

Assistance Given By Welfare Dept. Varied & Numerous

Do people in need of assistance other than money receive services from county departments of public welfare?

The report shows that approximately one in every 25 persons in North Carolina received direct help of a non-financial nature last year from the county public welfare departments.

Approximately half of all the people aided by county departments received only non-financial services.

Well over 160,000 people in 46,000 families received non-financial services without any financial aid during the year. This is in addition to the 100,000 cases, including about 150,000 individuals, who received old age assistance, aid to dependent children, aid to the permanently and totally disabled, general assistance, and other financial assistance during the year.

These and other facts came to light recently as the State Board of Public Welfare made a special study of the types of non-financial services being given to citizens in the State.

People come to the public welfare departments to ask for help with many different kinds of problems. Through the special skills of the public welfare workers, assistance is given wherever possible

or helpful referrals made to other agencies which can be of service.

While most of the non-financial service cases received only one type of service, the report showed that nearly 7 per cent of all the families received two or more types of non-financial service from the department of public welfare.

Many of the families needed specialized service from the department of public welfare for a short time only. Nearly 29 per cent received such service for less than one month. The average length of time the service was given was a little less than three months. One-third of the families (15,500) were still receiving services from the departments at the close of the fiscal year 1954-55. The number of cases receiving non-financial service in the several counties ranged all the way from 24 in Alexander County to 2,882 in Durham County. The over-all rate for the State was 37.5 out of every 1,000 persons receiving non-financial services from the departments of public welfare at some time during the year.

Over 35 per cent of the families received services for children. These services included placement for adoption, placement in foster home or institution, medical and health care, crippled children service, behavior problems, etc.

In addition, investigation of families applying for adoption and helping families to prepare for the adoption of children constituted 7 per cent of the total served during the year.

Nearly 20 per cent of the families receiving non-financial services received medical and health care services in connection with making available to the person such health care and medical care and hospitalization as was needed.

Five per cent of the families received services in domestic relations problems where help was provided toward improving adjustment between individuals and preserving the unity of the family.

Adult parole supervision accounted for 4 per cent of the families served. Parolees from prison under the supervision of the department of public welfare were given this service in accordance with the legal responsibilities of the county welfare departments.

Other services given included families that received services in connection with support payments for children, services involved in finding, licensing, and supervising foster boarding homes for children; referrals where necessary to clinics or institutions or casework services to adults with mental problems; and assistance to persons in obtaining vocational rehabilitation services.

There were 21,842 child labor permits and 428 age certificates issued by the county departments of public welfare for the State Department of Labor during the year. These were not included in the 46,237 non-financial cases except in special cases where extensive investigations were necessary to determine whether permits should be issued.

Still other phases of the non-financial services provided to people in every walk of life throughout the State of North Carolina last year by the county welfare departments include: referral to other agencies; cases relating to admission of a person to a county home; help for operators and families in finding, developing, and licensing boarding homes for the aged and infirm; selective service investigations; counseling on education and training; investigation of prisoners; recommendations relating to old age and survivors insurance benefits; placement of State hospital patients outside the hospital; and other types of service.

Men are never so good or so bad as their opinions. —Jas. Macintosh.

It is the mind that makes the man, and our vigour is in our immortal soul. —Ovid.



THE SILENT ALARM—Trappist monks scan the heavens day and night from rooftops of Our Lady of New Mellary monastery, Dubuque, Iowa, as members of the nation's Ground Observer Corps. Those among the complement of 40 sky-watchers who man telephones to the Air Force Filter Center at Des Moines have been granted special permission by their religious superiors to break the order's vow of silence. The monks normally communicate by hand signals only.

News Report From Washington

Storm Inside Russia? Washington Buzzes—War Clouds In Near East—Time Grows Short—

Washington—The current and sensational developments involving the blasting of the long-nurtured myths about Joseph Stalin, the so-called Man of Steel, who was thought (by most of the Russian people) to have saved the USSR from Hitler's hordes, is the hottest topic among diplomatic sources in the national capital.

Moreover, it is the hottest topic that has come along in the capital in a number of years. The impression in Washington is that Nikita Khrushchev is behind the move, with Marshal Bulganin and Defense Minister Zhukov squarely behind him.

Washington cannot officially get into the ruckus, but U. S. diplomats are pleased that the Russian people are at least to be given some of the truth about Uncle Joe. If the Russians are given the true picture of Stalin, they might be given the facts on some of his broken pledges to the western allies, it is reasoned.

This may be wishful thinking, but how can the truth about Stalin be revealed without also revealing some of his duplicity in dealing with the democracies? Khrushchev is thought to have made a courageous decision in deciding to let the Russian people in on the monstrous discovery of the era inside the USSR.

That there has been more serious reaction than Khrushchev hoped is pretty well established, but whether the reaction has amounted to anything serious enough to shake his hold on the reins of the Communist party in Russia—the key to power—is not known.

It is speculated, though, that Malenkov might have been sent out of the country just as reactions were beginning to get hot. The former Premier, who was long Stalin's secretary, and who took over from Stalin after the latter's death, with reduced powers, but as Premier was sent to England for a three-weeks stay just as news of varied and scattered reactions to the Stalin debunking leaked out.

Present leaders in the Kremlin indicate they have matters well under control. And Malenkov has apparently sided with the present majority sentiment in power, because he intimated to English hosts a few days ago that Stalin was not what propaganda had blown him up to be.

Nevertheless, Malenkov could be a key man in the developing picture in Russia, if there is any major reaction to the deflation of Joseph Stalin, people's hero. Khrushchev had not rubbed Malenkov out, in the great Communist tradition of Russia, but only demoted him. He therefore remains as a possible center of a counter reaction, and it seems significant that he was moved out of the country for an extended period—for the first time in his life—just as the recent debunking campaign in Russia began to be felt.

Washington is hearing conflicting reports on the deteriorating situation in the Middle East. From sources close to Israeli armed forces chiefs, the word is that the Arab countries are preparing to attack Israel as soon as they acquire enough arms, from Communist and other sources, and Egypt is named as the number-one motivator in the Arab camp.

But from Arab sources, Washington hears that Israel was resigned to preventative war some months ago, and had actually set March 1st as the opening day of that conflict.

Arab sources think world opinion—especially as reflected at the UN—and the supply of arms Arab countries began to receive from the Communists, stalled the Israeli attack.

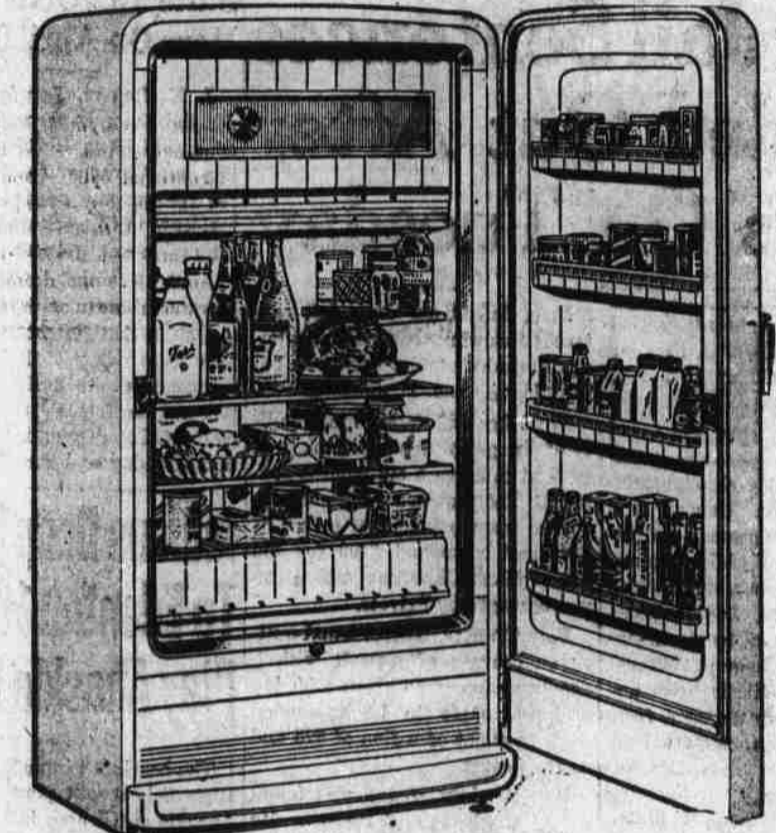
It is hard to know what the exact situation is in the Middle East from week to week. But the two opposed forces agree on one thing, and that is that war is next to inevitable.

Israel is pressing the State Department hard for sixty million dollars worth of "defensive" arms, while the Arab countries are currently buying arms from Communist countries and in some cases, from the democracies.

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