

Public Health News

SEPTEMBER 1961

NEW JERSEY STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



Seeds of Progress



The New Jersey State Department of Health

PUBLIC HEALTH COUNCIL

MRS. KATHLEEN SLETTELAND, *Chairman*
 C. BYRON BLAISDELL, M.D., *Vice-Chairman*
 MRS. ERMA T. DILKES, *Secretary*
 NELSON S. BUTERA, P.E.

JOHN J. CANE, D.D.S.
 HARRY N. LENDALL, C.E.
 ANTHONY P. MILLER, JR.
 HARRY J. ROBINSON, M.D.

ORGANIZATION

Roscoe P. Kandle, M.D., M.P.H.
State Commissioner of Health
 129 East Hanover Street
 Trenton 25, New Jersey

DIVISIONS

CHRONIC ILLNESS CONTROL
 Vacancy

CONSTRUCTIVE HEALTH
 Curtis F. Culp, M.D., M.S., *Director*

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
 Alfred H. Fletcher, M.S., *Director*

LABORATORIES
 Elmer L. Shaffer, Ph.D., *Director*

LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES
 Jesse B. Aronson, M.D., M.P.H.,
Director

PREVENTABLE DISEASES
 William J. Dougherty, M.D., M.P.H.,
Director

SPECIAL CONSULTATION SERVICES
 Ralph T. Fisher, M.P.H., *Director*

VITAL STATISTICS AND ADMINISTRATION
 John B. Van Ellis,
Assistant Director

DISTRICTS

Central State Health District
 Stanley P. Mayers, Jr., M.D., M.P.H.
District State Health Officer
 129 East Hanover Street
 Trenton 25, New Jersey

Metropolitan State Health District
 Miriam Sachs, M.D., M.P.H.
District State Health Officer
 1100 Raymond Boulevard
 Newark, New Jersey

Northern State Health District
 Harry R. H. Nicholas,
District State Health Officer
 Roxbury Shopping Center
 Succasunna, New Jersey

Southern State Health District
 Hugh D. Palmer, M.D., C.M., M.P.H.
District State Health Officer
 89 Haddon Avenue
 Haddonfield, New Jersey

DONALD S. BENSON, *Editor*
 RALPH T. FISHER, EDWIN C. LANIGAN, JOHN B. VAN ELLIS, *Associate Editors*

CONTENTS

	PAGE
Migrant Workers: People or Problems—Dr. Howard E. Thomas	259
The Economic Importance of Migrant Labor in New Jersey— Alvin W. String	263
Desirable Improvements Slowed by Economic Conditions— Phillip Alampi	266
The Need for Community Action—Ralph T. Fisher	267
Comments of Frederick R. Blackwell, Counsel to the United States Senate Subcommittee on Migratory Labor	269
Summary of Discussions, Seminar on "Seeds of Progress"	272
Summary of Seminar—Roscoe P. Kandle, M.D.	275
United States Public Health Service Revises Standards for Drinking Water	278
Mount Holly's Refuse Program—R. H. van Deusen and Jacob Greenwald	281
Reciprocity Program for Supervision of Caterers in New Jersey	285

Cover: Elizabeth H. Ruggles, Staff Artist

Entered as second-class matter at Trenton, N. J. Issued Monthly.

DESIRABLE IMPROVEMENTS SLOWED BY ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

By PHILLIP ALAMPI, Secretary
New Jersey Department of Agriculture

New Jersey can be credited with many firsts in the development of improved conditions for migrant laborers. Among these is the Migrant Labor Board in 1945. Pursuant to law, the Board is composed of representatives of the following departments of state government: Agriculture, Conservation and Economic Development, Education, Health, Institutions and Agencies, Labor and Industry, and Law and Public Safety (State Police). The Governor appoints two members to represent agriculture and one to represent organized labor.

Despite problems in recruiting, housing, and employing 10,000 to 15,000 workers each year, extending from late April to November, few problems have arisen between employers and workers. In general, relations have been excellent even though the majority are Spanish-speaking workers recruited in Puerto Rico and most of the remainder are transients from southern states.



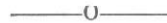
"An upturn in economic conditions will be of real assistance and will result in additional gains of the type we all want to see."—Phillip Alampi.



Compliance with recently enacted housing regulations prevails on most of the farms which employ migrants. Unfortunately, considerable publicity has been given to the relatively few exceptions in which violations have occurred. Because of downward trends in the price of fruits and vegetables, many farmers do not have the capital required for the desired improvements. They recognize it is to their advantage to meet the requirements. It will mean more satisfied employees and improved public relations. But renovations and new buildings re-

quire considerable capital and some farmers have not had the funds in the face of an adverse market.

However, we are ahead. Excellent cooperation prevails among the various agencies of the state concerned. An upturn in economic conditions for these farmers will be of real assistance and will result in additional gains of the type we all want to see. Farmers are not opposed to the objectives and can be counted on to meet their obligations.



Film Tells of Career as Dental Assistant

A program to interest high school graduates in a career of dental assistance has been launched by the U. S. Public Health Service and the American Dental Assistants Association with release of the film, "The Dental Assistant—A Career of Service."

The film shows career opportunities in this field, highlights the varied duties dental assistants perform, and points out the training facilities now available at schools and colleges.

The 13½ minute color film, produced by the Public Health Service, is intended for use by high school guidance counselors, dental societies, and health departments. It may be obtained from the Communicable Disease Center of the U. S. Public Health Service in Atlanta, Georgia.

Other Public Health Service materials for use in calling the attention of young women to career opportunities in dental assisting include a leaflet, "Something New in White" and a booklet, "The Trained Dental Assistant—A Guide for Counselors." These may be obtained from State health departments.