



THIS AMIABLE GROUP came together June 13 at Central Office to evaluate the Heart Disease Control Program. Standing (l-r): Larry Sherman, public health advisor, Dallas Regional Office; Dr. James Sidel, assistant chief for Program Development, Section of Heart Disease and Stroke Control Program, Washington, D.C.; Elmer Renegar, public health educator; seated: Dr. Francis Weld, medical consultant, Washington, D.C.; Mrs. Alice Johnson, public health educator, Dallas Regional Office; Miss Lillian Edwards, regional public health educator, and M. E. Kossack, head, Division of Health Education. Also participating were Dr. Ben Morrison, geriatric consultant; Miss Lucille Godelfer, laboratory division assistant head, Miss Iris Day, departmental informational representative.

New Throat Culture Kits Mailed to La. Physicians

The Louisiana State Department of Health announces expansion of its laboratory services to physicians in the detection of Group A beta hemolytic streptococcal infections. This service now includes provision on request of mail-in throat culture kits, designed to assist in making an accurate and rapid diagnosis of such streptococcal infections.

Through the cooperation of the Louisiana Academy of General Practice, the Louisiana Academy of Pediatrics, and the Louisiana Heart Association, the State Health Department has supplied sample kits, together with descriptive literature on their use and the prevention of rheumatic fever, to more than 1000 general practitioners and pediatricians throughout the state. Additional kits may be obtained by any physician on request to his Parish Health Unit.

Contents of the kit include one sterile throat swab, to be used dry; a strip of Culpak filter paper to which the exudate is to be transferred; an envelope to hold the filter paper; a laboratory slip; and an envelope addressed

KWASHIORKOR

Kwashiorkor, a word seldom seen in current Louisiana public health literature, surfaced in the public news media in July in reports from the secessionist state of Biafra, Africa. There, it was increasingly reported, thousands of people, mostly children and the aged, were dying of kwashiorkor — a disease of protein deficiency.

Kwashiorkor was last mentioned in a biennial report of the Louisiana State Board of Health in 1958-1959: "Kwashiorkor cases... continued to trickle into attention during the biennium. Nutritionists observed one diagnosed case from Iberia parish and suspected cases from Pointe Coupee, St. Mary, Lafayette, and Natchitoches parishes."

An earlier report, 1954-1955, giving the history of nutrition programs in state health departments, noted that "one nutritional disease that is probably very old has come to be recognized — kwashiorkor... Any good animal protein, especially that from dried nonfat milk, can cure, but death can and does occur if the diet is not corrected. The first case reported in the United States was diagnosed in Charity Hospital by a Tulane University School of Medicine physician and the second case was brought into the same hospital by public health workers." This discovery according to the account led to a survey of some 60 children, many of whom were found to be extremely small for their age, and an experimental feeding project. The children were given supplementary feedings: eight ounces of reconstituted skimmed milk and a sandwich half, made from a weighed amount of peanut butter, dried food yeast, and bread. Remarkable weight gains were measured in six of the children in one family during a six-week feeding period. Dr. Grace A. Goldsmith, now dean of the Tulane University School of Public Health; Miss Margaret C. Moore, then chief of the state health department's Nutrition Section; and public health nurses participated in the survey and feeding project.

According to an article in the July 1968 Science News, studies indicate that the effects of kwashiorkor are reversible in most organs, but that "effects on the brain, where cell renewal is extremely slow, are another question;" some scientists maintain that the effects are "clearly irreversible."

to the nearest Regional Public Health Laboratory where the throat culture will be sent for fluorescent antibody microscope reading. Results will be returned by mail within 24 to 36 hours.

ALL ABOUT US

ENGAGED: **Dobie J. Barras**, health educator, Lafayette, to **Kerry Ann Constantin**.

MARRIED: **Beth Pattison**, secretary, Chronic Illness and Aging Section, to **Walter J. Dubuc, Jr.**, at St. Anthony of Padua Church, July 17. . . . **Marilyn Miller**, daughter of **Dr. and Mrs. R. F. Miller** (AMC in Jeff Davis and Cameron) to **Earl C. Mendoza, Jr.**, New Orleans, June 1. . . . **Paulette Martin June**, student employee at Caddo-Shreveport Health Unit clinics and granddaughter of **Mrs. Pauline McAuliffe**, secretary, Bureau of Health Conservation, to **Robert Allen Thomas** of Alexandria, August 17.

DIED: Mother of **Janet Cary**, regional records consultant, Lafayette. . . . **Dr. John C. S. Patterson**, professor, department of tropical medicine, Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. Sympathy is expressed also to **Marion (Mrs. Earl E.) Deaton, PHN**, Ouachita, whose children, **Kyle L.**, 9, and **Leslie Kay**, 6, were killed with their grandmother, **Mrs. Natty W. Brown**, in an automobile accident. . . . and to **Mrs. Hazel Gillespie**, typist clerk, Shreveport Regional Laboratory, on the sudden death of her son, July 5.

BORN: A daughter, **Lana Ann LeJeune**, June 26, to **Mr. and Mrs. Larry J. LeJeune**, sanitarian, Acadia; and a son, **Damon James**, July 21, to **Mr. and Mrs. James (Connie) Fontenot**. **Mrs. Fontenot** is a former clerk at Acadia.

Florian A. Leach, retired motion picture projector operator, now living in Los Angeles, writes that he has recovered from his recent illness and is on his feet again, but he misses the fishing back home in Louisiana.

This has been a summer of hard work and exceptional honors for many public health officials. **John S. Lemasson** co-chaired four half-day seminars at the Biennial National Conference on Public Health Records and Statistics held in Washington, D.C., in June. **Anthony Ciaccio**, Public Health Statistics bureau director, who attended that conference, also participated in a 2-day advance meeting of the American Association of Registration Executives.

Mrs. J. B. Hickey, nursing division head, was elected secretary of the public health nursing section of Southern Branch, APHA, which honor also makes her program chairman for next year's meeting. She was selected as a member of an Ad Hoc Review Panel chosen to review project grant applications for PHS Region VII, and was invited to participate in a meeting of Health Manpower development and training and their application to the delivery of health services, in Washington, in June.

The visit of six doctors from India to the Lincoln Parish Family Planning Clinic, pilot program in Louisiana, occasioned another extensive feature article in the Ruston Daily Leader, in which our public health nurses came in for their share of the credit for a successful program.

Dr. Wilmot Ploger, son of **Mrs. Cornelia V. Ploger**, Food and Drug division, finished his internship at Charity Hospital, N.O., and entered his residency to become a Board Certified Orthopedic Surgeon. Other news from this division: **Miss Peggy Sanchez** (steno clerk) vacationed in Florida; **Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Carruth** (steno clerk) vacationed at Hemisfair; **Mrs. Evelyn Giroir**, (typist clerk) welcomed a new granddaughter, **Lisa**, born May 11.



"Vet"
of the
Year

AS IF A TRIP to Europe weren't enough excitement for one summer, **Dr. Charles T. Caraway**, chief, Epidemiology, was presented the Louisiana and Mississippi State Veterinary Medical Association's "Veterinarian of the Year" award at the two-state association meeting in a convention in New Orleans.

Credit Union officers proudly announced that the CU made its 5,000th loan in July. The borrower was a custodial worker employed in a parish health unit.

Best wishes to **Anna Mae Sutherland**, secretary, TB Section, recovering from surgery.

Laura Cormier, PHN, St. Landry broke her ankle when she fell while returning a book to the library. Milk sanitarian **Bob Moreau** was a victim of the mumps. **Rowena McClelland**, PHN, Eunice branch, was burned on the face and arms when her gas oven exploded. Evidently her 18-month-old son had turned on the gas before she made it to the stove. But there's good news from St. Landry Parish, too: **Essie Ruth Savoy**, PHN, went on the Yambilee tour to Florida, accompanying her daughter **Mary Lynn** who was one of the Yamettes who entertained the Yambassadors.

Dr. Arnuwatia Limsuwan, school of medicine, Ramathabodee hospital, Bangkok, Thailand, spent two weeks in East and West Carroll parish health units as part of the resident training program at the Tulane University School of Public Health. West Carroll is much in the news these days, with **Dr. J. G. Dupree** urging residents to get birth certificates, and Jaycees and Jaycee Jaynes learning rescue breathing techniques from health educator **Lillian Edwards**.

Services of the Louisiana State Department of Health are rendered on a non-discriminatory basis in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

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Governor

ANDREW HEDMEG, M.D., M.P.H.
State Health Officer

M. E. KOSSACK, M.S.P.H.
Head, Division of Public
Health Education

IRIS M. DAY
Editor



Pierre Pelican Series Revised for Inter- national Use

Distribution in Louisiana of the New International Revision of the Pierre the Pelican postnatal pamphlet began July 16. It was also the date of the official adoption of Pierre Pelican pamphlets by the National Association for Mental Health. With the inauguration of this series the State Health Department assumed joint responsibility for sponsorship and funding.

The mental health series has been translated into German, Spanish, Turkish, and Hungarian, according to their creator, Dr. Loyd W. Rowland, director of education and research for the Louisiana Association for Mental Health. They have had wide distribution in West Berlin since 1960.

From the original 12 pamphlets in 1947, the series has been expanded to 28 pamphlets covering the pre-school period. They are distributed by the Division of Tabulation and Analysis to parents of first-born babies, based on birth registration records.

Commenting on the program for a feature article in the New Orleans States-Item, Dr. Andrew Hedmeg, state health officer, said, "This has probably been one of the best maternal and child health and preventive mental health programs we've ever had the privilege to work with."

Dr. Rowland said, "We are hopeful of helping young parents develop understanding of their children's needs and also in developing habits of care which will lead in the direction of mental health for the entire family."

Approximately 400,000 families have received the Pierre the Pelican series since the program began 21 years ago.

Academy Invites Sanitarians

The time limit for professional sanitarians to submit applications to The American Intersociety Academy for Certification of Sanitarians, Inc., has been extended from June 30, 1968 to December 31, 1968.

For information write to Darold W. Taylor, secretary, 2101 Wakefield St., Alexandria, Va. 22308.

ALL ABOUT US

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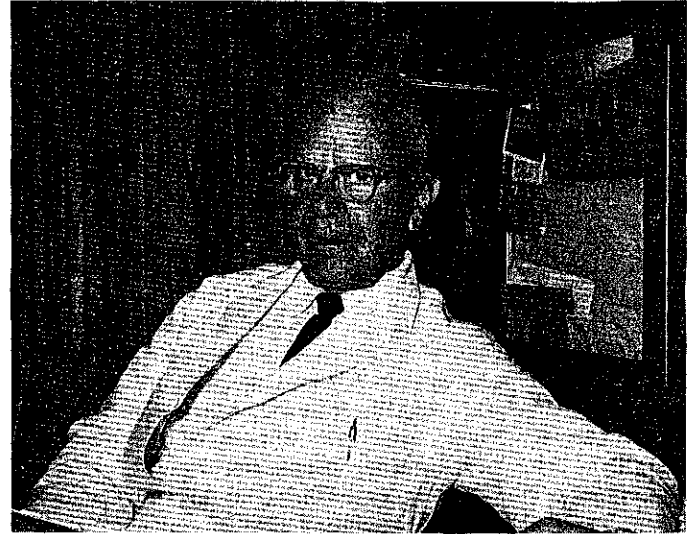
Au revoir and good luck to **Elmer Renegar**, health education consultant, who leaves the Heart Disease Control program July 31 for his new assignment at NCDC, Atlanta. During his Louisiana tour of duty among other achievements) Elmer helped to develop a pilot study of hypertension in Beauregard Parish, and to promote a new laboratory service of providing mail-in throat swab culture kits to assist physicians in the detection of Group A Beta Hemolytic Streptococci.

Roosevelt J. LaFleur, Lafayette sanitarian, was elected grand knight of Our Lady of Fatima Council 3470.

Mrs. Mary E. Causey, health educator, may be the only member of S.O.P.H.E. to have a flannelboard from Nieman-Marcus.

PUBLIC HEALTH POLICY MAKERS

LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH



Dr. Louis A. Monte 2nd District

Louis A. Monte, B.S., M.D., was appointed to the Board June 16, 1967, representing the 2nd Congressional District.

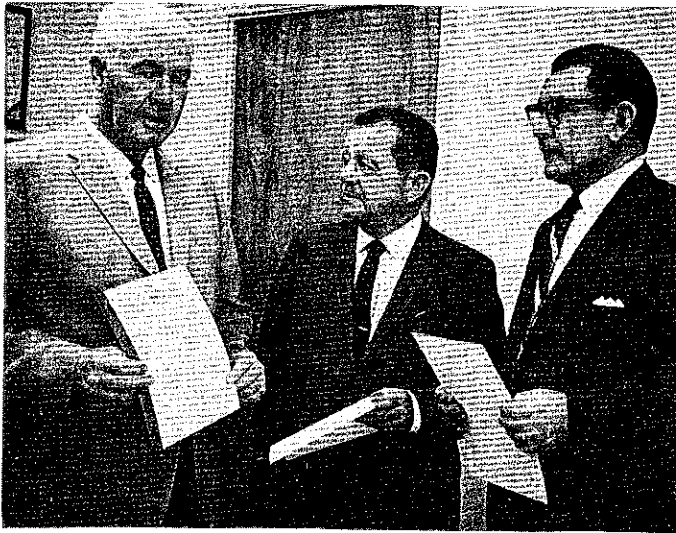
Born February 28, 1903 in Plaquemine, La., he took his Bachelor of Science degree at Tulane University and his medical degree at Tulane's School of Medicine in 1928. He interned at Charity hospital in New Orleans and from 1929-32 was admitting physician and medical resident at Charity. In 1932 Dr. Monte entered the private practice of internal medicine. Also that year he joined the faculty of the Louisiana State University School of Medicine where he is presently clinical professor of medicine. Dr. Monte currently is a member of the medical staffs of Charity Hospital, Mercy Hospital, and Hotel Dieu.

Dr. Monte served as president of the Orleans Parish Medical Society for the 1965-66 term. He is a member of the Louisiana State Medical Society, the American Medical Association, Southern Medical Association, American College of Physicians, American College of Chest Physicians, the Trudeau Society (American Thoracic Society), New Orleans Graduate Medical Assembly, and the New Orleans Academy of Internal Medicine.

Jack Smith, former biostatistician with VAP, now at NCDC, paid Central Office a quick visit this summer. After an absence from New Orleans of more than a year Jack headed straight for an oyster bar.

Congratulations to the new president of Southern Branch, APHA, **John S. Neill, M.D., M.P.H.**, director of Hillsborough County Health Department, Tampa, Fla.

Dr. George Hauser, director of laboratories, is the new president of the Association of State and Territorial Public Health Laboratory directors.



LOOKING OVER certificates recognizing their efforts in developing the State Emergency Resources Management Plan in Louisiana are: (l-r) Verne Fisher, health mobilization officer; Dr. Andrew Hedmeg, state health officer; and John E. Trygg, director, Bureau of Environmental Health. The certificates, presented by the Office of Emergency Planning in ceremonies at the governor's office, cited Louisiana business and government leaders who helped set up the plan for management and control of state resources during an emergency.

LPHA BULLETINS

Crawfish and Cajun hospitality should be added incentive for Louisiana Public Health Association members to attend the 1969 annual meeting set for April 23-25 in Lafayette.

At their July meeting in Alexandria, LPHA governing council members unanimously chose this French country site for next year's convention.

Elected as program committee co-chairmen for the coming convention were Dr. Murphy Martin, director of the Lafayette Parish Health Unit, and Dr. Dwight Danburg, superintendent of the Greenwell Springs Sanitarium. Dr. Robert Thompson, regional medical consultant in Lafayette, and Lloyd Methe, southwest regional sanitarian, will head the Annual Meetings Committee in charge of local arrangements.

The council also re-elected Miss Rose Ann Langham, chief of the state health department's nutrition section, as chairman of the Book Memorial Sub-Committee, and Mrs. Sarah Majore, Baton Rouge Parish Health Unit, as LPHA delegate to the Louisiana Organization for State Legislation.

Membership committee chairman, Miss Lillian Edwards, introduced 57 new membership requests at the meeting. Approval of these boosted LPHA membership to 960.

In special action, the governing council drafted a resolution to Governor John J. McKeithen commending Dr. Andrew Hedmeg's work as state health officer and president of the State Board of Health. The resolution requested that the Governor and La. legislators reaffirm Dr. Hedmeg to his present post.

A lost and found note: Where is the LPHA banner? Anyone knowing its whereabouts, please contact a governing council member.

First Nurse Refresher Courses Completed in New Orleans

Graduation ceremonies were held July 12 at the U.S. Public Health Service Hospital for twenty inactive registered nurses who had completed a pilot six-weeks refresher course at Mercy Hospital in New Orleans.

This was the first of a series of refresher programs to be held in the New Orleans area, and beginning July 22, in Baton Rouge, Lafayette, Lake Charles, and Shreveport, as part of a national project to help alleviate the shortage of health personnel. The Louisiana program, organized by the Louisiana State Nurses Association, was contracted with the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, at the request of Dr. Andrew Hedmeg, state health officer. Funding has been approved for 265 refreshees throughout the state.

Miss Christine Causey, R.N., executive director of the nurses association, is project director. Project coordinator is Miss Julie Yvonne Webb, R.N.

According to Miss Webb, who conducted statewide surveys to determine the need and desire for refresher courses for health personnel, 592 registered nurses expressed a desire to take a refresher course, and more than 500 inactive registered nurses are interested in returning to work part-time.

The registered nurse refresher programs are funded under the Manpower Development and Training Act, through DHEW, and the Division of Education and Employment Security of the Department of Labor. The Research and Education Foundation of the Louisiana Hospital Association is the sub-contractor for the Division of Education. The Foundation administers the refresher programs in the needed health occupations.

Courses are given at no cost to the refreshees with the provision that they return to work part or full time. The only requirements for entrance are current Louisiana licensure and good health.

Fall courses are being planned tentatively in Baton Rouge, Lafayette, Monroe, Alexandria, New Iberia, Lake Charles, Shreveport, Slidell, Marrero, and New Orleans.

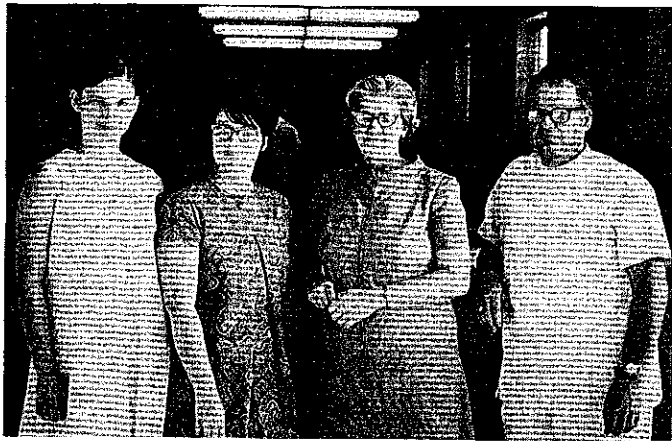
Anyone interested in obtaining further information about the nurse refresher courses may contact Miss Webb, Recruitment Division, Louisiana State Nurses Association, 1137 Maison Blanche Office Building, New Orleans, telephone 522-1092.

Film Library Re-opens Sept. 3

The annual August closing of the public health film library was announced in order to check, clean, and repair the approximately 1500 prints of more than 800 different motion pictures.

During the 1967-68 fiscal year, the library received 10,143 requests for the 16 mm. films, more than 363 requests more than in the previous year. Public health films were seen by nearly one million viewers, in schools, churches, institutions, and civic meetings throughout the state.

Requests to borrow films should be addressed to the Division of Health Education, La. State Department of Health, P.O. Box 60630, New Orleans, 70160. Allow two weeks for booking and delivery. Film catalogs are available from the parish health units.



DISTRIBUTIVE Education Certificates were presented to four employees of the Shreveport Regional Laboratory upon completion of a business English and letter writing class conducted at the Shreveport-Bossier Vocational Technical Center. Shown, from left, Sandra Walker, typist clerk; Mary Hancock, typist clerk; Iva Reynolds, steno clerk; and Billy Andrews, technologist. The remaining three clerks have registered for the course beginning Sept. 18, making 100 per cent attendance for the lab's clerical course.



MEETING THEIR new Area Medical Consultant, Dr. John B. Stotler, are the female staffers of St. Bernard Parish Health Unit. Back row: Dr. Stotler, Norma Smith, Estelle Johnson, Rita Raymond, and Amy Otlie; front: Juanita Couste, Joyce Wightkin, Helen Gagliano, Mary Palazzola, and Joyce Patin. St. Bernard clerks recently adopted a uniform of navy blue skirts and light blue blouses.

Services for Handicapped

New clinic services for handicapped children in the Shreveport District have been announced.

A diagnostic and treatment clinic for cystic fibrosis patients was opened at Schumpert Memorial Hospital in Shreveport as an expanded service of the Handicapped Children Program. Patients referred by a physician to a parish health unit may be sent to the clinic for further diagnosis and treatment.

An additional clinic service, scheduled to begin June 27, was announced by the Handicapped Children Program, in cooperation with the Hearing Conservation Program of the Special Services Section. Treatment service will be provided for children with hearing loss at a clinic to be held at Confederate Memorial Hospital. Children will be referred from their health unit otology clinics.

Health Unit Highlights

A summary of the hearing conservation program for the school year just ended was published in the Bastrop Daily Enterprise, Morehouse Parish. An excellent series of articles by reporter Ann Vincent, detailing services of the Handicapped Children program in the Lafayette district, has been appearing in the Lafayette Daily Advertiser. The Headstart Program in St. Landry Parish was told in a photo-feature article in the Daily World. According to the article, Dr. Leo W. Tucker, St. Landry Parish health unit director, heads the Headstart medical program there. Now in its third year, the program has enrolled a total of 1,808 children, most of whom have been found to be "unusually free from health handicaps." The administrator of the American Legion Hospital, Inc., Crowley, thanked Lloyd Methe, regional sanitarian, and local sanitarians, for their "splendid cooperation" during the June 9 emergency when approximately fifty persons were hospitalized in a food poisoning outbreak following a barbecue. Assisting local staff in the investigation were Dr. Paul Marques and Dr. Calvin Linneman, of the Epidemiology Section.

Two outbreaks of gastrointestinal disease, clinically and epidemiologically compatible with *Clostridium perfringens* food poisoning, occurred in elementary schools in Jefferson Parish in April. Of 1,011 children and teachers who ate lunch in the two schools, approximately 503 became ill. Improperly cooked turkey appeared to be the vehicle of infection in both outbreaks, statistically documented in one. Health department epidemiologists joined the investigation, and the Jefferson Parish Health Unit planned to make recommendations concerning proper food handling and cooking techniques to school lunchroom workers in order to prevent food-borne disease outbreaks in the future, according to the report of the two outbreaks.



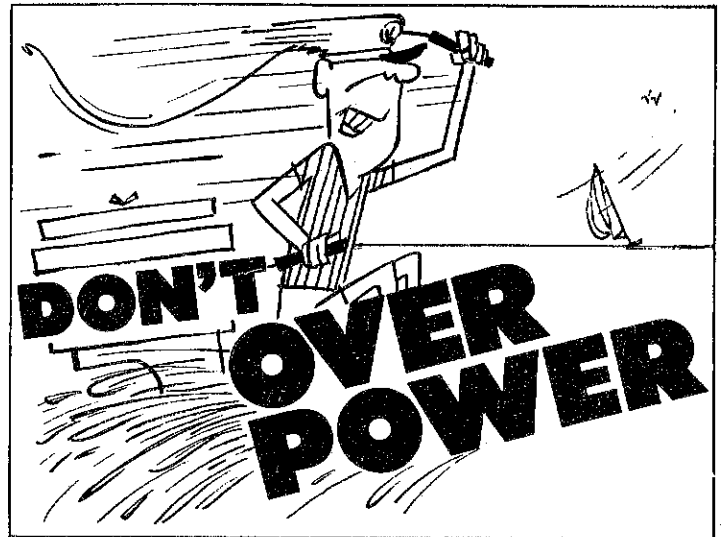
A WEEK at Camp Harrison, Colfax, La., was the reward for outstanding achievement for a number of 4-H Club members, some of whom are shown here. Camp instruction included a nutrition puppet show and lecture presented by Miss Margaret Bond, and rescue breathing demonstrations by Mrs. Mary E. Causey. Shown from left, back row: Lana Thomas, Glenda Price, De Edra Lynn Stone, Abram Wade, all of Concordia, and Willie Johnson, St. Landry; front: Mary M. Johnson, junior counselor, Andre Richard, St. Landry; J. W. Henderson, Webster; John Fruge, St. Landry; Wandra Griggs, Concordia; Carol Hickerson, Tangipahoa.

BOATING SAFETY

Courtesy of the NEW ORLEANS CHAPTER,
AMERICAN RED CROSS



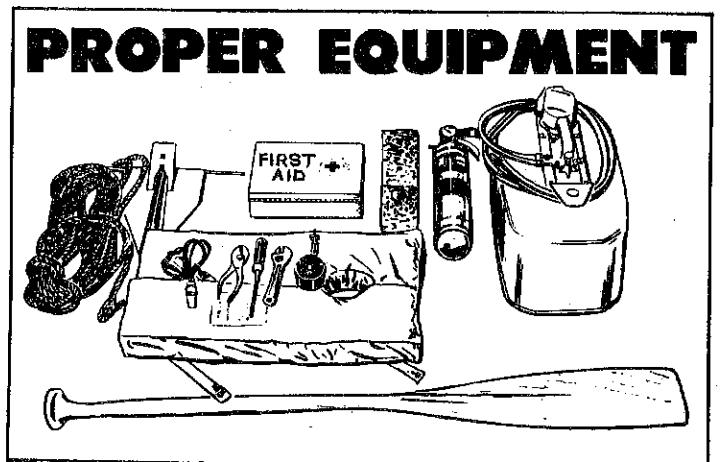
Keep the occupants of your small boat down to a safe number. Overloading the boat may lead to its swamping or capsizing.



Equip your boat with a motor of a power safe for the boat's size. Your dealer can help you choose the correct motor.



Stay with the boat if it capsizes—don't swim away from it. It will stay afloat in a great majority of instances. Exceptions are if the craft is drifting into dangerous waters or if the water is extremely cold.



Don't overlook. Take along such safety gear as oars, length of rope, anchor, tool kit, first aid kit, fire extinguisher, sponge, and extra supply of gasoline. And, though not shown here, a transistor radio to warn you of weather changes.

MR. TRYGG WIELDS GAVEL



JOHN E. TRYGG, director, Bureau of Environmental Health, holds the walnut gavel presented him as 1968-1969 chairman of the Conference of State Sanitary Engineers at the group's Washington, D.C. meeting in June.

MISS WEBB RETIRES



AFTER thirty years of service, Miss Clara L. Webb, typist-clerk, Claiborne Parish Health Unit, retired July 17. Her co-workers honored her with a luncheon and a gift.