CORRINE LARSON MOVES TO STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Mrs. Larson, formerly associate director, Manpower Division, Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies, Minneapolis, Minnesota, has accepted a position on the staff of the Minnesota State Department of Health. Mrs. Larson will serve as a member of the Health Manpower Commission. The commission, established by act of the state legislature, is charged with developing criteria for credentialing health manpower personnel. The commission is comprised of representatives of all licensure bureaus in the state, public members, and those health occupations not licensed at the present time.

SECTION FOR EDUCATION

The Section on Education, for several years, has been making plans for reorganization and expansion of activities to better meet the interests of all Association members involved in education. Preparations for reorganization have included an increase in the content and the circulation of the section newsletter, institution of midyear regional meetings, and participation in task force meetings with other groups concerned with physical therapy education. Representatives of the Council of Physical Therapy School of Directors, the directors of physical therapy assistant programs, the APTA Sections on Administration and Research, and the headquarters office participated in the planning. Proposals for change were developed for presentation to the House of Delegates, the Board of Directors, and the section membership.

The reorganization for expansion of educational activities occurred at the Annual Conference in Houston, Texas, 1973. The Board of Directors approved new guidelines which permit greater flexibility for sections. An amendment to the bylaws now allows sections to actively promote areas of special interest and to develop and use expertise which will contribute to the Association. Provisions were also made for a change in name of the section, now to be the Section for Education, new officers, regional organization, and organization of special interest groups within the section. Officers include Margaret Moore, president; Bonnie Blossom, vice president; Kay Anderson, secretary; and Shelby Clayson, treasurer.

REGIONAL INSTRUCTIONAL COURSE

The next regional instructional course of the Association's Professional Enhancement Programs will be at the Marriott Hotel, Atlanta, Georgia, February 7-9, 1974. The subject of the course is The Heart.

The program includes review of the anatomy and physiology of the cardiac and respiratory systems and review of medical, surgical, and rehabilitative approaches. Evaluation procedures, interpretation of results of these procedures, and development and implementation of appropriate treatment programs will be covered.

Registration for the course must be received at APTA headquarters by January 25, 1974.
Robert G. Dicus of California, himself a victim of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), has been active in the organization of the ALS Foundation. The purpose of the foundation is to support programs of research education and patient services “to cope with and defeat Gehrig’s Disease,” Mr. Dicus writes in an article printed in booklet form entitled “Gehrig’s Disease.”

In his article, Mr. Dicus offers advice to patients suffering from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis and their families and makes a special plea for federal support of research on diseases of the spinal cord through the programs of the National Institutes of Health. Mr. Dicus’s article was commended by Mr. Alan A. Reich, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State, who requested that the article be included in the Congressional Record.

Copies of the booklet are available from the ALS Foundation, Inc., 2840 Adams Avenue, San Diego, CA 92116.

David Alan Roth treating Philippine child.

David Alan Roth, a recent graduate of the physical therapy program, New York University, is a Peace Corps volunteer in the Philippines. He works in the Elks Clinic with cerebral-palsied children. Physical therapists are also working in Upper Volta, Kenya, and Ethiopia in Africa; Brazil and Nicaragua in South America; and in Melanasia in Asia. The Office of Recruitment and Communication, ACTION, has received requests for seven additional physical therapists to serve with the Peace Corps. The need is especially great for those interested in teaching.

Physical therapy Peace Corps volunteers are working in both clinics and hospitals. Some of the work may include treating patients, but the major duties are generally to train new physical therapy workers and help improve the skills of those already on the job. The volunteers have opportunities to plan and organize in-service training programs and advise on new techniques, equipment, and other developments in physical therapy and on the feasibility of using these under local conditions. There are also opportunities to develop essential and simplified physical therapy services for smaller hospitals which cannot afford full-time physical therapists.

ERMINE R. DUCCINI APPOINTED

Ermine R. Duccini has been appointed to the Utilization Review Committee of the California Association for Health Services at Home. The project, funded by the U.S. Public Health Service Division of Medical Standards, will be concerned with matters relating to increased accountability, better documentation of the quantity and quality of health care, and the initiation of a Professional Standards Review Organization.

WCPT

The executive committee of the World Confederation for Physical Therapy (WCPT), met in Santiago, Chile, in May. Applications for membership were received from physical therapy organizations in a number of different countries. Approval for provisional membership was granted to the Surinaamse Vereniging voor Fysiotherapie. Two other associations, Pakistan Physiotherapy Society and the Magistrów Wychowania Fizycznego Pracujących W Rehabilitationi (Poland) were readmitted to provisional membership. This brings the member organizations to twenty-nine with nine coun-
tries represented among the provisional member organizations.

Invitations to host the Eighth Congress, WCPT, in 1978 were received. The executive committee has accepted the invitation from the National Union of Physiotherapists in Israel.

GOVERNOR REAGAN APPOINTS PT EXAMINING COMMITTEE

The office of California Governor Ronald Reagan has announced the reappointment of Mrs. Nancy Keating, Edward J. Rathjen, and Howard F. Ross to the Physical Therapy Examining Committee. Mr. Donald Christenson was named to a second term as the public member of the committee. Other members of the committee are Charles McElwee, M.D. and Frank O'Neil, PT. Mrs. Keating will serve as chairman of the committee.

HEALTH GERONTOLOGY PROGRAM

The University of Michigan School of Public Health offers a program of studies leading to the Master of Public Health degree. This program focuses on the delivery of quality health care to the older population. The program leads to the Master of Public Health degree and lasts between twelve and twenty months, depending on previous training and experience. For further information contact James O. Carpenter, Ph.D. or Charles M. Wylie, M.D., University of Michigan, School of Public Health, Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

Gary L. Smidt Heads Program at University of Iowa

Word has been received that Dr. Gary L. Smidt has been appointed director of Physical Therapy Programs in the College of Medicine, University of Iowa. The responsibilities of the new position include the physical therapy educational programs at the certificate, master's, and doctoral levels. Prior to his new appointment, Dr. Smidt was director, Graduate Program in Physical Therapy, at the university.

VA and Baylor College of Medicine Sponsor Short Course

The Second Intensive Course in Neuromuscular Diseases will be sponsored by the Veterans Administration and Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas, March 25-27, 1974. The course has been developed in cooperation with the National Institutes of Health. There is no registration fee and the course is open to physical therapists. For information write to William P. Blocker, Jr., M.D., Chief, Rehabilitation Medicine Service, Veterans Administration Hospital, 2002 Holcombe Blvd., Houston, TX 77031.