

## Editorial

LOGOPEDICS, like all new sciences, is still having an uphill struggle in this country. Both the medical and lay public have yet to learn that the handicapped in speech can derive great benefit from trained workers in the field, and that speech therapy is desirable and available.

The University of the Witwatersrand has pioneered the training of speech therapists and has maintained a high standard of academic achievement comparable with most Logopedic centres in the world.

Of the four provinces in South Africa, the Transvaal has taken the lead in providing speech therapy services in hospitals, whereas in the Cape there are more school posts than in any other province. It is hoped that those in authority will see the need for establishing similar facilities in all parts of the country.

In practice, the furtherance of speech therapy depends on public interest and demand. Likewise, the creation of posts must be determined by the number of available speech therapists. Few matriculants in this country are aware of speech therapy as a career, and as a result, there are insufficient graduates to meet the potential demand.

The executive committee of the South African Logopedic Society recognizes the need to encourage young men and women to train as speech therapists, and has already taken steps in this direction. In addition, a programme is being worked out to make speech therapy better known to the medical and auxiliary professions.

Members of the South African Logopedic Society can therefore look forward with confidence to the future of speech therapy in this country.

### VACANCY FOR SPEECH THERAPIST

The Pretoria School for Cerebral  
Palsied Children, P.O. Box 1551,  
Pretoria, Telephone 20626, has 1  
Vacancy for Speech Therapist.

Enquiries: PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE.