

# Sunday Breaks Jail-Like Routine At Feeble-Minded School

## Patients Attend Chapel In Their Best Clothes; Many Active in Sports

Baseball, Cards, Checkers Help to Diversify Monotony; Attendants Overworked, Underpaid

(Fourth of a Series)

By DAVID WATSON

ONE DAY a week patients at the Ft. Wayne School for Feeble Minded Youth dress in their Sunday best. This is on Sunday, and they look forward to it.

I issued their clothes and helped many to dress as I worked as an attendant investigating complaints to The Times on conditions at the institution.

All week the life of the inmates, living in a half world, is as regimented as life in a penitentiary.

They seem to feel the difference in dress on Sunday. It is a break in the weekly routine. Chapel services are held in the gymnasium, a relatively new, large and clean building. The boys and girls are separated. One side of the building's bleachers are assigned to each group. Services are held for the various denominations.

WITH THE exception of the younger patients they sat in reverent silence. Most were attentive although a few heads nodded sleepily.

In impressive unison, they said their prayers and the songs were sung with feeling.

The services over, they trooped back to their quarters to store the Sunday clothes for another week or for some special occasion.

The rest of the day is a holiday, but no visitors are allowed. Institution help must have time off and it is generally given on Sunday.

As many activities as possible, within the ability of the personnel and physical limitations of the school, are provided.

In season basketball games are played. A gymnasium provides space for baseball and there are stands for a substantial crowd. At other times inmates play horse-shoes, cards, checkers or just stand and sit when they have no duties to perform.

SOME OF THE youths attend a regular school on the grounds while others receive limited teaching in the day rooms. Many receive occupational therapy.

But it is a circumscribed world in drab surroundings supervised by an underpaid and overworked group of attendants.

Within these surroundings live the patients, many of whom have grown up in the institution. Some have not been off the grounds in years. Then there are those whose relatives have died. There is little chance they ever will be released.

A total of 1700 live on the institution yesterday.



DETENTION—Punishment may mean confinement in jail at the Ft. Wayne State School for Feeble Minded. Running away and insubordination are the usual offenses. There are no fixed sentences for either offense.

## Russ Brass Convinced War To Come: Von Schuschnigg

High members of the Communist Party in Russia believe that war is inevitable, Kurt von Schuschnigg, former Austrian chancellor, told a T. DeGow forum not expect any radical alteration in the present plan.

Their offenders are sentenced to the school jail. Confinement is not always the same length of time for the same offense.

Dr. von Schuschnigg likened not the present Soviet "expansion" is taking a firm, positive stand.

Adolph Hitler before World War means business."

They are using the same approach and the same arguments.

Outlaw's Son Refuses

To Meet New Contender

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 8 (UPI)— Jesse James, son, will not meet

Confederacy of Europe as the present only solution to the Nazi concentration camp.

Though he spoke clearly and forcefully, Dr. von Schuschnigg's emaciated frame still reflected the austerities of five years spent in Nazi concentration camp.

He declined to speak of his personal experiences stating they were secondary and insignificant when compared with world problems.

Praised Marshall Plan

The speaker praised the Marshall Plan and other programs of European relief. Asked whether he anticipated a change in U. S. policy should a Republican administration be elected between James and the Oklahoman in November, he replied that as

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