

COMMUNITY

A Publication of the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs



NEW INSTRUCTORS—The first 13 literacy instructors to be trained under a state-wide basic education program of the Department of Community Affairs join program directors. For details and identification of instructors, see story below.

First 13 Graduates Of Basic Education Plan Given Certificates As Literacy Instructors

The Department of Community Affairs has presented literacy instructor training certificates to the first 13 graduates of the Department's state-wide basic education program.

The one-year program financed by \$750,000 in State funds, trains high school graduates from ghetto areas to be "literacy instructors" who, in turn, teach basic education in neighborhood locations to under-educated and non-English speaking adults, high school dropouts, high school equivalency students and "functional illiterates," — those unable to read or write at a sixth-grade level, and hence, unable to "function" in everyday society.

At present, five basic education projects are operating through local public and private agencies in Newark, Elizabeth, Hoboken, Jersey City and Atlantic County. Three more are scheduled to begin this spring.

The new literacy instructors, who

will work in the Newark, Hoboken and Atlantic County projects, received their certificates at the close of a two-day literacy instructor conference sponsored in mid-January by the Department's Bureau of Educational Programs and Training, Office of Economic Opportunity, which administers the program.

Leo J. Cantelope, coordinator of basic education, State Department of Education, presented the certificates. Of the 13, five are from Atlantic City, four are from Hoboken, three from Newark and one from Bloomfield.

The Atlantic City instructors will teach Neighborhood Youth Corps, adult job trainees and welfare recipients in neighborhood centers of Atlantic Human Resources, the anti-poverty agency for Atlantic and Cape May Counties. The Hoboken instructors will teach English as a second language to non-English speak-

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Weaver & Hughes: Planning Is Needed To Curb City Chaos

Federal and State officials warned earlier this month that the battle to solve urban problems could only be won through proper planning and broadbased community support.

"If we do not improve our sophistication and commitment and resources to planning our urban growth and regrowth, we will find ourselves in a chaos unimaginable in our worst nightmares today," said Dr. Robert C. Weaver, secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

"We in New Jersey are the most urban state in a rapidly urbanizing nation—indeed, in an urbanizing world," said Gov. Richard J. Hughes, minutes later. "If we fail to solve our problems in the cities today, we will face them in the suburbs as well tomorrow."

The warnings by Secretary Weaver and Governor Hughes were delivered February 6 to an overflow audience of more than 500 local and county planning officials attending the 11th Annual State Planning Conference in Asbury Park. The conference is co-sponsored by the Division of State and Regional Planning, Department of Community Affairs, and the New Jersey Federation of Planning Officials.

Community Affairs Commissioner Paul N. Ylvisaker was on hand to introduce Weaver and the Governor, who delivered major addresses at the morning and luncheon sessions, respectively. Following the luncheon, the planners attended four panel sessions dealing with the theme: "The Role of the City and Suburb in Urban Development."

Weaver emphasized that the suburban dweller must recognize the urgency of rebuilding America's core

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New Computerized Code System Of Reporting Government Data Reveals Geographic Disparities

A new computerized system for recording local government statistics highlights some unusual geographic disparities among New Jersey's communities.

For example:

▶ Forty-one of the state's municipalities are each larger in area than Hudson County, the State's smallest county with just 44.10 square miles.

▶ Hamilton Township in Atlantic County, the State's largest municipality, with an area of 115.05 square miles, is larger, in fact, than either Hudson or Union Counties and 1,650 times larger than Loch Arbour, the State's smallest municipality with just .07 square miles of territory.

▶ The 105 smallest municipalities in New Jersey—combined—would be approximately equal in size to Hamilton Township, the largest.

These are just three of the various geographic characteristics that stem from a new listing of New Jersey municipalities and counties according to land area. The list is a byproduct of a newly-inaugurated State effort to standardize the method for collecting and reporting government data by the use of computers.

The State effort, aimed at improving the accuracy and precision of reporting municipal statistics, is being conducted by a special committee jointly formed by the State Community Affairs and Treasury Departments. Spearheading the effort are Harry Stark of the Office of Economic Policy, chairman, Treasury; Miss Aileen Cavanagh, chief, Intergovernmental Relations, Community Affairs; and Edward Hofgesang, supervisor, Bureau of the Budget.

"Actually, the State is attempting to lay the groundwork in computerized reporting techniques so that local governments, as they see fit, will be able to inaugurate computer systems on a common foundation," said Miss Cavanagh, "This will facilitate the free exchange of data among municipalities and between local and county governments and the State, which is almost completely computerized."

According to Miss Cavanagh, a standardized statewide statistical gathering and reporting operation would promote accuracy and precision and be "more useful and more readily available not only to governments but to local community leaders, businessmen, economists and the citizenry at large."

Under the new encoding system, each community in the state receives a numerical code based on its land area, not its name. Previous systems based on names of municipalities often caused confusion or created misleading impressions in cases where municipalities merged, divided or changed names.

"The new code automatically alerts everyone to a change," Miss Cavanagh said.

She cited Willingboro as an example. In 1959, Willingboro, then a small Burlington County community, changed its name to Levittown, only to change it back again to Wil-

lingboro just four years later. Under the previous system of coding by alphabet, the unaware observer would be hard-pressed to keep names, dates and statistics straight.

Of course, the new codification process can only work if all local and county governments agree to adopt the standard code. "As the committee progresses, we plan to invite local and county leaders to help devise a system acceptable to all," Miss Cavanagh added.

Another interesting finding turned up by the new code listing is that only 21 of the 567 local governments in New Jersey—or only two per cent—are larger than the state-wide average of 57.61 square miles. The vast majority—98 per cent—are smaller than average.

The new code listing also points up a sociological problem facing urbanized States like New Jersey: the great bulk of the State's population lives in relatively small land areas.

For example, some 400,000 people live in Newark, making it the State's most populous community. In land area, however, Newark ranks 110th. Although each of the 50 largest New Jersey communities is larger than Newark in size, together they house a population about equal to that of Newark.

All Local Housing Authorities Must Register Multiple Units

The Department of Community Affairs has informed all 67 local housing authorities in the State that they are subject to a law requiring owners of multiple dwellings of six or more units to register them with the Department and pay a \$10 registration fee for each building.

In a letter to the local housing authorities, Claude P. Miller, director of the Department's Division of Housing and Urban Renewal, said the Hotel and Multiple Dwelling Health and Safety Law of 1967 requires registration of all multiple dwellings with six or more units and makes no exception for housing authorities. Local housing authorities are city agencies which build and maintain low-rent public housing.

The Department is engaged in a drive to register all multiple-dwelling owners under the new law, which has broader coverage than previous state laws. The major new category covered consists of garden apartments with six or more units.

Although the letter urged housing authorities to register their multiple dwellings now, it stated they could pay the fees later. It recognized that a delay might be required in cases where the housing authorities must obtain approval from the Regional Office of the Housing Assistance Administration of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to budget and release funds to pay the fees.

Miller pointed out that registration is required only once and will not become a recurring expense.

Miller said that all owners, both public and private, who have not received a registration application in the mail should get one by contacting the Bureau of Housing Inspection, 1100 Raymond Blvd., Newark, New Jersey; Telephone: 201-648-2390.

Housing Through Rehabilitation

In just five months, dilapidated housing units in Hoboken and Camden have been transformed into liveable apartments through a housing rehabilitation program underwritten by the Department of Community Affairs.

In Hoboken, a deteriorated vacant tenement at 69 Park Avenue was converted into 10 modern, two-bedroom apartments through a \$30,000 revolving loan from the Department. The rehabilitative effort, completed in just three months, was conducted by the 60 Garden Street Association, a local non-profit housing group. It is the first step by local residents in a program to upgrade one of the worst blocks in Hoboken.

In Camden, the first of 50 dilapidated single-family dwellings in a low-income northside neighborhood was renovated and sold to a family of ten that had been displaced from its original home by a new freeway. The three-story Victorian-style house, located at 320 State Street, was completely rehabilitated in two months through part of a \$35,000 interest-free Department loan. The Interfaith Interracial Council of the Clergy (IICC), a local housing group composed of church representatives, sponsored the project.

In Hoboken

MODERN KITCHEN—*The Rev. John F. Stanton, head of the 60 Garden Street Association, a neighborhood housing corporation, inspects the modern kitchen facilities in one of ten newly rehabilitated two-bedroom apartments in a tenement at 69 Park Avenue, Hoboken. The building was transformed into a modern apartment house with the help of a \$30,000 loan from the Department of Community Affairs.*



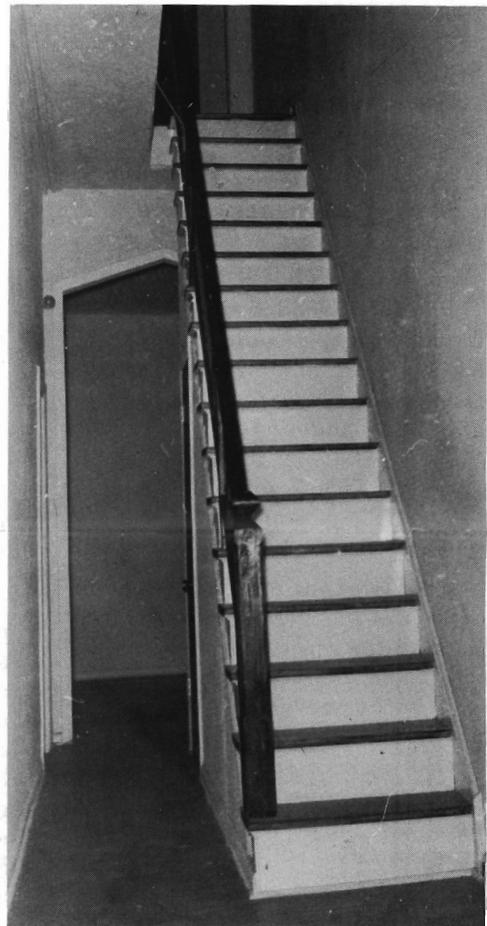
In Camden

LIVING IMPROVEMENT — *At immediate right, a view of the main living room of a three-story North Camden house as it appeared before Department-financed renovation efforts.*

At far right, Community Affairs Commissioner Paul N. Ylvisaker (left), standing in newly-rehabilitated living room, discusses future plans with Samuel Alper, business administrator of the local community-based group that sponsored the rehabilitation.



NEW STAIRCASE—The totally dilapidated and unusable staircase in this North Camden house (immediate right) was transformed into a safe, modern stairway (far right) as part of an over-all rehabilitation effort sponsored by local community group and partially financed by the Department of Community Affairs. The house, located at 320 State Street in the heart of a deteriorated neighborhood, was completely renovated in just two months through part of a \$35,000 interest-free revolving loan from the Department. The loan went to the Interfaith Interracial Council of the Clergy (IICC), a local non-profit housing group composed of about 60 local church representatives.



Department Offers Efficiency Proposal In Sayreville Report

The Department of Community Affairs has recommended administrative revisions in the Borough of Sayreville's government to increase efficiency and economy.

The recommendation, embodying 12 suggestions, including the hiring of a municipal administrator, is part of a survey made by the Department's Office of Community Services and released recently by John W. Gleeson, its director. The study was requested by Sayreville Mayor Mary Kerr and members of the borough council.

"The Borough of Sayreville is about to arrive at the crossroads of her long history," the report says. "The decisions taken (now)...will determine the course of Sayreville history for the next decade. This report aims to point out the choices that exist and the needs which must be fulfilled if the borough is to develop in a manner commensurate with its potential."

Gleeson said that the report, compiled by Jack Scott and Gerald Reilly, community service officers for the Department, was not intended to be an exhaustive analysis of the borough government, but a survey highlighting areas requiring more intensive study. The report offers possible solutions for the most immediate problems.

Gleeson said that the study was made during the first two weeks of January at no charge to Sayreville.

In recommending a municipal administrator with the title Director of Operations, the report says "Creation of such an office can result in a significant and immediate financial saving to the municipality, as well as in a borough government more responsive to the public will."

The director would serve as central purchasing agent for the borough government, become "the man in borough hall" for the community's citizens and coordinate and oversee borough operations in accordance with established policies and procedures.

The director would be responsible to the mayor and council, who set

Office of Community Services Box Score

March 1, 1967 - February 12, 1968

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| Communities Served: | 66 |
| Counties Served: | 10 |
| Federal Grants Received with OCS Assistance: | Nine grants totaling \$26,009,000 for six communities and the State |
| Federal Grants Pending: | 18 grants totaling \$8,069,081 for 12 communities, one county and the State |
| Municipalities aided through Interchange Program: | Passaic, New Brunswick, Marlboro and Englewood |
| Administrative Surveys Completed: | 12 Reports, in Marlboro, New Brunswick, Sayreville and Franklin Township (Personnel Study) |
| Interns in Community Service: | 105 Interns in 18 communities, four counties, nine antipoverty programs and eight State or public agencies. |
| State Model Cities Grants: | Seven grants totaling \$243,000 to Hoboken, Jersey City, East Orange, Perth Amboy, Atlantic City, Camden and Orange. |

policy. He would have authority over all organization levels below the council. He would advise and make recommendations to mayor and council on such matters as budget and personnel, help prepare the agenda for council meetings and foster favorable public and community relations in the conduct of assigned functions.

The report also recommended the following:

- ▶ modernize fiscal practices through an encumbrance system (which compares budget appropriations with expenditures made against them) using a commitment ledger located in the treasurer-tax collector's office;

- ▶ a request by the mayor and council to the State Department of Civil Service for an immediate and thorough job reclassification and study of borough personnel and establishment by the clerk's office of a central personnel file;

- ▶ possible combination of the building inspection office with that of the borough engineer to provide professional review of permit and subdivision applications and enlargement of staff of both offices;

- ▶ a thorough review of the municipal police function; through use of a qualified professional consultant;

- ▶ institution of a formalized system of capital planning with liaison maintained by a capital review committee, including both municipal and school officials.

Willis Is New Head Of Planning Section

Sidney L. Willis, former director of the Jersey City Community Renewal Program, has become head of the Department's Division of State and Regional Planning.

For Willis, his new assignment marks a return to the State agency where he once spent four years in various planning positions. He worked for the division from 1957 to 1961, as a senior, principal and supervising planner and finally as acting chief of the Bureau of Community Development (now the Bureau of Local Planning).

Willis will serve as an assistant to Community Affairs Commissioner Paul N. Ylvisaker in addition to directing the Planning Division.

Ylvisaker said Willis "brings to the division a broad educational background and long experience in planning and community development." He said Willis is responsible for developing and conducting "an energetic effort to help prepare New Jersey to meet its growing human resources and physical planning needs."

Willis, 37, holds a bachelor's degree in economics from Geneva College, Beaver Falls, Pa., and a master's degree in planning from the University of Chicago, where he studied under Rexford Guy Tugwell.

After a two-year Army stint, Willis
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cities or face the prospect of being enveloped by the same spreading urban blight.

"Urban problems are related throughout the metropolitan complex," he said, "and they will no longer respond to only vocal solutions or piecemeal solutions." He called for a new kind of planning that evolves "logical and workable programs that dovetail one into another."

Governor Hughes strongly supported the Weaver prognosis.

"There can be no solution in fleeing the city and turning our backs to its problems," the governor said. "Nor can we continue to do everything in the same way it was done before. The philosophy of 'every man for himself on a half-acre lot' is just not realistic in this age of urban growth, and it will be even less realistic in the future."

Both Weaver and Hughes pointed to the Federal Model Cities program, which provides funds for coordinated neighborhood plans to solve urban blight, as the kind of new planning they had in mind. Weaver singled out the Department of Community Affairs, which has formed the country's first State-administered Model Cities component, as a "notable example" of a State meeting its urban responsibilities.

Hughes said, "We need, desperately and urgently, more and better housing, and renewal of our cities and community life, training for the unskilled, removal of the obstacles to equal

opportunities, sensible growth for our suburbs. And we are coming to understand that these are not unrelated needs, that they are all integral parts of what must be a unified community development program."

Among the other officials present at the conference were Rep. James J. Howard of Monmouth County, Sen. Edwin B. Forsythe, State Senate president, Samuel P. Owen, president of the Federation, and Asbury Park Mayor Frank Rowland, the host mayor.

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ing Puerto Ricans at neighborhood centers of the Hoboken Organization against Poverty and Economic Stress (HOPES), the Hoboken community action program. Instructors for the Newark project will work in neighborhood offices near work-sites of the city's manpower program.

The photograph depicts the new instructors with program directors. Sitting, from left: Mrs. Lillian Murch, Hoboken; Robert Gallagher, Bureau of Basic Education and Training, Community Affairs; Mrs. Madeline Tatum and Mrs. Antoinette Jackson, both Newark; Mrs. Catherine Havrilesky, chief, Bureau of Basic Education and Training. Standing, from left: Miss Geraldine Staadecker, Newark program director; Miss Judith Babbitts, Bureau of Basic Education and Training; Jose Borrajero, Bloomfield; Eugene Gaynor, Atlantic City; Mrs. Ellen Lane, Newark; William Goodrum, Atlantic City Program director; Mrs. Mary Moss, Emanuel

Black, Mrs. Vincie Winstead, and Frederick Johnson, all Atlantic City; Mrs. Luz Rentas, Miss Nora Andino, Mrs. Laura Montanez and Lawrence Lerdo, program director, all Hoboken.

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was chief research planner of the South East Chicago Commission, which prepared the Hyde Park-Kenwood Urban Renewal plan for Chicago's South Side. He held this post until 1957, when he joined the New Jersey State Planning Bureau (now the Division of State and Regional Planning).

In the planning division, he produced several major reports, served as study director of the Newark Area Transportation Survey and as project director of The Northeastern New Jersey Regional Urban Renewal Survey.

Willis became director of planning for Jersey City in September, 1961, responsible for establishing the first full-time professional planning program in the city's history. In this post, he established an annual capital improvement program and budget and completed an updated comprehensive master plan that was adopted in 1966.

In September 1966, he became director of the Jersey City Community Renewal Program.

Willis also serves as an instructor in local planning and urban renewal at the Rutgers University Extension Division. He was elected a trustee of the Community and Neighborhood Development Organization.

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