

In addition to these significant activities, outstanding progress has been made in reference to the care of mentally ill children since 1950. At the beginning of this ten year period there were no specialized facilities for the in-patient psychiatric treatment of children in the hospitals under the authority of the department of mental hygiene. In 1953 one of the recommendations of the Lemkau Report of the Baltimore Council of Social Agencies was that an in-patient treatment center for emotionally ill children be established under the auspices of the Department of Mental Hygiene. This center, known as the Esther Loring Richards Children's Center, has now been established and is located on the property of Rosewood State Training School. It received its first patients in September 1958 and is now operating as an important adjunct to our State system. As one treatment center cannot meet the many needs, a second building was approved by the Legislature in 1958 for the long term care of emotionally disturbed children. Ground was broken for this building early in 1959, and it is expected to receive its first patients sometime during 1960. The department, therefore, has one service for the relatively short term care of emotionally disturbed children who can be helped in an open type hospital setting, and will have, in a short period of time, a treatment facility for the longer term care of emotionally ill children.

Services to the mentally retarded have also been improved. Eleven new buildings have been erected at Rosewood State Training School making possible, greatly improved care.

One of the basic needs of all our children, of all people for that matter, whether they are young or old, is for recreation and relaxation. One very worthwhile contribution of State government to the recreational needs of children, is made through the parks and recreation areas operated by the Department of Forests and Parks. Over the ten years, since the White House Conference of 1950, such areas have been expanded greatly and their use has increased spectacularly. Each improvement has provided more picnic areas, more camp sites and additional beach and play areas for family use. Young people not only want to play, they also want to work, and they should have opportunities for doing so. I am a firm believer in the therapeutic value of hard work, and I am convinced that wise employment can go far toward helping young people get a better start in life . . . .

There is much that the public through state and local services, can and is doing to assist with the employment of young people. Basic to this effort is the good work being done in our educational system to prepare young people for work experience. Of importance, too, are