

# Union Calls Willowbrook Deal Ripoff

By HUGH WYATT

The deal being negotiated between the State Department of Mental Hygiene and the United Cerebral Palsy Association to have the latter treat the mentally retarded at the Willowbrook Developmental Center would cost the taxpayers double the amount of money they now pay, a union official charged yesterday.

Claiming that the association is the only one that will benefit financially, William McGowan, executive vice president of the Civil Service Employees Association, said that the agreement being negotiated calls for the state to increase current payments of between \$9,000 and \$13,000 a year per person to \$26,000 a year per person.

The negotiations are in connection with a planned United Cerebral Palsy takeover of part of Willowbrook's management under an agreement reached on March 10 in Federal Court in Brooklyn.

The takeover, the first operation of a state facility by a private organization, will be launched as a pilot project.

"If necessary, we will call or write every union in the country and insist that they stop giving money to Cerebral Palsy," McGowan declared, noting that about 500 of his 210,000 members statewide would be laid off under the proposal.

Barbara Blum, assistant state commissioner of mental hygiene and director of the Metropolitan Placement Unit of the department, denied the charges.

"I cannot imagine why they would say such things," she said. "Maybe they (the union) are just opposed to the change."