

OREGON STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CHILD CARE, HEALTH AND WELFARE

Minutes of Meeting

The regular meeting of the Oregon State Advisory Committee on Child Care, Health and Welfare was held at 10:00 A. M., on Wednesday, May 12, 1943, in Room 504, Spalding Building, Portland.

Those present were: Mrs. C. W. Walls; Mr. Dan Northup; Mr. Andrew F. Juras; Miss Loa Howard; Miss Dorothy Potter; Mrs. E. W. St. Pierre; Mrs. Frances W. Jonasson; Mrs. Annette Lang; Mr. John Whitelaw; Dr. John Francis Belz; Dr. Vera Brandon; Miss Elsie Arnott; Mrs. Sarah V. Case; Dr. John Miller; Father Jerome Schmitz; Miss Gladys Everett; Mrs. Della Millar; Mrs. Leon H. Kuhn; Dr. DeNorval Unthank; Mr. Clyde Getz. Also present were the following guests: Mrs. Mildred Burcham, State Supervisor of Extended School Services; Miss Lillian Youngquist, Public Welfare Worker, United States Employment Service; Mrs. Helen Spliid, Federal Works Agency, and Reverend J. Claude Neely, Oregon Protective Society.

In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, Mrs. C. W. Walls presided.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved by the Committee.

Mrs. Frances Jonasson gave a review of a report prepared on standards for group care. This report was discussed and approved by the Committee upon a motion by Mr. Northup, seconded by Dr. Brandon. Dr. Belz raised question as to whether copies of these standards would be made available, as the State Board of Health would like to follow these standards as nearly as possible in licensing day care facilities. The report was referred to the Planning Committee for determination of plans for distribution.

Mr. Juras gave a report of the Subcommittee on Standards for Employment of Children in Agriculture, in the absence of Mr. Prosser, the Chairman. He said the committee had reviewed the standards previously established by the Youth Participation Committee which it believed to be generally well-prepared. The committee, therefore, did not undertake to write complete new standards but merely to recommend additional points which it believed should be included in the standards of the Youth Participation Committee. The Secretary reported that in reviewing the standards as set up by the Youth Participation Committee and the Committee on Standards for Employment of Youth in Agriculture, it was the recommendation of the Planning Committee that provision be made in these standards to cover the following points which caused criticism last year: 1) Delay in arrival of trucks at pick-up points. Schools have attempted to teach children punctuality only to have trucks late in arriving to pick them up for work. 2) Delay in providing transportation home. Use of trucks for other purposes was reported to have caused delay in providing transportation home after completion of a days work, thereby prolonging the day for the child unnecessarily. Lack of computation tables for the farmer also caused delay since children had to wait around while the farmer computed individual earnings at the close of the day. In the discussion which followed, it was also suggested that reference to consent of parents be included in the statement on standards.

There was considerable discussion as to the extent to which the State Advisory Committee on Child Care, Health and Welfare should go in establishing standards in this area in view of the fact that the Youth Participation Committee has already assumed some responsibility in this respect. Miss Howard was of the opinion that the standards formulated by the Youth Participation Committee need supplementation and that it is a function of the State Advisory Committee to help establish comprehensive standards. A motion was made by Miss Howard seconded by Mr. Whitelaw that the Planning Committee give further consideration to the scope of the standards to be established by the State Advisory Committee and the relationship of the Committee to the Youth Participation Committee as well as to other Office of Civilian Defense Committees.

In answer to a question as to the policy of the United States Employment Service with regard to recruitment of youth in agriculture, Miss Youngquist stated that a plan possibly would be worked out whereby the United States Employment Service would work with the Extension Services, but at the present time arrangements are being held in abeyance pending clarification of the responsibility of the United States Employment Service in this area. It was her understanding that each state would be allotted money which would be used through the extension service. This money could be used for recruitment. She stated that in some sections of the State temporary employment offices are being set up to be used for recruitment of farm labor.

A motion was made by Dr. Brandon that letters be written to appropriate federal agencies indicating the need for funds for training personnel to carry out the Lanham Act program on an educational basis. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Jonasson and approved.

The Secretary reported on Bulletin No. 2, stating that the bulletin is ready for release as soon as a statement clarifying the functions of the Federal Works Agency is received. Other changes will be deletion of sections pertaining to the Work Projects Administration and federal commodities.

Mrs. Walls reported on the proposed plan of Kaiser to build nursery centers at the shipyards. She stated that a meeting was held in Vancouver with Kaiser representatives in which members of the State Advisory Committee, the Multnomah County Committee, Washington State Committee on Care of Children, and the Clark County Committee participated. She stated that a number of women who work in the shipyards had been interviewed by the counsellors employed by Oregon Shipbuilding Company and the majority were reported to be in favor of having nurseries near the shipyards. They believed that this would save time, since they could bring their children with them when they come to work instead of having to go out of their way to take them to a neighborhood nursery. It was pointed out that Miss Aleta Brownlee of the U. S. Children's Bureau and Miss Florence Beardsley of the U. S. Office of Education came to Portland to study the situation. They met with a representative of the Maritime Commission to discuss resources available to care for children and were requested to file a report with him. Dr. Belz reported that the Executive Committee of the State Medical Society had discussed Kaiser's proposed nurseries

and was not in favor of the plan. Objection was based on problems of transportation of children to these areas and the possible spread of communicable diseases when children are cared for in such large groups. Miss Howard pointed out that the Evacuation authorities are also concerned about centralization of nursery centers at the shipyards in case of enemy attack.

Mrs. Walls reported on the opening of a new nursery school at Girls Polytechnic School. It was also reported that there would be six nursery schools operated in Vanport by the first of June.

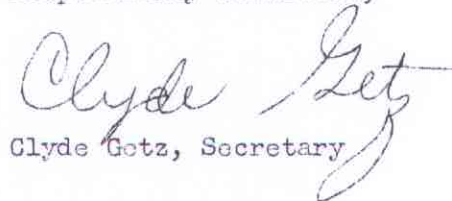
The secretary read a letter from the Multnomah County Committee regarding the proposed nursery school project at Kaiser Shipyards. A motion by Miss Howard, seconded by Dr. Brandon that a vote of thanks be extended to the Multnomah County Day Care Committee for its efforts in the child care field and that they be requested to continue monthly reports to the State Committee was approved. A motion by Mr. Whitelaw that this report be made a part of the minutes was also approved.

The secretary reported the resignation of Mr. John K. Scott of the American Red Cross and Mr. Harold Grey of the Work Projects Administration.

A motion was made by Miss Howard and seconded by Dr. Belz that a letter be sent by the Committee to Mrs. Goldsmith who is ill in the hospital.

Miss Howard reported that Mr. Andrew Juras has returned to his regular position with the State Public Welfare Commission and that an application for federal funds for a secretary and field worker for the Committee has been submitted to the Office of Defense, Health and Welfare Services by the State Public Welfare Commission.

Respectfully submitted,


Clyde Getz, Secretary