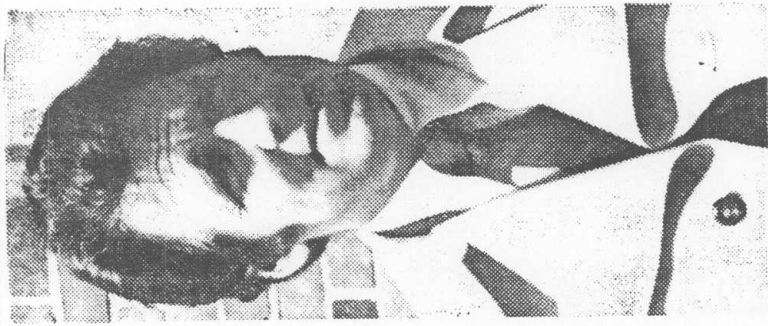


## Coughlin replaces ailing Piepenbrink

# Willowbrook gets new director



Thomas A. Coughlin, who was named acting director of Willowbrook Developmental Center.

Advance Albany Bureau.

ALBANY — State Mental Hygiene Commissioner Lawrence C. Kolb today announced the appointment of Deputy Commissioner Thomas A. Coughlin 3rd as acting director of the Willowbrook Developmental Center.

Coughlin, who is in charge of the Department of Mental Hygiene's mental retardation activities, will replace Willowbrook's current director, Harold C. Piepenbrink.

Piepenbrink, who has served as director of the sprawling institution for the past year, was recently released from a hospital after surgery and asked to be relieved of his duties for health reasons, Dr. Kolb said.

In announcing Coughlin's appointment, Dr. Kolb said the assignment will insure continued progress toward compliance with a federal court order directing the state to reduce Willowbrook's population to 250 by 1981. Coughlin will continue as deputy commissioner until a new director is appointed, Dr. Kolb said.

A spokesman for the commissioner said a search committee, consisting of private citizens, representatives of

Willowbrook residents and mental hygiene professionals, will be formed in the near future to screen applicants for the director's job.

Coughlin's temporary appointment will become effective next Monday, the spokesman said.

Coughlin, who joined the Department of Mental Hygiene only last September, served as executive director of the Jefferson County Association for Retarded Children from 1964 until his appointment as a deputy commissioner.

Under his guidance, in both unpaid and paid positions, the upstate association grew from a small facility operating out of a church basement to an organization now serving more than 500 persons. The associa-

tion aids retarded individuals in making a transition from large institutions to smaller community-based facilities, according to the spokesman for Dr. Kolb.

Coughlin, 37, is a native of Brooklyn and served in the Air Force after high school. He joined the New York State Po-

lice in 1962, took an education leave in 1968 and finally resigned from the force in 1972.

He received a bachelor's degree from Goddard College in Vermont and attended the Syracuse University Law School. Coughlin is married and has three children.

—PETER HARRIGAN

### SUN TO HEAT POOLS

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (UPI) — Mayor Gary G. Gillmor has announced plans by the Santa Clara City Council to use solar heat for the community's International Swim Center, one of the world's largest outdoor swimming facilities. Gillmor said the city hopes to halve its current \$30,000 a year heating bill.