

Variety Of Impediments Handicap Children



These children are handicapped by a variety of physical impediments which make attending a regular school a

taxing effort. At the new orthopedic school in Watsonville, the youngsters are given individual tutoring and special

therapy to help them overcome their handicaps. Most of them will eventually attend regular school.

Mitsue Is Charter Student At School



Mitsue, an eighth-grader who has been crippled since birth, is one of the charter students in the county's new School of Orthopedically Hand-

icapped in Watsonville, which opened in September, 1955. Like the others, she will be transferred to a regular school when her condition is such that she can continue normally.

'Free' Fuel May Power Moon Ship

JAIL TIME WASTED
Dallas (AP). — When a local man

Los Angeles (AP). — There may

Children Suffering Physical Handicaps Go To Own School

By Wally Trabing

Today's handling of the little tykes who are physically handicapped is an encouraging far-cry from the era when they were hidden from public view as if they possessed some evil spirit.

Today's handicapped are being fitted into the educational system in a way so they may emerge into the adult world with confidence and with a lessening stigma of "being different."

Santa Cruz county is to be congratulated on instituting yet another educational service for children whose physical impediments make it difficult for them to attend public schools.

September 6, 1955, an orthopedic school for the handicapped was set up in a small vacant house on the Watsonville high school property.

Its entrance requirement is this: Any minor from 3 to 21 years of age who by reason of a medically diagnosed orthopedic handicap cannot receive the full benefit of ordinary educational facilities is eligible.

There are nine children now taking instruction daily in the small remodeled home on the corner of Maple and Marchant streets.

The oldest is 13 and the youngest is 4. Average age is 5.

These children have been stricken with various diseases or misfortunes at birth.

An orthopedic handicap includes crippling from bone and joint tuberculosis, birth injuries such as palsy, club feet, amputations, burns, bone tumors, polio, muscular dystrophy and others.

They receive their educational start here, individually, patiently, while they learn also to overcome their handicaps through therapy.

The goal is to place these children eventually in regular public schools.

"We have nine now and will soon receive our tenth, which will be about all we can handle in these small quarters," said Richard Struck, county consultant in special education.

What does the student receive? He gets an individual educational program according to his age.

Physical therapy is administered by a licensed physical therapist when needed.

The supervising teacher has a trained assistant who sees to the physical comfort and feeding of the child.

When possible transportation is furnished. They now leave the school at 2 p. m. and are taken to many parts of the county.

To the visitor, the school looks much like a nursery or a kindergarten. The atmosphere is informal and relaxing.

The children are not mentally retarded in any manner and are taught on a regular school level. Many are in braces and some require special chairs on wheels that could hinder their getting around at a public school.

"Most of these children would have to remain at home if this school were not in existence," said Struck. "But they are brought here only with the written consent of the parents."

The superintendent of schools serves as the school's administrator. Struck said that Superin-

Fleming, physical therapist; Mrs. Mary Pengelly, assistant to the teacher; Struck, education consultant; Dr. Marvin Naman, consulting physician, and Mrs. Sylvia Evans, speech therapist.

The school operates from state funds and special grants.

A great boost has been given by the county Crippled Children's society.

The society has turned over its summer camp equipment for use during the school period. Furnishings have been purchased by the group.

Wives of Exchange club members have also turned their attention on the school and have made it the receiving end of some of their projects.

"What we're looking for now," said Struck, "is someone with \$30,000. We need to expand and make room for more students."

"Each and every child is worth educating—has a right to an education—and the community, through its schools, has an obligation to provide adequate educational services for all children."

That's the law—a law made by humanists who can sense the future.

An expanded sheep industry was the first major livestock achievement of California's early-day settlers.

Qscales

THEATER

SOQUEL ★ GR 5-3395

HELD OVER

3RD BIG WEEK

Positively Ends Saturday

Shows at 6:45-9:25

**GUYS
and
DOLLS**

In
CINEMASCOPE®
and Color



starring
MARLON BRANDO
JEAN SIMMONS
FRANK SINATRA

Justice's