

Deer Leaps In Path Of Truck

While driving to his home in East Dallas Monday night about 6:30 in Hislop's Economy Store truck, Tommy Moore struck a four-point deer near the intersection of Route 309 and Center Hill Road.

The buck leapt into his path with such suddenness that Tom had little opportunity to apply the brakes. The deer was badly injured. Game Protectors who were called dispatched it.

Jackson Institution Is Designed To Handle Mentally Retarded Males

Correctional Institution Will Accommodate 1,500 Who Need Training And Also Discipline

When the new \$10,000,000 institution for Defective Delinquents in Jackson Township begins to accept youths in late 1956, it will mark the opening of a unique institution

in the history of the Commonwealth. Designed to accommodate up to 1,500 inmates, the new institution will be designed specifically as a correctional institution for the training and treatment of male, mentally deficient delinquents.

Individuals sent to the setup from all the State's 67 counties—because they have committed some offense against the law and because their intelligence is below normal. They will receive training and treatment aimed at improving the manner in which they use their limited intelligence and other abilities.

The institution is not to be confused with a hospital for the mentally ill. It will focus an individual-centered program of training and treatment, stressing industrial and disciplinary instruction and guidance for better citizenship.

Among the first inmates entering the new institution, near Dallas, will be all defective delinquents housed at the Pennsylvania Institution for Defective Delinquents at Huntingdon. There are 860 defective delinquents at Huntingdon, but some of those will have been paroled by the time the new institution is completed. Sole purpose of the new institution will be to develop to the fullest extent qualities possessed by the delinquent individuals whose mental equipment places them below normal standards. It will not be, in any sense of the word, a hospital. Its hope will be to assist the inmates in acquiring skills within the field of their mental limitations.

Operation of the Jackson Township Institution will be patterned after the Institution for Defective Delinquents at Huntingdon, of which John D. Pennington has been superintendent 18 years. The Huntingdon institution was not designated as a penal institution for defective delinquents until March 1, 1945. Prior to that it was known as an industrial school. It is now in the process of being converted into a medium security prison.

Pennington has developed sound principles and methods of operations for the institution for defective delinquents and it is anticipated Pennington's individualized training programs will be continued at the new institution in Jackson Township. The guiding principle will be control without repression and control without sentimentality. The ideal will be "firmness without harshness; strength without brutality; kindness without indulgence."

Personnel of the institution will take into consideration the fact most deficient individuals are born that way. In only rare cases the condition occurs after birth. To be mentally deficient is just as permanent a personal handicap as to be born without an arm or leg. There is no training or treatment known to science to provide intelligence which the individual never had, just as it is impossible for man to grow an arm or leg.

The mentally deficient are very slow learners. A long period of industrial and disciplinary training is required to teach them proper and orderly work and behavior habits. None will ever become perfect in the sense that their low intelligence is "cured."

The training program at Jackson Township institution will aim to return those individuals to their homes who can and do learn enough to behave properly and work regularly under continuing supervision in

Vice President Lends Hand In "Pumping for Polio" Drive



WASHINGTON, D. C.—Vice President Richard M. Nixon resumed briefly a job of service station attendant, which he had in college, when he recently went to a station of the American Oil Company here to help the March of Dimes Campaign. His customer shown here is Carol Vitello, 5-year-old victim of polio, who needs some gas for her miniature car. Service stations participating in the "Pumping for Polio" drive donated their day's profits to the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

free society.

The new Jackson Township correctional institution will provide industrial and disciplinary training for male defective delinquent 15 years of age or more on admission. Commitments will be from all 67 counties in the State. All admissions will be by court order for commission of a crime or as a juvenile delinquent, after proper examination by qualified examiners. Some sentenced cases also will be transferred from other penal institutions or the diagnostic centers by administrative order, according to law.

According to latest data compiled at Huntingdon (similar figures presumably will apply at Jackson Township) statistics show 65 per cent of the inmates are white and 35 per cent are Negro. Admissions average 12 monthly and discharges average 11 a month. Average IQ is 63. Forty-five per cent of the inmates are illiterate on admission. Average admission age of population is 23 years, with the range from 15 years to 56 years. Average individual training program of those discharged in 1953 was 55 months, with range from 17 months to 153 months.

Since the defective delinquent is a notoriously slow learner, the training program at Jackson Township will be by necessity a protracted one. All institutional activities will be geared to the inmates level and all personnel indoctrinated accordingly. Patience and understanding will be cardinal custodial virtues in the institution.

Main objective of the institution will be rehabilitating the inmate through a process of retraining of each individual. By retraining is meant what commonly is called character formation. Training will not be merely an affair of the school and shop. It will be equally an affair of the playground, of the dining hall and the cell house. Basic objectives will be character build-

ing. Acquisition of skills will be secondary.

As at Huntingdon, the heart of the rehabilitation program will be found in the operation of a classified clinic, which consists of representatives of the professional, custodial, mechanical and industrial services. Classification includes the following aspects: custody, guidance ap-

proach, housing, school and work assignments, discipline, physical and mental health, the determination of the date of parole, as well as careful planning for adjustment of the boy in family and social life upon release.

Broadly conceived, education in the institution will include the following elements: Discipline, health, school, recreational activities, vocational and industrial training, religious and moral training. It is intended to form regular work habits, create a spirit of cooperation with others in work and play; and give training in specific situations in habits of self-reliance, dependability, honesty and trustworthiness.

Pennington is known in this area having been chief enforcement officer in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware during part of the prohibition era. At the time the local prohibition enforcement office was on second floor of the Berk Building, South Washington and East Northampton Streets.

A retired naval commander who rose through the ranks, Pennington had experience in Navy institutional operations before he became superintendent at the Pennsylvania State institution at Huntingdon. For a time during Gov. George H. Earle's administration Pennington served as State Secretary of Welfare in addition to his duties at the Huntingdon institution. Pennington was here last Thursday at the ground breaking ceremonies for the new institution in Jackson Township.

—From The Wilkes-Barre Record

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