

# More Patients Treated Faster

By TIM RICHARD  
Today there are only half as many patients residing at Northville State Hospital as five years ago. Yet for the year, more than three times as many persons are admitted and treated.

Meanwhile, the number of persons working at NSH has remained almost constant for a decade.

How can the same number of persons treat three times as many patients in a year but only half as many at any one time?

Dr. Richard Budd, medical superintendent of the hospital on Seven Mile Road for the last two years, attributes the faster treatment to preventive care, faster treatment with modern medication, and more intensive "after-care."

IN AN ERA when government services are inefficient, the care of mental patients has shown steady improvement. An economist would say that with the same amount of input, there has been a tripling of the output.

Specifically:  
● In 1965 the hospital census was 2,250 patients. Last month it was 1,050.

● Five years ago, NSH was admitting and discharging 930 patients a year. Currently the rate is 3,200 admissions and 3,300 discharges.

● In the past, the patient's stay was one or two years long. Today, says Dr. Budd, "the average length of stay is 89 days, and for new admissions it's 49 days."

He explains: "In the ad-

missions units, only 36 have stayed more than a year. Very few persons need long-term hospitalization. Fewer than 10 per cent of the patients we have now will need long-term care of over six months."

ONE REASON is early care in the community-taking care of people before they have to become patients. For this, NSH is divided into five community units in its service area—the west side of Detroit and northwestern Wayne County.

"One social worker at the Fisher Center (in a former rectory on Detroit's 12th Street) gave emergency treatment to 91 people and provided consultation to another 100," says Dr. Budd.

Forty to 50 of those 91 would ordinarily have been admitted to the hospital. But with this treatment, only 10 had to be hospitalized.

"This saved a tremendous amount of money for the state. If that social worker saved 40 hospitalizations, if hospital costs are \$30 a day, and if the average stay is 49 days..." He got out a slide rule.

"That's a savings of \$38,800. This is in one year!"

ANOTHER factor in NSH's increasing efficiency is after-care.

"If we don't follow up on patients, up to 80 per cent may return. With aftercare, only 20 to 33 per cent return," says Dr. Budd.

The theory is that patients

respond better in a normal community setting than when cooped up in an institution. In 320 cases, patients have been placed in "family care" homes where they can be followed up by caseworkers; these patients are said to be "half-way out of the hospital."

Treatment may be medication or psychotherapy; it may also be helping the patient get a job or obtaining legal counseling.

ALWAYS there's an emphasis on prompt treatment, and the long waiting list to get into a mental hospital has been virtually eliminated. Says Dr. Budd: "If you got sick and had to wait six months to get into a hospital, you're going to be a mighty sick cookie by the time you got in."

Thus, promptness itself saves money.

NSH has recently split its in-patients into 18 smaller units of roughly 40 patients each, and each unit operates its own program almost autonomously. The result is that there are no "chronic" wards, and all wards treat all types of patients.

This type of decentralization has been tried in other states, says Dr. Budd, but Northville is the first mental hospital in Michigan to try this. Decentralization, he contends, eliminates a lot of administrative work and puts more of the 930 staff members into the field of treatment.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Here is a major portion of the speech by Robert FitzPatrick as he accepted the chairmanship of the Wayne County Board of Commissioners.

By ROBERT FITZPATRICK  
Chairman  
Wayne County Board of Commissioners

County boards of commissioners, as now elected, are new in the system. Our procedures are adaptations of those utilized by boards of supervisors in the old system, and it may be that we are hampered by some of the old processes and old techniques...

We are faced with problems that require our immediate attention. The list is long.

Reform of county governmental structure.

Reform of our county health services — with a concerted effort to improve our mental health program and drug abuse facilities.

The immediate and continuing problems at Wayne County Jail...

Civil service. There have been, as noted by our human relations director, many inequities in our hiring and promotional procedures.

TO SIZE UP this situation and to clarify our relationship and strengthen our effectiveness within the county government, I will appoint a task force from within the membership of the board to develop and to report back to the board in 60 days with



ROBERT FITZPATRICK is the new chairman of the Wayne County Board of Commissioners.

proposals for our 1971 legislative goals.

With your concurrence and support, I will ask them to do some field work as well as some book work to determine not only how we can function better as a board, but to designate those departments and divisions within county government they find most deserving of our concentrated attention.

In this process, I would assume that this task force will learn about how the agencies of this county — including this board — can best relate to local units of government within the

county and with the Michigan Legislature and will make suggestions on how we should go about this.

The ultimate objective will be to improve this board's ability to be of service to the residents of Wayne County.

I WILL assign a second task force to assess the responsibility of Wayne County government, through its board of commissioners, in the strengthening of those systems presently addressing region-wide problems.

I am talking about such agencies as the Huron-Clinton

Metropolitan Authority, the Southeast Michigan Transportation Authority, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, the Detroit Metropolitan Water Board, the comprehensive Health Planning Council and those state agencies with region-wide concerns and activities. There are many indications that this area is demanding of our attention and that, by adding whatever energy and intelligence we can to the regional system, we will be better serving the people who elected us.

One indicator is the growing reliance of federal agencies and several state agencies charged with allocating federal funds — on the regional apparatus that exists in any of the more than 200 metropolitan areas in the country.

We may be altogether too blithe and possibly negligently remiss in our attitudes toward regional agencies. I do not charge that we have erred or have wronged anyone...

I am suggesting that we could be of much greater service to the people of Wayne County by more actively and vigorously supporting them.

We must pick up the tunes of the times and in urban America today the chord that repeats — and repeats, and repeats — is that regional problems require regional solutions.

The solution will not be provided without aggressive participation by all units of government plagued from the problems. We cannot shirk our responsibilities. Another indicator is the recent actions in the governing groups of the Southeast Michigan Council of Govern-

ments indicating that there has been a gap between the council and local units of government and the people.

DURING THE decade of the '70s, we will witness, and, I trust, survive a whirlwind of technological advances. The rate of change threatens to be overwhelming. Our system of government, necessarily slow-changing, must gear itself to adapt to these changes, to specialize on them, and to better serve a brighter, more prosperous, faster moving society.

With these changes and the imminent buildup of responsibility at the regional level, not only here but in the metropolitan regions throughout the country, it behooves us to prepare.

The second task force will be charged with appraising this situation and bringing to the board recommendations for participation.

I am well aware that this report will take much longer, but it will provide, if not for this board, a direction for future boards as we move into the '70s. I recognize, as I am sure all of you do, that we must, meanwhile, continue our established activities and do everything that we can to make county government more germane to the wants and needs of the people.

It is my hope that we may resolve any differences we may have had in the past by uniting and providing the citizens of the third largest county in the United States, with the kind of government that will begin to solve the present and future problems that we all are faced with.

## Zak Backs FitzPatrick; 'UAW Asked Too Much'

By W.W. EDGAR  
Albert Zak, white-haired veteran of many a political war, slumped down in his chair in the City-County Building and smiled a smile of satisfaction.

He had just helped to name Robert FitzPatrick, Detroit Democrat, as his successor as chairman of the Wayne County Board of Commissioners.

Never one to duck an issue, Zak caused a bit of eyebrow lifting when openly supported the new chairman, Robert FitzPatrick in the battle with UAW-endorsed George Killen.

"I have voted and worked

with the working man for years, but they (the UAW) are now asking too much."

NOW RELAXED, he reviewed the work of the board during his stewardship for the past two years.

"I think we did a real good job and our board was unique in that we operated within the budget."

"There are few units of government today that can make such a claim. So, I think that is the most important thing we accomplished," Zak said.

THEN, SMILING a broad smile, he listed some of the

other accomplishments.

"Don't forget that we got started in a period of turmoil, but once we got going I think we established quite a record."

The retiring chairman then listed such accomplishments as:

● Going a long way toward creation of a stadium authority that eventually will build a stadium in the downtown area.

● Building an addition to Wayne County General Hospital for extended care for the aged.

● Appropriating funds to help Judge James Lincoln in Juvenile Court.

● Approving a sheriff's squad for narcotics and crime prevention that has been a great help in enforcement of the law.

● Re-organizing county government.

● Re-furbishing the old county building and provid-

ing for better use of the land-mark.

● Initiating an economy move in county government by combining the offices of the register of deeds and the county clerk.

"THESE ARE not in the order of their importance," Zak said. "They all were important, along with the moves we started in cleaning up pollution by naming the drain commission as the group to supervise the work."

"There are many," he continued, "but these are the ones that come most readily to mind."

"And as the years go on, you'll find that many of our actions during the past two years will have a lasting effect for good in the county."

Then, like a fellow who just had a heavy burden removed from his shoulders, he said, with a wave of his hand, "I'm satisfied."

## Hudson's Makes 9 Appointments

Nine key personnel appointments have been made by J. L. Hudson Co., and all go into effect Feb. 1.

Loren Spademan, of Southfield, has been named junior division merchandise manager, which also includes the bridal salon and maternity department.

He joined Hudson's in 1949 as a production manager. Spademan graduated from Dartmouth College.

Robert E. Sturwold, of Detroit, has been named manager of the Westland Shopping Center, in Westland. He was manager of the company's Southland Shopping Center, in Taylor.

ROBERT B. SANFORD, of Grosse Pointe Park, has been promoted to manager of the Southland store. He has been assistant manager of Hudson's Detroit store. Sanford joined the company in 1953.

Louise Solomon Hyatt, of Dearborn, has been elevated to division manager of the firm's Woodward shop. She graduated from Michigan State University.

Thomas Timmes, a former executive at Lord and Taylor's in New York, has been named division merchandise

manager for a newly created women's and children's shoe division. She is a graduate of Lehigh University.

C. Arthur Schneider, of Grosse Pointe, has been appointed associate credit manager. He will share the job with Robert M. Grinager who plans to retire at the end of the year. Schneider graduated from Northwestern University.

M. Fred Barrett, of Birmingham, will become merchandise manager of a newly formed division that includes pharmacy, drugs, sports equipment, cameras and toys.

Barrett joined Hudson's in 1955 as an executive trainee. He graduated from University of Michigan.

Andrew J. Fortin, of Birmingham, has been named division merchandise manager of cosmetics, books, toilet goods and stationery. He is a University of Detroit graduate.

Paul M. Cahow, of Dearborn, will become merchandise manager of the sewing center division that includes fashion fabrics, patterns, notions, art needlework and sewing machines.

## Pollution Draws GM Cash, Action

In the last three years Detroit Diesel Allison Division of General Motors has invested approximately \$4.5 million in air and water quality control systems at its Redford Township plant.

E.B. Colby, manager of the division's Detroit operations, has announced a newly formed Environmental and Industrial Waste Control Committee to insure maximum benefit from this sizable investment.

"To make our control systems function as effectively as possible requires everyone's cooperation," stated Colby. "The main purpose of the committee will be to make all our employees aware of what they can do to help combat pollution."

Robert B. Hadley, director of plant engineering, explained that goals of the committee ranged from such

basic items as written operating and maintenance procedures for all pollution control installations to the development of a plant-wide educational program to create an awareness of the things they can do.

While plant engineering heads up the committee, there also are representatives from the various manufacturing departments as well as from other departments such as safety, metallurgical, medical and maintenance.

## Sonic Boom

When the U. S. Supersonic Transport flies over the ocean it will create a sonic boom having a nominal overpressure of 2½ pounds per square foot at sea level. The weight of this overpressure is equal to that imposed by a three-foot wave.

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Plymouth-Beech Daly (Redford Township)	Warren-Middlebelt (Westland)	Middlebelt-10 Mile (Farmington Township)
	Warren-Wayne (Westland)	

8 Mile-Huntington

Southfield-13 Mile (Beverly Hills)