



KUWAIT SOCIETY FOR THE HANDICAPPED



With the compliments of
Kuwait Oil Company

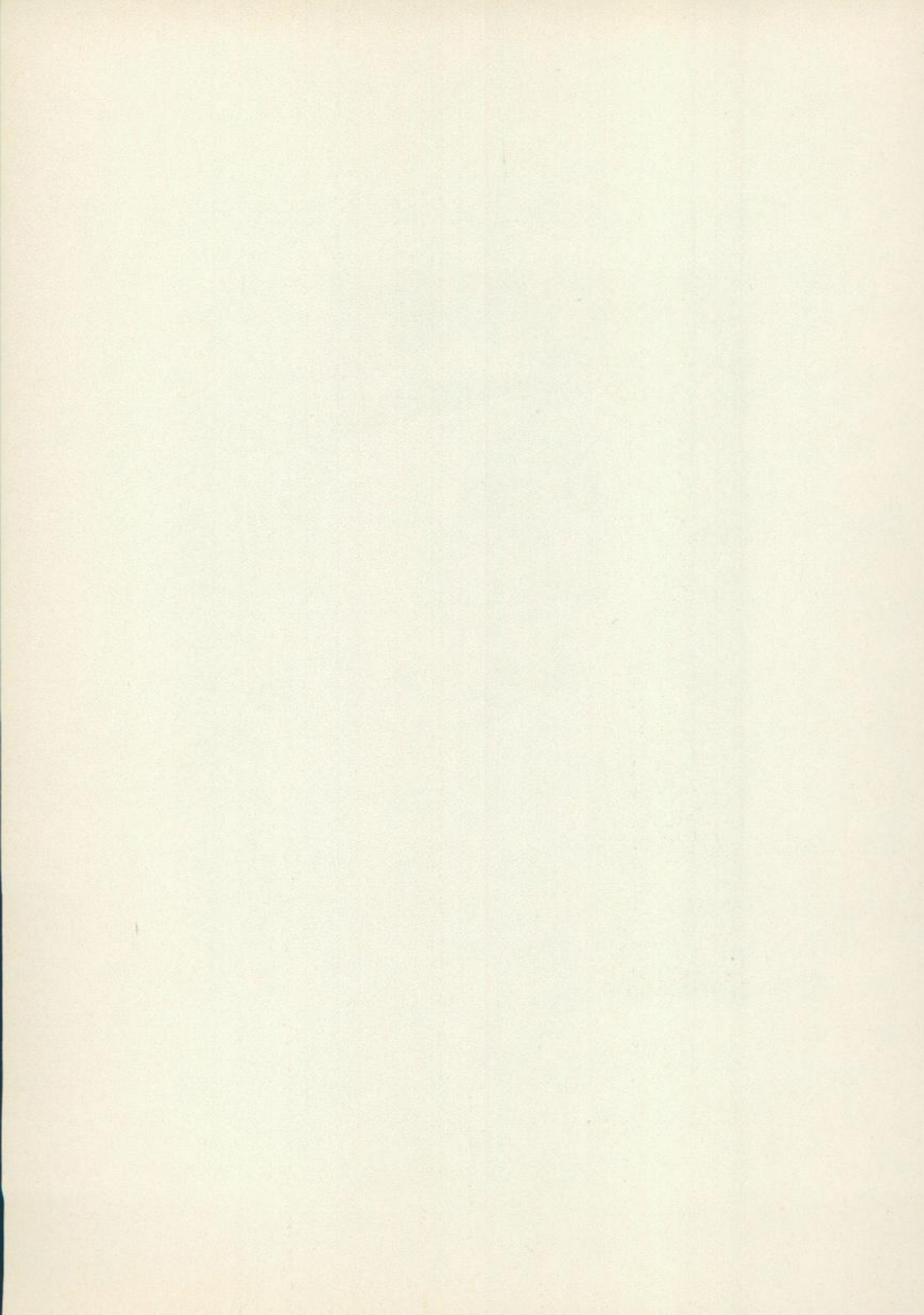
ON THE OCCASION OF
THE INAUGURATION
OF THE NEW BUILDING
UNDER THE AUSPICES OF
H.H. SHAIKH
JABIR AL AHMAD AL JABIR
AL SABAH



H. H. THE AMIR OF KUWAIT, SHEIKH SABAH AL-SALIM AL-SABAH



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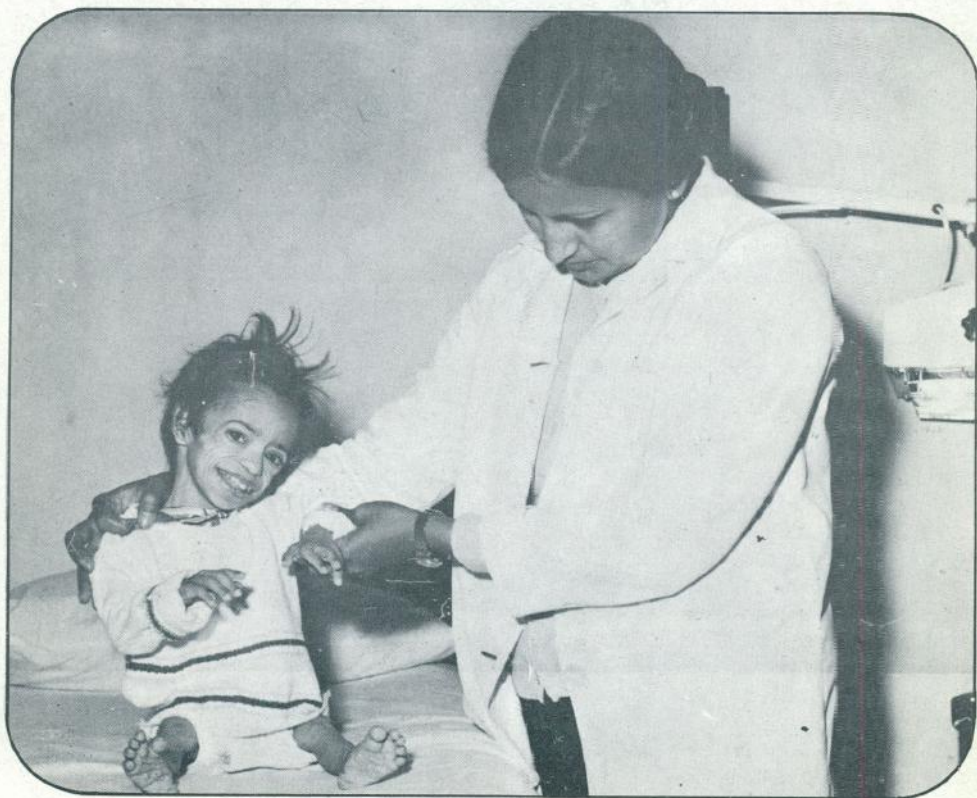
Most people sympathize with the unfortunate disabled and mentally retarded children who are unable to lead a normal daily life — eating, walking, studying and thinking. All those who are healthy and strong should give thanks day and night for these gifts from God. They should always remember that there are others who suffer. They should remember the many children who are in need of the care and attention of benevolent and kind-hearted people.

The State of Kuwait has done its utmost to take care of the disabled by opening hospitals and clinics in which many handicapped and mentally retarded children receive proper

care and treatment. It has also provided them with qualified doctors and modern equipment. Nevertheless, there are many severe cases that the State hospitals have not been able to accommodate, because they are bodily defective.

These children used to stay at home to be taken care of by their families. Under these circumstances they could not expect the needed specialized attention. A few years ago a group of Kuwaitis thought of doing something to help these children. So came the idea of forming the Society for the Handicapped.

On May 23rd, 1971, the Society was formed, and took a temporary





location in Hawalli. The compound of the Society was an old house, composed of several rooms. On April 5th, 1972, the then Minister of Social Affairs and Labour officially inaugurated the Society.

In April, 1974, the Society moved to its new premises. These were built on a 6000 sq. metre plot. This building includes 6 wards, equipped with modern facilities to meet all requirements. The cost of the building, as well as the income of the Society, is met by donations from people in Kuwait and from the Ministry of Social Affairs which gives KD. 10,000 per annum. At the moment the Society has 180 members, notable





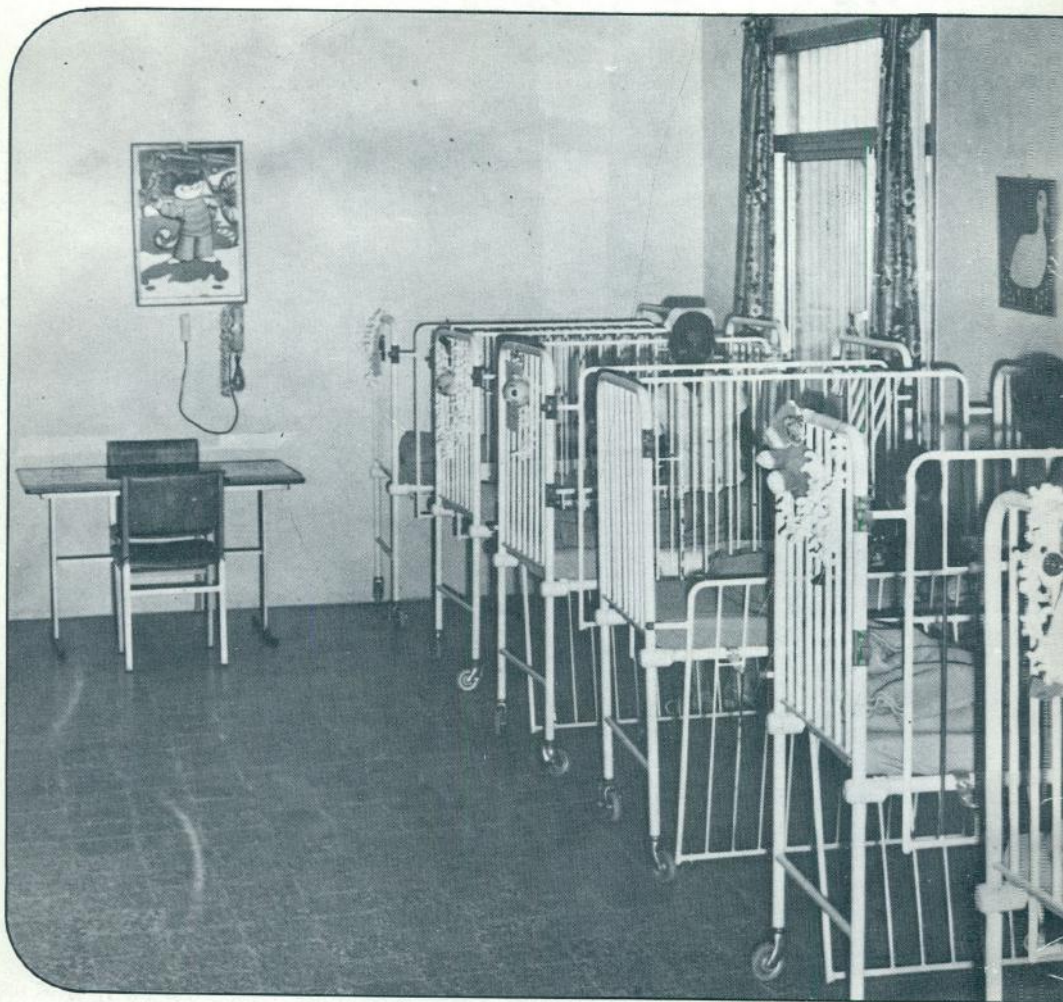
amongst whom is the Minister of Finance, H.E. Abdul Rahman Salem al-Ateeqy, who is the Chairman and the Chief Editor of its quarterly house journal.

The Society started to contact the public through the various media to inform them about its aims, and to encourage them to send their children to the Society. A large number responded favourably, the present number of children cared for is 80.

The Society gives priority to the acute cases and to mentally retarded children, and then considers the less severe cases. The children receive all

the care and attention they need, and this is clearly shown in the daily routine of eating, playing and sleeping. Their nutritional diet, for example, involves a regular daily caloric intake, and a wide variety of foods are given to them. In addition, they are given a monthly blood check. The Society's medical officer is Dr. Hamouri, who visits the Society twice a week to carry out medical examinations and treatments. Working with him are 12 nurses and 18 employees.

The Society endeavours to maintain the parent-child relationship. Weekly meetings are arranged for parents when they meet Mrs. Mu-



tawa, the manageress, and Dr. Suhail Saleh for discussions and counselling. On Thursdays, parents collect their children for the week-end, taking them back on Friday afternoon. Since the Society was formed its helpers have not hesitated in donating funds to enable the Society to carry on its work and to expand in its activities. In addition various societies in Ku-

wait hold parties and receptions and exhibitions in which the proceeds go to the Society.

The main objective of the Society is to provide the handicapped with the required care and attention. This aim has been successfully accomplished. Children who were unable to walk or take their food have been able to do so within few months.