

## Care Of Children Accounts For Most Of Welfare Work

### Monthly Statistical Report Released By State Board

Services relating to medical and health care and services to individual children accounted for approximately 70 per cent of the activities of North Carolina's 100 county departments of public welfare in June, 1950, other than public assistance, according to the monthly statistical report of the State Board of Public Welfare.

The report shows that 10,036 medical and health care services by county departments were rendered during the month. In addition, it points out that a total of 15,688 services were given to individual children during June, most recent month for which an up-to-date accounting is available.

The statistical report also indicates the special types of non-financial services rendered throughout the state. Some of those:

One hundred five final adoption orders for children were registered, bringing the total of adoptions completed in 1950 to 546, with 1,228 adoptions proceedings pending; 2,239 child labor certificates were issued; 1,284 services in the supervision of adult parolees were reported; 1,780 family counselling services were rendered; 922 vocational rehabilitation cases were given service; 177 psychological examinations were conducted; and a total of 341 boarding homes for children, 281 for white children and 60 for Negroes, were actively supervised by county departments of public welfare.

"These figures should be enlightening to those who think that activities of the departments of public welfare are limited to administering financial grants to needy aged and dependent children," comments Dr. Ellen Winston, Commissioner of the State Board of Public Welfare. "Our program is largely devoted to helping people help themselves."

At the same time, she points out,

## GOOD HEALTH



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### Answer to Question No. 1:

1. The causes of rheumatic fever are now so effectively treated by new drugs that the rheumatic fever death rate is only one-fifth what it was in 1920. Most of the improvement has been accomplished in the past ten years. But take no chances. It's still very dangerous, especially because of its serious effect on the heart.

### Answer to Question No. 2:

2. Furnishings, from crib to crib, cost about \$300 on a national average and medical care

and hospitalization come to about \$255, a minimum which varies with local factors. Prepayment insurance like Blue Cross and Blue Shield can reduce the medical cost—at the beginning and throughout the child's life.

### Answer to Question No. 3:

3. Cytology—the study of living cells—permits early detection of uterine cancer, of which 20,000 women in the United States and Canada die each year. Early detection is the only good bet in the case of cancer.

June 1950 found public assistance case loads still rising in North Carolina as a result of high costs of living, increased numbers of aged, and disasters in local areas.

Sixty-four thousand four hundred eleven of the state's needy aged received Old Age Assistance grants in that month, with the average payment to each being only \$22.27. Although the 1949 Legislature had anticipated

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an average grant of \$26, it has been impossible to reach this figure, because of rising case loads, according to Dr. Winston. Even so, she points out, North Carolina has a low case



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load in comparison with most Southern states.

Aid to Dependent Children provided help for 15,491 families during June, with 43,321 youngsters in these families being aided. Average grants per family were \$43.60, or about \$11 per person in the family group. Only 25 children per 1,000 currently receive this type of aid, according to Dr. Winston.

In both Old Age Assistance and Aid to Dependent Children, the Federal government bears approximately three-fourths of the cost with the remaining one-fourth divided between state and county funds. The low grants in North Carolina, in comparison with national averages, are due to the limited state and county funds available.

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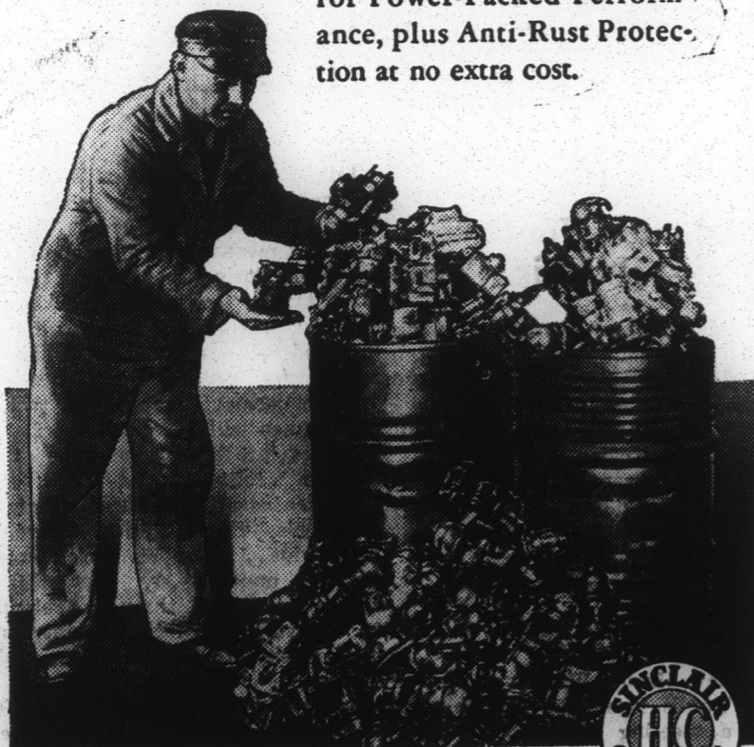
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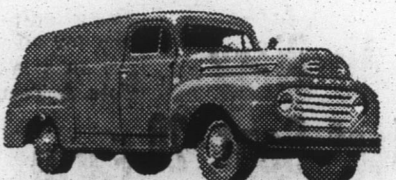
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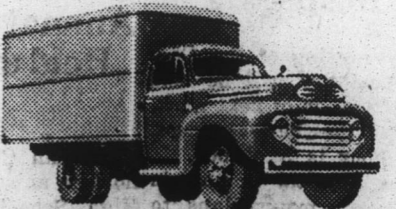
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