

TRC news & views

TEXAS REHABILITATION COMMISSION

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Arrell New Commissioner

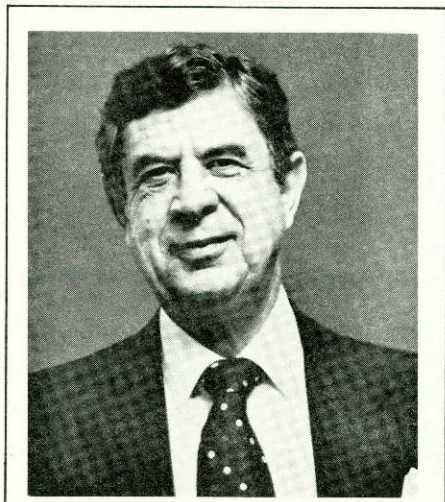
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Commissioner W.K. Harvey, Jr. Retires

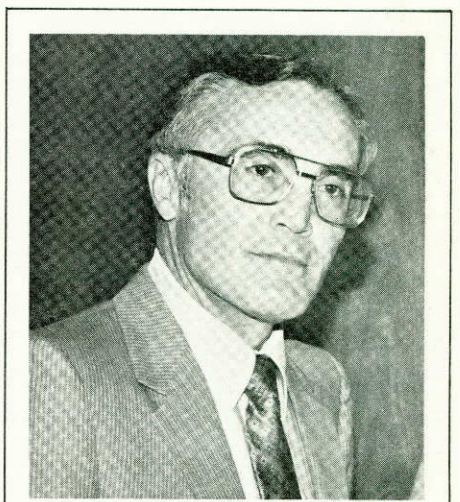
March 24 and 25 were days of change for the Texas Rehabilitation Commission. On March 24, Commissioner W.K. Harvey, Jr., submitted his resignation to the TRC Board of Directors. In a brief memo to the board, Harvey cited personal and health reasons as factors in his decision to retire from his position.

On Wednesday, March 25, the Board of Directors met in executive session to act on Commissioner Harvey's retirement and to appoint a new commissioner. Immediately after the meeting, Board Chairman George H. McCullough announced that Executive Deputy Commissioner Vernon M. (Max) Arrell had been named the new commissioner.

With his retirement, Harvey ended an active career in vocational rehabilitation that spanned some 36 years. In 1945, Harvey joined the staff of the Vocational Rehabilitation Division of the Texas Education Agency. In the years that followed, Harvey served as counselor, supervisor and regional director. When the Texas Rehabilitation Commission was established in 1969, Harvey was promoted to deputy commissioner.



W.K. Harvey, Jr.
Retiring Commissioner



Vernon M. Arrell
New Commissioner

Harvey, a graduate of Texas A&M University, is chairman of the State Occupational Information

Council. He is an active member of the Texas Rehabilitation Association (cont. on p. 4)

From W.K. Harvey, Jr.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every employee for their contribution to the Rehabilitation Commission during the three years that I have been Commissioner. Although I am retiring as Commissioner, my interest in rehabilitation will not diminish, and I look forward to the many good things that I know will happen during the administration of Max Arrell, the newly appointed Commissioner. He is eminently qualified for the job and I know that he will serve the Commission with dignity and a high degree of sensitivity to the needs of disabled citizens of the State of Texas. I know that each and every one of you will give him the same high degree of support that you have given to me.

Best wishes to each of you.

W. K. Harvey, Jr.


Profile: Vernon M. Arrell

New TRC Commissioner Vernon M. (Max) Arrell has devoted most of his adult life to a profession in vocational rehabilitation. Arrell joined the staff of the Vocational Rehabilitation division of the Texas Education Agency in October, 1961, as a counselor. In the 20 years since, Arrell, 47, has steadily moved up the organizational ladder.

Arrell grew up in Abilene, where he graduated from high school in 1951. The next year, he joined the U.S. Navy and saw active duty as diesel engineer on several submarines. Upon receiving an honorable discharge from the Navy in 1956, Arrell enrolled in Hardin-Simmons University. He graduated three years later with a Bachelor of Arts degree, with majors in psychology and education. Arrell then attended Texas Technological College in Lubbock, where he received a Masters degree in psychology with emphasis on vocational rehabilitation.

After completing his education, Arrell worked as a psychologist at the Buckner Children's Home in Dallas for a short time before he joined the Vocational Rehabilitation Division in 1961. Between that year and 1968, he served as a counselor, consultant and Assistant Director for Special Programs. In March of 1968, Arrell went to work for the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation as the Assistant Director of Vocational Rehabilitation. The next

Texas Rehabilitation Commission



VERNON M. ARRELL, COMMISSIONER

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To All TRC Employees:

On March 25, 1981, I was honored when the Texas Rehabilitation Commission Board appointed me Commissioner. I am fully aware of my responsibility to you, the TRC employees, and to the disabled citizens of Texas.

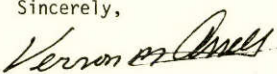
All human service agencies, including the Vocational Rehabilitation program, face considerable changes over the next few years. I am neither intimidated nor overly concerned by these changes. The Vocational Rehabilitation program has withstood the test of time as the best and most efficient method of delivering services to handicapped people. The fact remains that we will have fewer financial resources to work with more severely disabled people.

We must establish an effective and efficient administrative and service delivery system. Each member of the Texas Rehabilitation Commission team must use every available personal and professional resource to best serve the disabled citizens of our communities.

Through the Vocational Rehabilitation Division, Disability Determination Division and Extended Rehabilitation Services Program, the Texas Rehabilitation Commission serves more than 248 thousand people each year. By law, TRC is the principle state agency responsible for the rehabilitation of disabled Texans. By reputation, I would like for the Commission to be known as the state agency that is "First in Service" to the disabled citizens of Texas.

I would like to publicly express my sincere appreciation to Mr. W.K. Harvey, Jr., for the excellent leadership and direction he has given the Commission as its chief Executive Officer for the last three years. The disabled citizens of Texas and the Texas Rehabilitation Commission owe a great debt of gratitude to Mr. Harvey for his dedication.

Sincerely,


Vernon M. Arrell
Commissioner

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year, Arrell served as director of TDMHMR's Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Program.

In 1970, Arrell returned to TRC as Assistant Deputy Commissioner for Special Programs. Prior to becoming commissioner, Arrell served as Deputy Commissioner for Special Programs, Deputy Commissioner for Administration and Executive Deputy Commissioner.

Commissioner Arrell is a member of several professional organizations serving the handicapped and

has served on many state and national committees in the development of programs for the disabled. He has frequently been asked to speak to various conferences on the handicapped and has authored several nationally published articles.

Arrell, a dedicated family man, has been married to his wife, Betty, for 21 years. Their 15 year old daughter, Luann, is a freshman at Anderson High School in Austin.

An avid outdoorsman, Arrell particularly enjoys deer hunting.

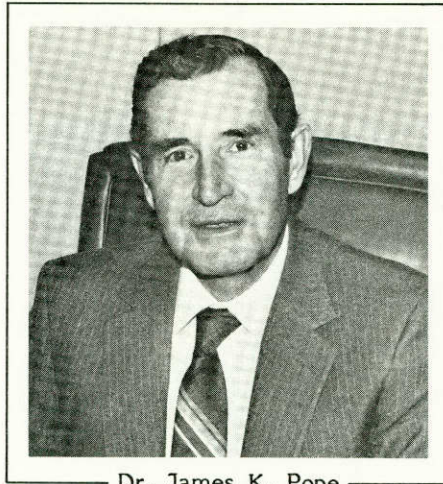
Pope Accepts Medical Consultant Post

This month we welcome Dr. James K. Pope to TRC. Dr. Pope started April 1 as the Commission's Administrative Medical Consultant. Pope replaces Dr. Marvin Schlecte, who retired last year.

Pope is a graduate of the Bowman Gray School of Medicine. He did a residency in general surgery at Walter Reed General Hospital in Washington, D.C. Afterwards, he reentered active duty in the Army and held a number of professional assignments as Chief of General Surgery.

Pope is certified by the American Board of Surgery and has received the Army Medical Department's highest rating for professional excellence in his specialty.

As Administrative Medical Consultant, Pope's



— Dr. James K. Pope —

responsibilities include providing advice, consultation, guidance and limited technical supervision for all medical aspects of vocational rehabilitation and disability determination. The Medical Consultant also serves as secretary for the Medical Consultation Committee.

Murphy Named Planning Director

On April 1, Dr. Cole Murphy became the new Director of Planning and Technical Programs. Murphy succeeds Milt Werner, who retired earlier this year.

Murphy first came to the Commission in 1973, as an employee of the Employment Resources Section. He left TRC in 1976. Immediately before returning to the Commission, Murphy worked for ARBEC, Inc., a private management and educational consulting firm. During the summer of 1979, Murphy came back to the Commission as a Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped staff member.

While taking up new responsibilities, Murphy will leave behind his assignment as State Coordinator for the International Year of Disabled Persons. GCEH Executive Director Virginia Roberts will assume the duties of the state coordinator.

Murphy congratulated Jeff Kaufmann, Administrator of Technical Programs, for his leadership of the Planning Department during the time between Werner's retirement and Murphy's selection. Other Planning staff members are Sybil Montgomery, statistician, and Gloria Lopez, secretary.

Schools Honor Beaumont Office

The folks in the Beaumont Calder Field Office & TRC/DHR Project are real proud of a recent addition to their reception area. There, for all to see, is a Certificate of Appreciation to the Texas Rehabilitation Commission from the Office Education Association of the Beaumont Independent School District.

The Beaumont office has used many of the school district's Vocational Education students in part-time positions. Administrative Technician Nathalie Hallmark says the students have contributed much to the office in the way of secretarial help and that the office plans to continue this program with the school district.



IYDP Notes

The Balcones Little League of Austin has come up with a great way to commemorate the International Year of Disabled Persons. On April 11, the league will dedicate its entire baseball season to IYDP. Allen B. Clark, Jr., assistant to Governor Bill Clements and state liaison to the U.S. Council for IYDP, will meet with the league at its ballpark to help with the dedication.

Some 600 children, ranging in age from 6 to 18, play on the league's 50 teams. TRC's Cole Murphy, the league's Umpire-in-Chief, points out that this is a true example of carrying out the IYDP goals at the local level. It is believed to be the only dedication of this nature in the U.S.



Members of TRC's Reduction In Paperwork (RIP) Committee were honored last month for their efforts to reduce bureaucratic, time-consuming and sometimes costly Commission paperwork. The Commission administration presented each member of the two year old committee with a plaque and a merit raise. Committee members pictured here are (left to right) Howard Marnan, San Antonio; Milt Werner, Central Office (retired); Ken Bowen, Victoria; Jack Nash, LaMarque; Rick Phelan, Central Office; Joe Mosel, Corpus Christi; Delvin Sparks, Central Office; Merry Buerschinger, Austin; and Hardy Bell, Denton. Several other TRC employees were actively involved with the RIP Committee, though not official members. Their efforts were praised during the brief award ceremony.

Up the Ladder

Congratulations to 11 TRC Counselors who have been promoted to Senior Counselors. The counselors come from four regions. Their promotion became effective April 1.

The new Senior Counselors are:

Region II -

Charles Byars
and John Cosgrove;

Region III -

Jerry Joseph;

Region V -

Joe Rodriguez,
Armando Garcia,
Mario Abraham
and K.O. Pierce;

Region VI -

Fancher Melton,
Jake Reeves,
John Wayland
and Ben Cadenhead.

Happy Easter

Calendar of Events

Mar. 31- <u>Apr. 1</u>	Training Officers/MBO Conference	Central Office
<u>APRIL</u> 2-3	Press Relations Training (Counselors from all Regions)	Central Office
6-10	Managing a State Rehabilitation Agency	RAMP, Univ. of Oklahoma
7-10	Fundamentals of VR Counseling (3rd week)	SAHS, UT Health Science Center, Dallas
8-9	MBO Training for Supervisors (Regions I, II, III, & VI)	Fort Worth

(cont. from p. 1)

and National Rehabilitation Association. He holds memberships on numerous national, state and local committees as well.

Last year, Harvey received the National Rehabilitation Association's Voyle C. Scurlock Award for outstanding leadership in rehabilitation for more than a quarter of a century. Harvey has also received the Distinguished Citizen Award from Goodwill Industries of Houston, the Humanitarian Award from the Texas Rehabilitation Association and the Award for Patriotic Service from the United States Savings Bond Program.

TRC News & Views is printed by the Texas Rehabilitation Commission for distribution to its employees and retirees. Letters to the Editor may be addressed to Kaye Beneke, Public Information Office, Texas Rehabilitation Commission, 118 E. Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas 78704; or telephone (512) 447-0745, (Tex-An) 823-4745.