



Governor Baxter State School for the Deaf, Mackworth Island, Maine.

Gov. Baxter School for the Deaf

organizations of the deaf. In 1976 he moved to Washington, D.C. to become program supervisor at the Kendall Demonstration Elementary School. He died of cancer in 1979. A tribute at the school memorializes him as the school's "most distinguished son."

Governor Baxter School for the Deaf

Portland, Maine

Opened: 1876

Founder: Portland School Board and Mary True

The Gov. Baxter School calls itself the "Easternmost School for the Deaf" in the United States. It is also the only school located on an island. The school began as the Portland School for the Deaf in 1897. Miss Mary True, who had taught Mabel Hubbard (who later married Alexander Graham Bell), was the first teacher.

In 1957 a new school was built on Mackworth Island in Casco Bay near Portland. This island was the former summer home of the Baxter Family. The school is named for Percival P. Baxter, who gave the island to the school.

The school added a high school de-

partment in 1967. Until that year Maine students continued their education beyond the ninth grade at the American School in West Hartford or at a public high school. In 1968 a work study program and vocational program were added.

In the summer of 1965 a workshop for interpreting for deaf people was held on the island. This workshop resulted in the publication of one of the earliest manuals on interpreting for deaf persons. In 1966 the school sponsored the New England Deaf Scouts Jamboree. In 1971 the school was host to the Eastern Junior National Association of the Deaf Youth Conference.

The school's literary and drama association is named for Melville Ballard, a native of Maine. He was the first deaf person to earn a degree at Gallaudet College.

Gallaudet School for the Deaf
St. Louis, Missouri

Opened: 1878

Founder: Delos A. Simpson* and others

Samuel Brant, the father of a deaf child; Delos A. Simpson, a deaf man; and other spirited citizens have been

credited with founding the St. Louis School for the Deaf.

Delos A. Simpson was one of at least three deaf brothers who gradually lost their hearing. Born in 1852, he was educated at the Michigan School for the Deaf and at Gallaudet College. In the fall of 1878 he went to St. Louis, Missouri, with a letter of introduction from Dr. Edward Miner Gallaudet, president of Gallaudet College. There he became involved with Brant and other concerned citizens and they founded this school. There were eight pupils in the first class. Simpson was appointed principal. He lived with the Brant family and was paid a salary of \$50.00 a month. He held the position until ill health forced him to resign in 1889. He died not long afterwards at the age of 40.

Simpson was succeeded as principal by Robert P. McGregor who held the post only one year. In 1891 James H. Cloud became principal. Cloud was very active in the community, and his leadership brought much attention to the school. Cloud was deafened as a youth, but retained some hearing; his sons communicated with him by talking very loudly. Three years after becoming principal of the St. Louis School he was ordained a Protestant Episcopal priest as a "hearing" man at the insistence of his bishop. He orga-