

Music Therapy Found To Have Lasting Beneficial Effects on Mental Patients

New York — UPI — In three studio rooms a block from Carnegie Hall, a group of pioneers is proving that music can be an effective medicine

Key to Genius Is Visible in The Pre-School Child

New York (Science Service) — The key to genius is visible in the preschool child, but early recognition is urgent if this human resource is not to be wasted, Dr. Annette Rosentiel, sociologist at Mills College of Education in New York, reported here.

Only one per cent of the nation's children may be classified as genius, she reported to the American Association for the Advancement of Science meeting here. U. S. Bureau of the Census statistics show that gifted children from five to 18 total 632,551. Under five there are approximately 200,000 gifted children.

"It is to this small group of one per cent that we must look for the superman of the atomic age, and it is in the preschool group that we must concentrate to build for the future," she said.

Deplores Emphasis
Dr. Rosentiel deplored the present tendency among adults to emphasize patterns of socialization and interpersonal relations rather than on development of mental ability in children.

"By the time a child goes to school, his early curiosity may have been blunted, his eager probing for knowledge thwarted, and his desire for learning dulled by what to him may appear to be adult disinterest and actual opposition," she noted.

Disturbed children often result from this adult rejection of the probing and questioning of a child. She said that the gifted child who is encouraged to develop his potential is "somewhat healthier and better adjusted than the average child."

Nursery School
Dr. Rosentiel recommended nursery school experience as one way of providing an environment by which the child's general intelligence may be enriched. A child, however, should not be judged merely on his I. Q. which is based on cultural memory and on past achievements, but on his anticipated peak of development, what Dr. Rosentiel calls his P.I.Q. or potential intelligence quotient.

P.I.Q. is based not only on demonstrated acquisition and achievement, by which I.Q. is measured, but on qualities such as curiosity, interest, determination, persistence and learning, and striving after higher goals.

Parents can do most to identify the gifted child, she said, and urged a "do-it-yourself" project for this identification, which has to be a joint undertaking of parents and the child.

Tax Office Sets Hours for Help

The local office of the state tax commission will be open to assist taxpayers each Monday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Representatives at the office at 124 West Fourth st. have asked that taxpayers seeking help complete their returns as much as possible before going to the office. They also asked that taxpayers bring copies of their 1959 and 1960 federal returns and state returns.

Taxpayers having refunds due should mark refund on their envelopes to speed handling. Returns sent by mail should be sent directly to the state tax commission in Salem. Sending them through the local office only slows up the refund by increasing the required amount of handling.

Refunds are processed on a first come basis. People having refunds due would file as soon as they have the necessary information with which to complete their return.

Survey Made of Farm Medical Expenses

Washington (Science Service) — Medical costs averaged \$32 a year per person for farm families in which farm operators were 65 years of age or older, a nationwide survey by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the Bureau of the Census has shown.

Medical costs for all others were \$59. These and other findings are reported and analyzed in Agriculture Information Bulletin 235, issued by the USDA. Copies may be obtained from the Office of Information, USDA, Washington 25, D.C.

COPPER SUPPLY
Much of the copper used in Europe comes from the U.

for the mentally ill.

Music therapy has been an accepted tool in hospitals all over the country since an organized program was instituted by the Musicians Emergency Fund in the 1930s. But its particular usefulness as an adjunct to psychiatric treatment dates back only three years.

Equipping Kitchen With Carnival Prizes

Stephenville, Tex. (UPI)—Mrs. Danny Cobb is well on her way to equipping her kitchen with winnings from a Chamber of Commerce carnival.

In one week, Mrs. Cobb's name was picked for an ice chest and a radio on one night; the next night she was chosen to win an electric percolator, and the following night was picked as the winner of an electric toaster.

Credit for the creation of the Music Rehabilitation Center on Manhattan's West 57th st. is due Florence Tyson, one of the fund's music therapists. After observations of singing and guitar courses in the mental ward of a large veterans' hospital, Miss Tyson became convinced that music had a lasting beneficial effect on mental patients.

Doctors Suspicious
"But it was difficult to convince anyone else," she recalls. "Doctors were very willing to accept music as a way

to fill their mental patients' days but they were very suspicious of music as therapy."

The attractive therapist enlisted the aid of Dr. Donald M. Carmichael, director of the New York State Department of Hygiene's aftercare clinics and a musician himself. With Carmichael acting as chief adviser, the musicians emergency fund set up a mental health division and opened its first center.

"We started with a studio

in Carnegie Hall and one piano," she said. "We do group and individual work in hospitals but our main interest is in helping psychiatric out-patients who have been released from mental hospitals but have not been able to find their way back into normal, everyday life. The use of modern drugs has made release of so many mental hospital patients possible that his has become a big problem."

Miss Tyson described the first case handled by the center as a "fiasco," but actually there developed a record of successes, some of them quite dramatic. Voice training and the mastery of instruments such as the guitar, violin, piano, clarinet, saxophone, and drums give patients a sense of renewed importance, confidence, poise and the ability to accept criticism and advice.

"Best of all, we overcome

the fear of making mistakes," said Miss Tyson. "We make reports on the patient's reactions, attitudes and progress to their psychotherapists and this is very helpful in completing their out-patient medical therapy as a valuable aid."

Miss Tyson described Charles, a pseudonym, as one of the center's greatest "victories." He was a manic depressive, moody, suspicious, unrealistic, rejected by his family because he failed to become a big money-maker as a clarinetist although he had real talent for the instrument. "His inability for normal relations with his family, his teachers, and society in general deteriorated and he

wound up in a hospital," she related. "After his release, he came to us but he couldn't tolerate his own errors. Against our advice, he re-enrolled at a music college but flunked out and began to entertain suicide thoughts."

Won Confidence

Charles tried to hold jobs but failed. Miss Tyson and her staff kept in touch with him and gradually won his confidence. They persuaded him to give up the clarinet, a frustrating symbol of his family's drive for financial success, and try the piano. He started with jazz which appealed to his natural rhythmic sense.

"For the first time he found real pleasure in music and by

the fourth lesson was like a new person. Now he is giving piano instruction to children — who are uncritical and responsive — under a New York Board of Education program. It pays very little, but it's a start and he feels that in teaching he is at last finding a place in life."



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