

# the Mental Hygiene Program

## OF CIVILIAN PUBLIC SERVICE

● As volunteers under Selective Service to work in hospitals for the mentally ill and training schools for the mentally deficient, we wish to serve constructively.

● We seek to improve the quality of our own work.

● We seek to help public institutions to fulfill more adequately their essential purpose in the structure of present day society.

● We seek to promote a deeper public understanding of institutional needs and problems.

● In an attempt to make a contribution which will be concrete and enduring, we have united our efforts in The Mental Hygiene Program of Civilian Public Service.

# Projects

## LEGAL RESEARCH

A review of all state and federal laws which govern the commitment and care of individuals held in custody because of mental illness or deficiency, together with the preparation of a brief of the laws of each state, and the preparation of model statutes which might serve as reference for future legislative action. Further research and study will be directed toward formulating a body of principles underlying commitment, custody and treatment. The needs and responsibilities of society will be considered, parallel with the need for protecting the rights and dignity of the individual.



## EXCHANGE SERVICE

An inter-unit exchange of materials which will be helpful to C.P.S. men in their work in mental institutions; for example: suggestions for recreational programs, methods of handling overactive patients, research results, resource bibliographies, and articles on attitudes and perspectives. We hope in this manner to accumulate material which will be useful in the preparation of orientation handbooks.

## SUMMARY STATEMENT

A statement of conditions, based upon the experiences of C.P.S. men working in mental institutions, prepared in cooperation with and under the guidance of superintendents and other professional persons in the field. "Fact-finder" forms will be used, in part, to collect material for the statement. It is felt that discussion centered around the "fact-finders" will prove helpful in an understanding of institutional procedures.



## PUBLIC EDUCATION

The preparation of ourselves and others with such a knowledge of the problems and scope of institutional service that we will be qualified to act as an intelligently vocal citizenry in helping to foster institutional development. The general results of all our efforts will later be made available to responsible agencies for further research and study.

## THE ATTENDANT

THIS ISSUE:  
Symposium — Patients' Leisure Time Activities  
Mansfield in Review  
Viewpoint

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### OPPORTUNITY AND THE ATTENDANT

By Earl D. Bond, M. D.

Medical director of the research institute at Philadelphia's Pennsylvania Hospital and professor of psychiatry at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Bond is a past president and secretary of the American Psychiatric Association. He is psychiatric adviser to The Mental Hygiene Program of Civilian Public Service.

If I were an attendant I would try to learn psychology first-hand from the patients with an occasional glance at fellow-attendants, the physicians and

ents a closed-in space, a locked small room, an abrupt order which admits no argument, a hand on the arm, brings violence and continuing struggle. Undoubtedly many would lose the drive to struggle if they could be set free and yet freedom for them is clearly impossible in our present society, as an attendant can see. Here is where the attendant can see the good results of compromise: the greatest immediate freedom for the patient, as large as possible a space which symbolizes freedom, a request instead of a command, the re- fraining from laying on of hands.

A patient said of an attendant, "When he says 'come' he is gentlemanly and quiet. When he says 'show' or other you know you might as well show." Inasmuch as a patient's self-discipline

## THE ATTENDANT

A monthly publication concerned with ideas, attitudes and methods which are directly related to work in mental hospitals and training schools. It strives to relate the knowledge and experience of professionals to concrete problems of institutional work, to serve as a medium through which attendants may share with one another the results of their experiences, and thus to encourage and serve all attendants.

## ADVISERS

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## AFFILIATION

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