

These two photos, one of St. Joseph's Hospital, the other a private home, show there is still much to be done.

THE FLOOD one year after ELMIRA

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with the Rev. Kelsey Martin who heads up Elmira Aid. We came to the realization that our programs could very easily work together so we joined each other in getting the flood relief job done," Patterson said.

Elmira Aid's program involves sweat equity for individuals who do not have sufficient down payments to purchase a home outright.

Sweat equity is the value of the labor provided by the prospective homeowner.

During the past year Patterson has had 16 different church groups from throughout the state come to Elmira to lend a hand in rebuilding the damaged homes.

"I don't know what I would have done if it wasn't for those church groups sending us work crews. The crews came from Rochester, Buffalo, Utica and Ithaca, to name a few of the places where help was offered."

The OHD program has had some unfortunate experiences. Patterson explained, "Some people misled us by telling us they lack the resources which they really had. We knew it was going to happen, that some people would try and latch onto a program like ours, but still it hurts



FRANK PATTERSON

when you actually find people who try to take advantage of something."

The OHD program calls for free labor while the homeowner pays for the cost of materials to rebuild his home. The program has thus far cost \$12,000 to \$15,000, Patterson said.

What pleases Patterson the most about the flood relief project? "I have been most impressed by the individuals from the correctional facility. Those men have abilities for this type of work far beyond what we had expected. It really has impressed us and in a way we are helping them get ready to readjust to society outside of prison walls," he said.

OEP Finishing Up

New York — One year ago the federal government launched a disaster relief effort in the wake of the Agnes floods in New York State that brought together some 45 agencies.

The Office of Emergency Preparedness, which will go out of business on July 1, and its regional director, Thomas R. Casey, were responsible for directing that massive response of personnel, equipment and funds. On July 1 OEP will become part of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

A veteran of many such campaigns, Casey compared Agnes New York to previous disasters. "The Agnes recovery," he recently told the U.S. Senate subcommittee on disaster relief, "was larger than the Alaska earthquake, larger than Hurricane Betsy or Camille." He added, "this response was the most comprehensive and fastest on record."

The President's Disaster Fund, established under the Disaster Assistance Act of 1970 (PL 91-606), and administered by OEP, is the source of most financing for this program. OEP official count for Agnes related recovery in the

26 New York counties amounts to nearly \$100 million. This includes payments or obligations to communities repairing roads, bridges and public facilities as well as private schools and hospitals.

CORNING

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Walker had a more optimistic outlook. "It's important to emphasize the interest that local industry has had in the problems of the flood," he said. "That's what's made the difference."

With YES, Father Bayer hopes to hire students who will respond to the people's individual needs as well as do the necessary jobs. "These people have suffered so much," he said, "that we need workers who are understanding, who can give people the needed, psychological, mental push. What we don't need are things like paint wars."

OHD, however, extends far beyond the YES project. It has directed a census of the entire flood area in order to identify specific needs. It has coordinated Operations Refurnish and Rebuild, which is designed to aid flooded families most in need,

BOCES A Friend In Need

By CHARLES RANDISI

Coming — A steady and reliable source of help to the Office of Human Development's flood relief campaign has been Steuben-Allegany Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES).

One of the two BOCES flood recovery operations is called Bootstrap, officially the Technical Assistance Demonstration Self-Help Program, which was begun in January. It offers instruction and technical assistance for homeowners in the Corning-Painted Post area.

Al Clark, coordinator of special projects for BOCES, says that BOCES has been involved in flood recovery since last June, when it ran part of the YES (Youth Emergency Service) program.

"In the middle of August," he says, "we decided that we wanted to do something in the winter." So, with the help of a \$25,000 grant from the Office of Technical Assistance of the Department of Commerce, Operation Bootstrap was under way.

Painting, plumbing, studding, wallpapering, plastering, paneling, insulation, and roof repair are just some of the services that Bootstrap has been offering. These jobs are accomplished in three ways: working directly with homeowners, supervising and teaching volunteers in conjunction with OHD, and supervising and teaching work-study students from Corning Community College.

The Corning Glass Foundation has given \$150,000 to fund YES for this year, and BOCES will again work closely with the



HENRY SANDORE

project, selecting 18-year-old students with professional training to work in flood-damaged homes for eight weeks.

This year YES will operate from two offices, OHD and the Mennonite Disaster Service.

The other major undertaking of BOCES is a program to provide on-the-job training for students with learning disorders.

Henry Sandore, coordinator of work experience at Coopers Career Center in Coopers Plains, organized the project. Under BOCES' vocational work experience program, he says, learning-disabled students are put through five phases leading eventually to permanent employment.

Phase 2 places 16-year-old students in schools, hospitals, churches, garages, colleges, and charity organizations, giving a

few hours a day work experience.

Sandore thought flood relief would be a good area for his students, so he contacted Father Peter Bayer at OHD, and lined up some homes that needed work.

Sandore is pleased with the results. "Some of the boys couldn't even drive a nail before we started," he says. "Now I have more jobs than I have kids."

Mrs. Anthony Fratarcangelo, whose home on Pyrex Street is badly gutted, took on a crew of Sandore's students, led by teacher James Buchanan.

"It started out as a simple job," says Sandore. "They were moving heavy appliances, pulling nails." One thing led to another, however, and soon they were putting in the picture windows and restudding the floors."

"They've done a fabulous job," Mrs. Fratarcangelo says.

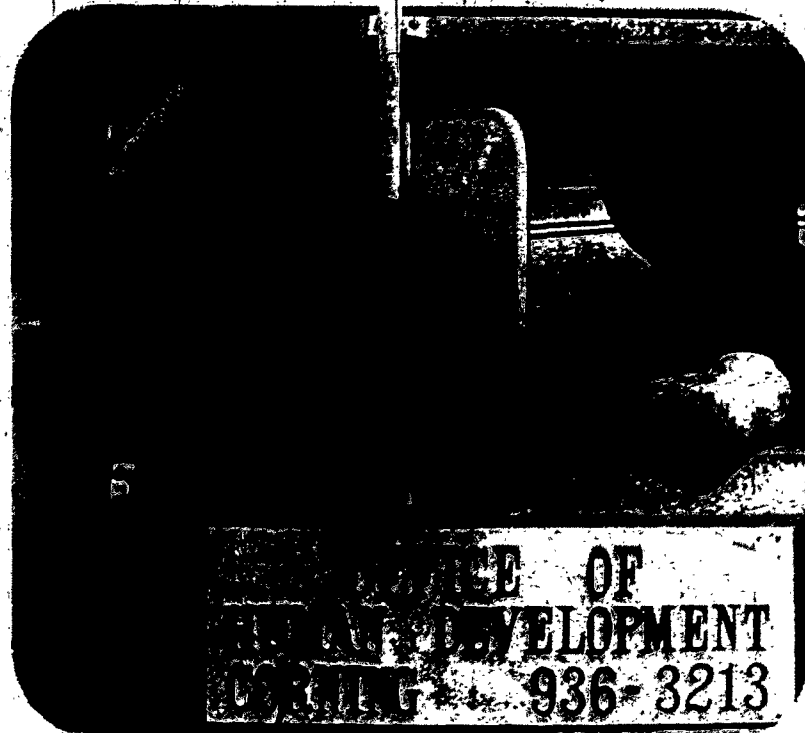
such as the elderly, widowed, disabled, and jobless.

It has been mobilizing volunteers from all over. For example, it recently sent out a group of volunteer girls from Pittsburgh to a house that needed some yard work.

Dave Hill, an OHD worker, is in charge of the Helping Center, a telephone line open 24 hours a day. The Helping Center supplies information, makes referrals, and provides counseling.

Father Bayer offered what he thought was the most important facet of OHD. "All our programs are cyclic in nature, and offer a complete package for people in need." By "cyclic" he means that people don't have to go through a lot of red tape to get action on a problem, since all OHD's programs are centered in one office and interrelated.

Said Father Bayer, "This is where the buck can stop."



Father Bayer on the Job.