

Report of the Historian of the Connecticut

Occupational Therapy Association for the year of 1959-1960

The Connecticut Association has had an active and busy year on many fronts. In addition to the regular business meetings held at Middletown and Norwich, there have been special membership meetings for the presentation and discussion of such matters as the advisability of moving the national office and the revision of the state constitution.

Of special interest was the program meeting at Newtown in February. At that time, under the chairmanship of Bess Lande, now a graduate student at the Yale School of Public Health, a group of her fellow students representing many countries including Iran, Pakistan, Israel, Venezuela, the Phillipines and Ceylon shared with us some of the health problems in their own countries.

The general discussion centered around care of the aged and brought out the difference in philosophy in various ethnic and national groups as well as varying concepts of family responsibility.

In the state as a whole, Occupational Therapy developments included the opening of the new rehabilitation center at Fairfield State Hospital, which adds another area specifically designed and planned for Occupational Therapy to those recently put in service by other state institutions.

The institute for the "Brain Injured" held at the Stamford Rehabilitation Center was attended by many Occupational Therapists.

Other institutes conferences and meetings at Yale and Storrs have drawn the attendance and enlarged the horizon of other therapists.

The Association year of 1959-60 has been under the guidance of the following officers and committees:

President - Bess Lande
Vice-President - Robert Belyea
Treasurer - Betty Clerc
Corresponding Secretary - Ann Herrington
Recording Secretary - Frances Cobb
Delegate - Clyde Butz
Alternate Delegate - Louise Rothenberger
Board Members at Large Cynthia Feinman
Jane Vandemeer
Clare Bari

Standing Committees

Historian - Elizabeth Hand
Legislative - Bertha Piper
Membership and Placement - Janet Small
Public Relations - Jerald Stowell
Recruitment - Irene Obrock
Salaries - Frances Cobb
Special Studies - Jean Royal
Ways and Means - Janet Small
Ruth Smyres
Nominating - Barbara Newhaus
Civil Defense - Jean Royal
Special Projects - Louise Rothenberger

Area Chairmen

Stamford - Barbara Newhaus

It was with deep regret that the Association accepted the resignation of President Bess Lande in July when the closing of the department at Grace-New Haven forced a change in her plans which made it impossible for her to continue.

Robert Belyea was elected to serve the remainder of the term and Jerald Stowell was elected Vice-president to replace Robert Belyea.

An encouraging feature of the year has been the number of newer graduates who are taking an active interest in the activities of the association.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth P. Hand
Historian