

REPORT

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to employees concerning people, programs and progress
of the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation

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No. 10

New Commissioner

Wade Heads TDMHMR

The Texas Board of Mental Health and Mental Retardation has named David Wade, M.D., as Commissioner of the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation.

Dr. Wade's appointment was announced by Ward R. Burke, Board chairman who said, "the Board is firmly convinced he is the right man for the right job at the right time."



DAVID WADE, M.D.

Formerly director of the Governor's office of comprehensive health planning, Dr. Wade is a psychiatrist with an extensive background in medical administration.

ARKANSAS NATIVE

A native of Arkansas, the new Commissioner holds Bachelor of Science and Doctor of Medicine degrees from the University of Arkansas and is a diplomate of the American Board of Neurology and Psychiatry. His professional experience includes 20 years of private psychiatric practice in Austin. He has served as assistant superintendent and superintendent of the State Psychopathic Hospital in Galveston and clinical director of the Texas State Hospital System. Dr. Wade has served as superintendent of

Austin State School and Rusk State Hospital.

From 1945 until 1967, Dr. Wade was medical administrative consultant with the Texas Education Agency, and

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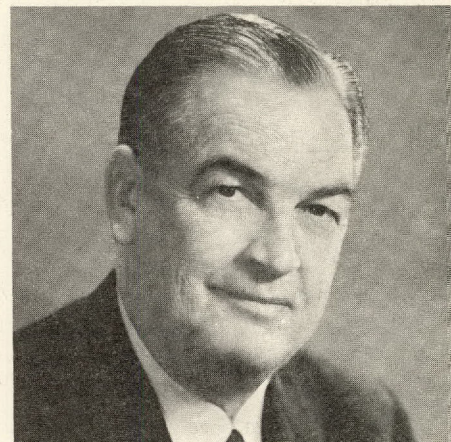
Burke Asks Support For Commissioner Wade; Lauds Scott's Guidance

Ward R. Burke, chairman of the Texas Board of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, has requested the continued support of all employees of the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation under the leadership of Commissioner David Wade, M.D. Burke also commended Earl M. Scott, administrative assistant, for his leadership of the department as Acting Commissioner.

Burke's letter to all employees of the department said,

"We never forget that service to the mentally ill and the mentally retarded of Texas is dependent upon the work and dedication of each of you and we express to you our deep and sincere appreciation. We know that you need assistance and leadership from the Board and from the office of the Commissioner. The Board, through me, expresses to each of you our commitment to you and to the program of this Department in the attainment of the best services for the mentally ill and the mentally retarded under the guidance of our new Commissioner, Dr. David Wade of Austin. He is eminently qualified for this office and completely dedicated to our goals and our policies. If he succeeds, the mentally ill and the

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JOE K. BUTLER

Butler Appointed To MH/MR Board

Joe K. Butler, Houston businessman, was appointed to the Texas Board of Mental Health and Mental Retardation on August 26 by Governor Preston Smith.

Butler fills the unexpired term of Isaac A. Arnold of Houston, who recently resigned from the Board.

A native of Whitewright, Butler is president and sole owner of Butler Drilling Company and managing partner of Butler Service Company.

Butler is a petroleum engineering graduate of The University of Texas.

An active civic leader, he is presently serving on the boards of directors of the Greater Houston Bowl Association (Astro Bluebonnet Bowl), the Pin Oak Charity Horse Show of Houston, the East End State Bank and the Longhorn Club of The University of Texas. Butler is also chairman of the Houston Chamber of Commerce Athletic Committee and a member of the executive committee of the Dads' Association of The University of Texas.

Butler is married to the former Hortense Tellepsen of Houston. The couple has two sons and one daughter.

Denton School Selected For Educational Project



MR EDUCATION PROJECT team members at Denton State School includes left to right, Mrs. Tommye Alcoze, Mrs. Jean Judy, Mrs. Agnes Cooke, and Mrs. Dorcy Rohre.

Denton State School is one of five institutions in the U.S. to participate in a pilot education project to develop maximum potential of physically handicapped retarded children.

A four-member team from the school recently completed a month-long course in conjunction with the project.

International Scientists To Attend TRI Symposium

Brain Chemistry and Mental Disease is the topic of the fourth international symposium to be held November 18-20 at Texas Research Institute of Mental Sciences, Houston.

Leading researchers and clinicians from this country and abroad have been invited to present papers on the neurochemistry and psychopharmacology of schizophrenia and mental disorders and on recent work to improve treatment for these diseases. Beng T. Ho, Ph.D., TRI assistant director and head of the neurochemistry and neuropharmacology division, is symposium organizer.

Chairmen for the various sessions include Akira Horita, Ph.D., University of Washington; Joseph J. Schildkraut, M.D., Harvard Medical School; Gordon Farrell, M.D., TRI; Samuel Gershon, M.D., New York University; and Irwin J. Kopin, M.D., Laboratory of Clinical Science, National Institute of Mental Health.

The course, conducted by the University of Wisconsin, utilizes an interdisciplinary approach to develop the physical, emotional, social and intellectual growth of retardates with neuromotor and sensory disabilities. The clinical portion of the course was held at the Central Wisconsin Colony and Training School.

Other institutions participating in the project are Fairbault State Hospital, Minnesota; Mansfield Training School, Connecticut; Georgia Retardation Center and Central Wisconsin Colony and Training School.

The Denton facility's participation in the program was coordinated by the TDMHMR Office for Educational and Training Services.

Staff members attending the course included Mrs. Tommye O. Alcoze, R.N., director of training; Mrs. Agnes Cooke, R.N., acting director of nursing service; Mrs. Jean Judy, registered occupational therapist; and Mrs. Dorcy Rohre, registered physical therapist.

During the year, the teams will train ancillary personnel in techniques learned at the university. In June, 1971, the teams will return to the university campus in Madison to report and evaluate the project.

TDMHMR officials said regional seminars in the techniques are planned in 1972 for all Department institutions.

TDMHMR Houses Health Data Institute

The Texas Health Data Institute, established to identify, collect, and assemble health and related data, has been opened at the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation Central Office in Austin.

The institute, directed by Jack C. Carmichael, is collecting data for use by state and regional health planning agencies to help health professions provide better care for more people with the resources available.

A \$181,600 interagency contract between the Governor's Office of Comprehensive Health Planning and the Texas State Department of Health was awarded in July to begin the institute.

Technical objectives of the institute include identifying demographic patterns of health services, establishing patterns of health needs, and developing methods to identify health service requirements; and making health data compatible between all state agencies.

TDMHMR Board Commends Cromer; Plaque Presented

Horace E. Cromer Jr., M.D., first chairman of the Texas Board of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, was honored recently for his years of service to the Board.

A resolution of appreciation was presented to Dr. Cromer at the August 29 Board meeting. The resolution stated, in part, "that Dr. Cromer be recognized and applauded for his leadership, devotion and inspiration so unselfishly given to the mentally ill and mentally retarded citizens of Texas through his service on this Board."

Dr. Cromer was appointed to the Board for Texas State Hospitals and Schools in 1961 by Governor John Connally. When the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation was created in 1965, he served as chairman of the Department's Board for four years.

Drs. Connolly, Neill Take TDMHMR Posts

Arch M. Connolly, M.D., superintendent of Rusk State Hospital since 1967, has been named acting assistant deputy commissioner of Mental Health Services for the TDMHMR.

The appointment, effective immediately, was announced by David Wade, M.D., Commissioner.

"Dr. Connolly comes to Central Office after demonstrating innovative leadership at Rusk," Dr. Wade said. During Dr. Connolly's administration, the Rusk facility received the highly coveted accreditation from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals, he added.

Lex Neill, M.D. has been named acting superintendent of Rusk hospital. Dr. Neill, a staff psychiatrist at the hospital, has been with the institution since 1962.

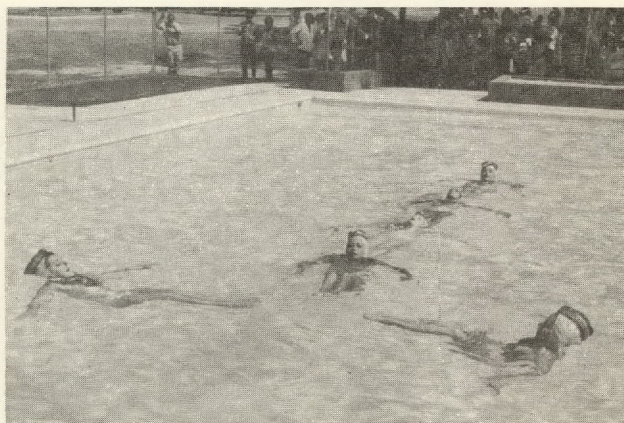
As acting assistant deputy commissioner Dr. Connolly will report directly to the Commissioner.

VSC Meeting Set For October 8 - 10 On Padre Island

The 12th annual meeting of the Volunteer Services Council for Texas State Hospitals and Special Schools will be held October 8-10 on South Padre Island.

David Wade, M.D., TDMHMR Commissioner, will deliver the keynote address. Dr. Wade is expected to make a major policy statement at the meeting.

Representatives of 26 affiliated programs will attend the meeting and workshop at the Sea Island Hotel.



THE SWIMMING POOL at San Antonio State Hospital was formally dedicated recently by Joseph G. Cocke, M.D., hospital superintendent, left, and A.E. Weikel, president of the Volunteer Council. At right, the San Antonio Silver Fins swim team present an aqua show in the new pool.

Burke Letters

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mentally retarded of Texas will be benefitted. If he fails, to some extent our programs will also suffer and some will fail."

"With your help, Dr. Wade and this Department can succeed in its goals and its programs. Without your devoted assistance, neither this Board nor any Commissioner can succeed. I believe we will have, and Dr. Wade will have, your prayers, your support, and your cooperation."

Richmond Donation Assists Victims Of Corpus Hurricane

A check for \$120 has been donated by students and staff of Richmond State School to assist the staff of Corpus Christi State School in recovering from the effects of Hurricane Celia.

The money was raised by donations and the proceeds of a garage sale, bake sale, baseball game and lemonade sales.

Monty Sontag, Ed. D., superintendent of Corpus Christi State School, said the money was distributed among houseparents in appreciation for the outstanding job they are doing.

Approximately 20 of the school's house parents are temporarily assigned to Austin and Travis State Schools and are helping with the care of Corpus residents evacuated following the hurricane.

The school, temporarily closed by the storm, is expected to begin readmitting residents in early October.

"I urge each of you to continue and improve upon the services you have been rendering in this Department, and I most urgently and respectfully request that you cooperate with and assist Dr. David Wade in his efforts to improve the services of this Department to the mentally ill and the mentally retarded of Texas, through its institutions, its clinics, its outreach programs and the community mental health and/or mental retardation centers."

SCOTT COMMENDED

In the letter to Scott, Burke said,

"It has been my privilege and pleasure to be closely associated with the work you have done as Chief of Legal Services since 1963, first in the Texas Department of Hospitals and Special Schools, and since September 1, 1965, in the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation."

"Under very trying circumstances, you became Administrative Assistant to the Commissioner and then served as Acting Commissioner of this Department until Dr. David Wade was chosen as Commissioner on August 29. During all of these years, and many times in very difficult circumstances, you constantly maintained a judicial poise, did not become involved in personal animosities and steadfastly rendered that type and character of fair and impartial services that are the hallmark of a good attorney."

DEVOTION TO SERVICE

"In the period you served as Acting Commissioner, it was my privilege and duty to work closely with you in the operation of this Department. You continued to demonstrate a devotion to the delivery of services to the mentally ill and the mentally retarded of Texas. Under severe stress, you remained calm, carefully considered alternatives and took those actions that were honest, forthright and best calculated to benefit the operations of this Department."

"You were of invaluable assistance to this Board and to myself as Chairman, you were considerate of the problems of all the personnel of this Department, and you have rendered outstanding administrative services in continuing and improving the operations of this Department. Of course, your efforts would not have been successful without the cooperation of the employees of this Department and I commend each of them, as well as you, for the excellent services that have been rendered."

PERSONAL MENTION

Jacob Blasser, M.D., has been appointed chief of the Center Pavilion Hospital treatment center at the Texas Research Institute for Mental Sciences, Houston.

Central Office staff appointments include **James Dalton**, acting chief claims officer; **Helen Colburn**, volunteer services consultant; **Bill Kerr**, consultant, Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Programs; and **George Small**, training consultant, Alcoholism Programs.

Merrill Wallach, M.D., has joined the staff of Austin State Hospital as a neuropsychiatric resident.

Ruth Kerley has been named coordinator of volunteer services, Amarillo State Center for Human Development.

Staff appointments at San Angelo center include **Richard L. Mahler** chaplain; **James T. Rountree, M.D.**, medical director; and **Russell Burbank**, director of inservice training.

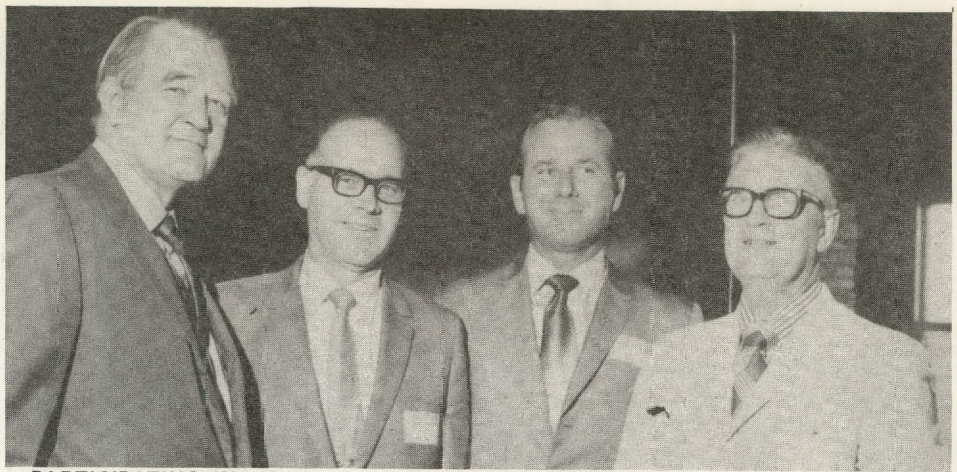
Daniel J. Joubert, M.D., is a new staff psychiatrist at Rusk State Hospital.

Alford W. Davis has been appointed assistant personnel officer at Terrell State Hospital.

James Craft, Ed.D., assistant to the deputy commissioner for mental retardation, has received his doctor of education degree from Baylor University, Waco.

SERVICE AWARDS

Mrs. Gay Solomon, Central Office accounting clerk, has retired after 13 years' service.



PARTICIPATING IN a September 12 community MH/MR center progress meeting at Lake Belton were, left to right, Robert S. Tate Jr., D.D., Texas Board of MH/MR; Louis DeMoll, Austin-Travis County MH/MR Board of Trustees; Bascom Hodges, TDMHMR regional coordinator; and S.R. Greenwood, Bell County MH/MR Board of Trustees.

Denton Observes Tenth Anniversary

A special program observing the 10th anniversary of Denton State School was held September 13 to mark the growth of North Texas' largest public service facility.

Featured events of the anniversary program included an open house and dedication of the school's new sheltered workshop.

The program concluded with the annual Volunteer Council Awards Banquet honoring volunteer workers and 13 employees who have been with the school since it opened in 1960.

Through several cooperative programs, the school also provides a field for intensive vocational training for students of North Texas State University, Texas Woman's University, Baylor School of Dentistry at Dallas and The University of Texas at Arlington.

Dr. Wade . . .

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was instrumental in establishing such programs as the Physical Restoration Program in Vocational Rehabilitation; Rehabilitation Program for the Mentally III and Mentally Retarded; Health Referral Service; Old Age and Survivor's Insurance Program; and the Vocational Rehabilitation Medical Advisory Committee System.

From 1967 until 1969, Dr. Wade was assistant commissioner for medical administration with the Department of Public Welfare.

At his first meeting with the TDMHMR Central Office Staff, the Commissioner stressed the need for commitment to service from everyone in the Department. "We must never forget that our first concern and primary reason for being a department of the State of Texas is the welfare of every patient in the wards of all our state hospitals and all residents of our state schools," he said.

Texas Department
of Mental Health
and Mental Retardation



David Wade, M.D.
Commissioner

Box 12668, Capitol Station
Austin, Texas 78711
512 454-3761