Vocational Rehabilitation Administration Named in HEW Reorganization

Effective January 28, the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation became the Vocational Rehabilitation Administration. Mary Switzer, who has directed OVR activities since 1950, continues, with the title of Commissioner of Vocational Rehabilitation.

The change is part of a general reorganization in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, which set up a Welfare Administration to direct the Department's programs pertaining to welfare of children, the aging, and families and individuals in need. The new Welfare Administration incorporates the Children's Bureau, the Bureau of Family Services, and the Cuban Refugee Program, formerly handled by the Social Security Administration, and a special staff on aging and youth services which formerly reported directly to HEW Secretary Anthony J. Celebrezze.

Dr. Ellen Winston, former North Carolina Commissioner of Welfare, is Commissioner of the new Welfare Administration.

The six major divisions of HEW are now: Social Security Administration, Food and Drug Administration, Office of Education, Public Health Service, Vocational Rehabilitation Administration, and Welfare Administration.

Booklets Received


Two conferences sponsored by the International Society for Rehabilitation of the Disabled are covered by this report. The two primary discussions were concerned with the environmental problems of the disabled housewife and transportation. While not written in fluid English, physical therapists will be interested in the problems and programs of the various countries.


This pamphlet presents well-illustrated, basic nursing techniques for the care of the patient with a hemiplegia. Physical therapists will find this a welcome guide when they have teaching responsibilities for allied personnel.


This booklet is an outgrowth of a workshop for the purpose. Guide for physical therapists in teaching, supervising, and delivering aspects of home care and inservice training programs, particularly associated with physical therapy.

Washington State Chapter Outlines Disaster Plan

Washington State Chapter has worked out a detailed Disaster Plan. Under the plan, the chapter will continue to have at least one representative on the Washington State Council for Emergency Medical Services (WSCEMS).

A physical therapy co-ordinator will be appointed for each of the six districts (now being organized) in the state who will: co-operate in any way he can with the district organization; keep a current list of names and addresses of physical therapists in his district; assist with any training programs, practices, or meetings of the district organizations; send a written report of the district's activities to the chapter representative to WSCEMS before the annual meeting each year.

Chapter members will assist with Civil Defense and emergency health care training programs or practices when called upon.

The chapter will attempt to set up training programs on the district level—perhaps in cooperation with other professions—to train members in the type of emergency care outlined in the Summary Report on National Emergency Medical Care prepared by the American Medical Association. A ten-point program for assisting and administering to casualties has been outlined.

The chapter will support state legislation to protect members who are performing "stepped up" procedures (Good Samaritan Act).

Members who have not had a course in first aid are urged to take one as soon as possible.

In addition, pilot courses are in progress for instruction in emergency self care for the public through WSCEMS.