

# OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE

Retarded Children



Can Be Helped!  
RECEIVED  
OCTOBER 1960  
BUREAU FOR MENTAL DEFECTIVES

VOL. XIII — ISSUE NO. 3

SEPTEMBER 1960

## "A COMMUNITY AT WORK ON MENTAL RETARDATION"

### CARLINO FOR STUDY

#### BACKS AHRC REQUEST

Albany, September 10th. Speaker Joseph Carlino today endorsed the AHRC proposal for a Governor's Committee to study the relationship of the State departments to the problem of mental retardation. Such a study should result in a long-range plan for total services for the mentally retarded, in and out of institutions, with special emphasis on reversing the institutionalization process.



Speaker Joseph Carlino

"This is a problem that affects more than 500,000 individuals directly in this State," said Speaker Carlino, "and over 2,000,000 if we include their parents and siblings. The Joint Legislative Committee, under Senator Earl Brydges as Chairman and Assemblyman Stanley Steingut as Vice-Chairman has done an outstanding job. The time has come to coordinate their work and fix responsibility for the many services in the community needed by the retarded."

A Governor's Committee of professionals and laymen interested in the problem will be of immeasurable help to the Joint Legislative Committee, said Carlino, and will give us the total planning needed to prevent fragmentation of services and responsibility for carrying them out.

"Our State's concern for the mentally retarded has been great," concluded the Speaker "we must continue by giving this group every chance for development and security."

**STATE CONVENTION — ROCHESTER — OCTOBER 28, 29, 30.**

*The State Association acknowledges with thanks permission of the New York Chapter to use the title "Our Children's Voice" for the State paper.*

#### THEME OF STATE CONVENTION

FUTURE PROGRAMMING TO BE DISCUSSED IN ROCHESTER  
OCTOBER 28, 29 AND 30, 1960

A total program for the mentally retarded will be embodied in the theme, "A Community at Work on Mental Retardation", at the coming State Convention at the Hotel Sheraton, Rochester, N. Y., on October 28, 29 and 30.

The basis for the discussion will be the Rochester Demonstration Project supported by State funds in which the Monroe County Chapter of the AHRC is participating through its work training program, halfway house, recreation and counseling services.

It is expected that this will be the largest conference ever held with delegates and visitors from all over the State and Canada.

Tours of all the facilities in the community, as well as Newark State School that serves this area are planned with discussions to be held at each of the facilities visited following the tour.

The effects of mandatory legislation on the programs of the AHRC and future programming of the chapters and the State will be discussed by our Executive Director in an address, "The Years Ahead". This will be followed the following day by concurrent seminar sessions on "Community Programming for the Mentally Retarded" which will include sections on Recreation, Volunteers, Role of the Institution, and Legislation, with participants from chapters and state departments in New York State.

All members of the AHRC are welcome and urged to attend this important Convention.

**PLEASE SEND YOUR RESERVATIONS IN IMMEDIATELY TO THE HOTEL SHERATON DIRECTLY, OR TO MR. HAROLD STIFFLER, CONVENTION CHAIRMAN, 125 COLLEGE AVENUE, ROCHESTER, NEW YORK.**

**SEE PROGRAM  
ON  
PAGE 13**

## OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE

issued four times a year by

THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE HELP  
OF RETARDED CHILDREN, INC.

19 UNION SQUARE, NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

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A Non-Profit, Tax-Exempt Organization of Parents and Friends  
of Mentally Retarded Children

Chartered by the State of New York

February, 1949

Affiliated with National Association for Retarded Children, Inc.

President: ROBERT H. WAGNER

Executive Director and Editor: JOSEPH T. WEINGOLD

## WEINGOLD APPOINTED TO BOARD OF VISITORS OF WILLOWBROOK

Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of the New York State AHRC, has been appointed a member of the Board of Visitors of Willowbrook State School, Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller announced on July 20th.

This is the second appointment as a member of the Board of Visitors of a State School for Mr. Weingold. In 1959 he was appointed a member of the Board of Visitors of Wassaic State School by Governor Averell Harriman, but this interim appointment was not submitted to the Senate by Governor Rockefeller. Mr. Weingold's name was again submitted for appointment to Willowbrook State School last year by Bernard Newman, Republican Chairman of New York County and Senator William T. Conklin of Brooklyn. All the places on Willowbrook State School Board had already been filled and there were no openings.

Senator Conklin felt so strongly that Mr. Weingold should be a member of the Board of Visitors that he with Assemblyman Marano of Brooklyn introduced a bill to increase the number of the members of the Board of Visitors at Willowbrook State School from seven to eight. This bill was passed and signed by the Governor. Mr. Weingold's appointment followed.

The State AHRC has been urging for many years that each Board of Visitors of a State School should have at least one member a parent of a mentally retarded child. Mr. Weingold's appointment continues the pattern that was set by the appointment of Bernard Rosenberg of Westchester to the Board of Visitors of Letchworth and Mary D. McCarthy of Syracuse to the Board of Visitors of Syracuse State School.

It is planned to submit other parents' names for Boards of Newark State School and Rome as well as Wassaic.

At the offices of the Association, Mr. Weingold said, "We feel it is most important that each Board of Visitors of State School for the Mentally Retarded have at least one parent as a member. This in no way is a reflection on the work of the dedicated members of the existing boards, but parents do have a particular sensitivity to the problems of other parents and the children in such state schools.

As for myself, I look forward to a long a fruitful association on the Board of Visitors of Willowbrook.

## Council For Exceptional Children to Hold Conference

The New York State Federation of the Council for Exceptional Children has scheduled its Ninth Annual Conference at the Hotel Ten Eyck in Albany, New York, on November 3, 4 and 5, 1960. The theme of this year's conference is "Mental Health of the Exceptional Child".

This should prove an interesting session for all members of the AHRC. If any further information is required please communicate with Dr. Joseph Fenton, President, 25 Bancroft Street, Albany 8, New York.

(Study cont'd. from previous column)

emasculated by its lack of autonomy and funds for programs.

We do not wish to pass judgment on these matters. We do feel that with the tens of millions of dollars that are being spent on capital construction as well as services to the mentally retarded in institutions and through education, we are proceeding in a very unbusiness like way, fragmentizing and segmentizing services without any overall plans or real direction through the State.

We again call on the Governor to appoint a committee of citizens and persons interested in this field, both professional and lay, to make such an overall study and to propose a plan of state action that will make full use of the State's power and funds as well as that of the community.

(Continued next column)

## HEALTH, HOSPITAL COUNCIL ESTABLISHED BY GOVERNOR

The establishment of an Interdepartmental Health and Hospital Council to coordinate the work of state agencies dealing with problems in these fields, has been announced by Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller.

The council replaces two temporary state agencies, the Interdepartmental Health Resources Board and the Joint Hospital Planning and Survey Commission, whose administrative functions were transferred by the Legislature to the Departments of Health and Mental Hygiene.

Functions of the new council will be to consider new aspects of health problems facing the state, to organize the exchange of information among member agencies, to establish the framework for interdepartmental consultation, and to conduct joint studies in health areas concerning two or more departments.

Problems to be studied include rehabilitation, health services for the aging, alcoholism, narcotics addiction, mental retardation, emotional disturbances of children, standards of hospital facilities and services, and methods of financing hospital care.

Appointed to the council were the Commissioners of Mental Hygiene, Health, Social Welfare, Education and Insurance. Staff services will be provided by the Department of Health.

## PLANS BEING MADE FOR REMODELING AT MOUNT McGREGOR

Preliminary plans for the modification and remodeling of existing facilities at Mount McGregor in Saratoga to accommodate about 400 mentally retarded children have been drafted and are being modified to conform with a suggested \$500,000 budget, according to the office of the state architect.

Among the major items being considered in the blueprints for the remodeling project at Mount McGregor are the installation of adequate sanitary plumbing and electrical systems to meet the demands imposed by the care of such patients.

Present electrical and sanitary facilities are not only 30 to 40 years old, but are completely inadequate for hospital-type use, according to Charles Kawecki, chief architect for the state.

"We are moving as rapidly as possible on this project. It has a top priority rating, and we hope to be able to put our specifications out for bids in the not too distant future", he said.

## VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS AT STATE SCHOOLS

Volunteer programs are organized to incorporate the policies and wishes of the Department of Mental Hygiene regarding the role of the volunteer in our institutions and with due consideration of the fundamental principles of sound volunteer organizations, according to Miss Barbara Griffith, Director of Volunteer Services of the State Department of Mental Hygiene.

Objectives of the volunteer programs are: 1) to provide additional and diversified activities for the patients' participation and 2) to increase the community understanding of the institutions function and program.

At present, there are volunteer programs at Letchworth Village, Newark and Rome State Schools, and Craig Colony and Hospital. Wassaic is in the process of initiating the program. In conjunction with the staff at Syracuse State School, a volunteer group conducts a program in the community for patients on home placement.

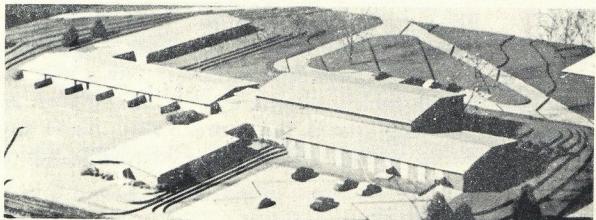
It is hoped, states Miss Griffiths, that in due time regular volunteer programs will be organized in all of the institutions with a common denominator of stable organization. As soon as feasible, a recruiting brochure for state schools similar to the one that has been prepared for state hospitals will be issued.

## STATE SCHOOL RISES IN WEST SENECA

### MODIFIED COTTAGE TYPE WILL PROVIDE 1,766 BEDS

Now under construction on the 500 acre site in West Seneca near Buffalo are two four-wing infirmary units for the new \$50,000,000 state school for mentally retarded.

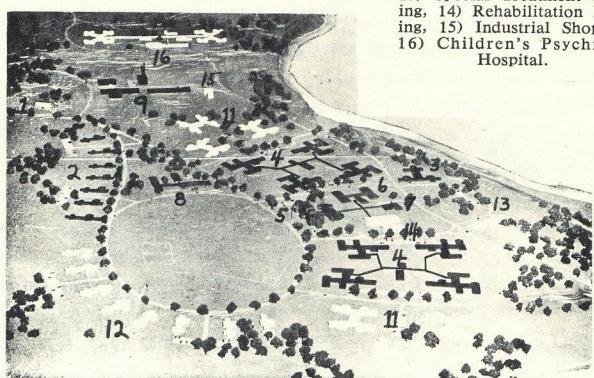
One unit is for male and the other for female patients. Each has four wings built around the central facility which houses two kitchens. An inclosed corridor leads through each of the four wings to the central facility. Each of the wings will have three individual sections containing a 40 bed ward and a 10 bed ward and a 10 bed medical treatment ward. Special classroom facilities are incorporated in each of the three sections within the wing and playgrounds adjoin each building. Each section has a dining room, playroom, classroom, and supporting facilities. The two cottage type infirmary units are designed for the care of the severely retarded. Later units for infants will be constructed.



School, OT Center and Assembly Hall.

Bids on a combined school, occupational therapy and assembly hall for the institution will be taken in Albany on October 1st. Estimates place the cost of unit at \$1,750,000. About 80 buildings will comprise the total institution. Included will be a 180 bed infants building for children under 5 for whom there has been an increasing demand for services throughout the State; a 216 bed medical-surgical building; 8 cottages totalling 240 beds for educable children and a 90 bed special treatment building for mentally retarded patients presenting emotional and behavior problems in the institution. A central kitchen to serve these buildings will include the employees cafeteria. An auditorium, gymnasium and occupational therapy rooms will be housed in the school and training center.

First Stage of Construction: 1) Administration Building, 2) Cottages for School Children, 3) Special Treatment Building, 4) Infirmarys, 5) Reception-Medical-Surgical Building, 6) Infants Building, 7) Kitchen and Employees Cafeteria, 8) School, OT Center and Assembly Hall, 9) Service Building, 10) Employees Home; Future Construction: 11) Building for Adults, 12) Cottages for School Children, 13) Special Treatment Building, 14) Rehabilitation Building, 15) Industrial Shop and 16) Children's Psychiatric Hospital.



Selection of the site at West Seneca was made with a view to possible expansion in the future as requirements for services developed in the area. It is anticipated that the school eventually could accommodate 2,876 patients with the addition of 8 more cottages for educable children, 6 cottages for adult patients, a second special treatment building and a special rehabilitation center.

Counties from which patients will be admitted are: Erie, Niagara, Orleans, Genesee, Wyoming, Allegany, Cattaraugus, and Chautauqua.

The 1959 and 1960 legislatures have thus far appropriated \$23,180,000 for construction.

## INCOME TAX EXEMPTION MODIFIED NEW RULING FOR RETARDED IN STATE INSTITUTIONS

The handicapped children's dependency exemption rule has been revised by the Internal Revenue Service.

Last year the service held that amounts spent by state governments in an institution for training mentally retarded youngsters were not to be counted by the parent in determining whether he contributed the required minimum 50% of the child's support to claim him as a personal exemption (see OCV June 1960 issue). Now the service says this ruling applies only where the state institution qualifies as an educational institution and the child meets the tax laws definition of a "student"—one who attends classes regularly at least five months of the year. The amount spent by the State, the service rules, is technically a scholarship which, under the law, is not figured in the child's support.

"The revenue ruling in question is not applicable to state institutions for mentally retarded children unless the state institution qualifies as an educational institution and such residents qualify as students; that is, they are enrolled in and attend regularly the classes which comprise the curriculum of the institution."

Bernard Fineson, Chairman of the AHRC Legal Committee commented, "We must be cautious about all these rulings. Each case must be considered individually."

## COMPROMISE PLAN ON DECENTRALIZATION OF CLASSES IN NORTHERN WESTCHESTER

Final touches have been put to a new blueprint for the education of mental retardates, a compromise system that will comply with decentralization laws enacted since 1958 by the State Legislature, and, at the same time, retain many desirable features of the centralized program now operated by the Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Upper Westchester's First Supervisory School District.

A bill that would have given local school boards discretion in placing special classes for educable children in locations other than school buildings was vetoed by the Governor at the last session of the Legislature.

The present plan conceived by Dr. Allan P. Bradley, Supervisory District Superintendent, Dr. C. C. Dunsmoor, BOCES director, and the BOCES staff, is expected to retain some of the advantages of centralization and still comply with the state law that classes for retarded children must be in public school space. If put into effect, the compromise is expected to become a pilot for mental retardate training throughout the state. In essence, the plan provides that the supervisory district would be divided into four areas, with special classes given at one or more of the schools in each area. Children with a specific I.Q. range would be separated into classes for a three-year age span, with one age group handled at one school, another at another school, etc. The entire retardate program would be planned and supervised by BOCES coordinator. State aid would be facilitated as BOCES would be renting classroom space from the individual districts and supplying teachers for each class.

One great advantage of the new plan is to cut the traveling distance from the retardate's home to his classes.

This marks a real working out of a problem by people of good will. As stated in the last issue of OCV in commenting on the Governor's veto, "The Association felt that this problem could be solved over a period of time and that the State Department of Education would show tolerance and good will in doing so."

**ALL COME TO STATE CONVENTION — ROCHESTER, OCTOBER 28, 29, 30.**

# NEW FRONTIERS FOR THE MENTALLY RETARDED

## TEACHERS AND PSYCHOLOGISTS AT SEVENTH ANNUAL STATE CONFERENCE

More than 200 teachers, psychologists, administrators, and parents of trainable mentally retarded children attended the Seventh Annual Conference sponsored by the State AHRC on Saturday, June 18, at the Carnegie International Center at 345 East 46th Street, New York, New York. This meeting took on added significance this year because of the passage of legislation amending the Education Law to provide that classes for trainable mentally retarded children in public schools be mandatory. Hence, the theme of the Conference was "New Frontiers for the Mentally Retarded".



President Robert H. Wagner opening the session.

One of the most important sections of the meeting was that on "Suggested Principles of Pupil Selection" under the leadership of Dr. Joseph Wortis, Director of Pediatric Psychiatry, Jewish Hospital of Brooklyn and Elsa Haeussermann, Education Consultant at the Morris J. Solomon Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Retarded Children at the same hospital. Miss Haeussermann is also the author of "Developmental Potential of Pre-School Children". Out of this session came the following recommendations with regard to principles for selection of pupils for these classes: 1. that psychometric IQ scores no longer be regarded as the sole criterion for class placement of the retarded; 2. that class placement be effected by the educational authorities after a complex clinical appraisal by a commission including a teacher, a psychologist, and a physician; 3. that periods of trial placement be encouraged; 4. that the costs for complex clinical evaluation be borne by the State Health Department or other governmental agency.

To supplement some of the suggestions it was recommended that 1. a demonstration or pilot project be established in one area to screen all new applicants as above recommended and 2. that rehabilitation centers be created (jointly by State Health, Education and Mental Hygiene Departments) to provide training for children not suited for classroom placements.

Others participating in this session were Dr. David Steinberg, Psychologist at Albert Einstein Clinic and Dr. Mildred R. Bernstein, Acting Chief Psychologist, Bureau of Child Guidance.

Other workshops were "Class Management", Dr. Melvin Semmel, Associate Professor, Buffalo State Teachers College,

(Continued on page 11)

# SEEN AT TEACHERS CONFERENCE



Some of the participants during a session.



Joseph T. Weingold addressing the meeting, assisted by son Jonathan on the left. James Maroon, Chairman of AHRC Education Committee on right.

## PARTICIPANTS FROM 15 STATES AT VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION COURSE

### FOURTH WORKSHOP SPONSORED BY AHRC AT TEACHERS COLLEGE, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

For the fourth year the AHRC has sponsored a work conference on "Rehabilitation of the Adolescent and Adult Mentally Retarded-Psychological and Vocational Approaches" at Teachers College under a grant from the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation. Twenty seven participants from 15 states, including Hawaii, took part in the two week intensive training session. Although more than 70 applications were received, it was necessary to limit those accepted because of the nature of the work which included intensive sessions at the AHRC Workshop, with full participation of Dr. Max Dubrow and the total staff.

Those who participated were executive directors of local units, rehabilitation counsellors, in State Divisions of Vocational Rehabilitation, an assistant superintendent of schools of a major city, the executive secretary of a health division of a large city, the assistant coordinator of programs for the mentally retarded in the public school system of a western city, teachers of the mentally retarded, employment counselors, and executive directors of state units for the parents groups for the mentally retarded.

The workshop has had wide influence in the training of professional personnel in the field of vocational rehabilitation of the mentally retarded and many of those who participated in the past three years have gone on to work directly in this field or become consultants through their State Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.

The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation provided stipends for 25 participants in the sum of about \$300 per stipend. Columbia University gave credit for the course. The course was co-ordinated by Dr. Abraham Jacobs, Professor of Education, Department Psychological Foundations and Services, Teachers College, Columbia University and Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of the N.Y. State Association for the Help of Retarded Children, Inc. Assisting was Dr. Max Dubrow, Director of the AHRC Training Center and Sheltered Workshop in New York City.



Dr. Joseph Wortis addressing opening session of Conference. Left to right Dr. Mildred R. Bernstein, Dr. David Steinberg, Dr. Joseph Wortis, Miss Elsa Haeussermann and Joseph T. Weingold.



Listening intently, the males are Professors Melvin Semmel, Chris DeProspo and Louis E. Rosenzweig. Only identified female, Phoebe Lazarus of Nassau, next to Dr. Semmel.

## SYRACUSE PLANS CLASSES FOR TRAINABLE

The Board of Education of Syracuse is expected to set up an educational program for trainable retarded children within a year.

Currently, 35 mentally retarded city children are attending private classes at the AHRC-McCarthy school in that city. The city provides the school building, but the Board of Education declined to provide the education. Thus the school is run entirely by the Chapter.

Superintendent of city schools, Dr. Paul A. Miller, discussed city plans at an open house in June at the AHRC-McCarthy School. He said that the program will likely be set up at the same building in spite of the problem of teacher procurement.

President Vern Madden of the Onondaga County Chapter stated, "This is another example of the necessity for mandatory legislation which we have been pressing for years. Under such legislation we firmly believe the city will go ahead with plans to take over the pupils in our school and thus release the Association to work on other programs, such as sheltered workshops, pre-school programs, etc., long needed in this community".

## SCHOLARSHIP VOTED IN HONOR OF HUNGERFORD

At the Annual Banquet of the Claremont Mental Health Association, New Hampshire, the board voted to establish a Richard H. Hungerford scholarship fund, to be presented annually to a deserving student in the field of teaching mentally retarded children. The recipient of the scholarship must agree to teach at least one year in New Hampshire.

At the banquet, Dr. Carl M. Stearns, Claremont Association founder and president, said that by establishing the fund, Sullivan County Mental Health Association will be paying tribute "to a man who has done so much for retarded children in this state."

Dick Hungerford was director of the Bureau for Children With Retarded Mental Development of the N.Y. City Board of Education, when the AHRC was started. He was one of the first members of our Professional Board of Advisors.

# Chapter News

So much stuff is happening around the State that it is difficult to put it all into this brief column, but here goes some of it. CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY CHAPTER had their wonderful camping program at Camp Cornplanter in, of all places, Warren, Pennsylvania. Who is succeeding from the union . . . but the Fun Class was still held on Wednesday afternoon at the first Lutheran Church in Jamestown . . . Did I tell anyone about the smorgasbord dinner in Jamestown during my visit in June . . . In spite of President Eisenhower's opinion of Sweden . . . I want to be an honorary citizen . . . SUFFOLK COUNTY CHAPTER is full of news these days . . . the radiothon about which you have read . . . Boy Scout Troop No. 236 of the Association, sponsored by the Patchogue Lodge Knights of Pythias, presented with its scout charter . . . and of course camps all over the Island . . . Hampton Auxiliary had a camp at West Landing Beach in Hampton Bay . . . Why wasn't I invited . . . Islip has also formed an auxiliary . . . chapter made contribution of \$800 for the Islip recreation program . . . and their newsletter has grown and grown . . . and the barbecue in Auburn for the CAYUGA COUNTY CHAPTER . . . wow! . . . CAPITAL DISTRICT CHAPTER reports five years of activities in the training center project . . . thanks the Albany Medical Secretaries Association and the National Council of Jewish Women for their volunteer services and financial support . . . and the Canandaiga Co-op Boards, ONTARIO COUNTY CHAPTER, proposes to set up a class for trainable children next year . . . Who said that mandatory legislation will have no effect . . . ONONDAGA COUNTY CHAPTER reports that Beta Sigma Phi Sorority presented a gift of \$1,160 to the Association . . . and I must let a secret out of the bag . . . maybe we will have a sheltered workshop in Syracuse . . . more anon . . . a tour of period houses in WESTCHESTER aided the chapter . . . interesting report from the cafeteria in the sheltered workshop that they had only a deficit of \$131.20 for the cafeteria in May 1960 . . . Should we charge more for luncheon? . . . Tony Lombardo claims luncheons were given for local community chests and should be charged to the chapter . . . how about it . . . and of course the Robindale Summer Day Camp operated in full blast with an enrollment of 55 . . . But this doesn't begin to compare with NASSAU COUNTY CHAPTER's day camp with almost 300 children . . . many of them from Queens in New York City . . . Back to WESTCHESTER . . . dinner dance an outstanding success—over \$14,000 netted . . . In CHEMUNG COUNTY, ELMIRA, the mothers of the retarded children have presented certificates of merit to organizations and individuals contributing to the aid of the children . . . and dynamic ULSTER COUNTY CHAPTER . . . materially aided by United Commercial Travelers of Ulster County . . . \$400 . . . Woodstock Post American Legion . . . Aids the Ulster County drive . . . camping, of course, receives its due attention, early registrations indicating about 75 campers . . . the third annual spring camporee for Girl Scouts participated in by AHRC Scout Troop . . . Plans for trainable classes getting under way . . . our old friend Dr. George Jervis addressed the BROOME COUNTY CHAPTER in May . . . Vestal to start a class for the mentally retarded, the first in the Vestal Central School District . . . and CATTARAUGUS COUNTY CHAPTER had a day camp for boys and girls during the week of August 15 through 19th at Camp Wahita, Campfires girls camp near Seres, New York . . . the Children Theatre Workshop, newly organized this year, staged its first performance for the benefit of retarded children's fund, ERIE COUNTY . . . Are all of you receiving the ERIE COUNTY BULLETIN, "FOCUS"? . . . it is one of the most interesting of our chapter bulletins and should be had by all . . . if you haven't got it write for annual report . . . annual report from SUFFOLK COUNTY also an interesting document recommended to all . . . ERIE COUNTY CHAPTER had its annual family picnic in June with all members

(Continued on next column)

## JAMESTOWN PLANS CLASSES FOR TRAINABLE

Whatever steps necessary for the education of mentally retarded children will be taken, Superintendent of Schools, Wesley G. Miller, said.

He referred to the measure mandating public school classes for trainable mentally retarded children.

"Now that this is law, we are going to study the problem and do the very best we can for these youngsters", Miller said.

Anticipating the law's enactment Miller said the school system has circulated letters to area teachers who might be interested in training grants available from the state. The Jamestown School District has special classes for retarded children of the 50 to 75 I.Q. bracket.

"This once more illustrates the value of the law recently enacted mandating the establishment of such classes," stated Robert H. Wagner, President of the Association.

"We offer our cooperation and help in all areas where school districts wish to establish such classes," said Mr. Wagner.

### BUILING TRADE UNIONS BENEFIT SUFFOLK COUNTY CHAPTER



At the Second Annual Dinner of Committee of Union Representatives for benefit of Suffolk County Chapter, AHRC, Left to right Nicholas LaCurubba, Democratic Candidate for Assembly, Huntington, John Rogers, International Representative of Carpenters, Chairman of the Affair, Fred H. Gehm, President, Suffolk County Chapter AHRC, and John Pearl, District Executive Advisor, Bohemia School, Bohemia, New York.

#### Chapter News (Cont'd. from previous column)

bers of the Association participating . . . frightening isn't it . . . back to ONONDAGA COUNTY . . . they had a TEACHERS RECOGNITION DAY . . . isn't that a wonderful idea . . . and the Syracuse firefighters again gave their services in June for a "Painting Bee" on the School . . . BENEVOLENT SOCIETY-WILLOWBROOK CHAPTER working like mad on Fall Luncheon . . . their biggest event . . . Held open house at Willowbrook State School in May as part of "Operation Friendship" program of the State, held annually during Mental Health Week . . . reports that intercom system now being set up throughout the various buildings at Willowbrook . . . consists of high-fi phonograph and paging system centrally controlled in the office of each supervisor . . . and an air-conditioning unit for the operating room . . . Adirondack chairs being built for the severely retarded . . . and so on . . . other institution chapters, how about real newsletters? . . . SCHENECTADY buying new building—did you know? . . . and so to all other CHAPTERS, GIVE US NEWS . . . WE PRINT ALL THE NEWS FIT TO PRINT AND ALL OTHER NEWS AS WELL . . .

May 1960? 9

## How To Get A Class For Retarded Children Started In Public Schools

All of us in the AHRC and elsewhere throughout the country are concerned with the problem of how to get the public schools to start classes for retarded children, even when the law is made mandatory. In this connection I think it is important to reprint here a letter written to our President, Bob Wagner, from Mr. Robert Sheridan, President of the Board of Education of Brighton School District Number One in Rochester, New York. The letter speaks for itself and illustrates the need for communication and education on all sides. The letter follows:

"Dear Mr. Wagner:

This is to acknowledge your letter of June 14, regarding our classes for mentally retarded children. The class we have had for the past two years was set up for older children. This past semester there have been only four pupils, one of whom is able to be in a normal class, and among whom the age spread was greater than the recommended four years. It appeared that next Fall there would be only two pupils for this class, and we decided to discontinue it, with the approval of the State Education Department."

"On Thursday June 16 we held a meeting with a group of about eight people invited by Mrs. Rothschild (President Monroe Co. Chapter) to exchange ideas and to explore what the School might provide for retarded children next year or later. The background for this was a statement made during the school board meeting on June 13 that we are willing to set up a class if there are enough children who will attend it. We discussed ways of determining the total number of retarded children in our district, since there had been some thought that we didn't know about all of them. Mr. Painter and Miss Foley described what the School has done and what is being done this year as a part of the school census, now in progress. I think it is right to say that as a result of this discussion there is a better feeling on both sides."

"The most likely outcome is that a class for children aged seven to eleven will be set up for next Fall. Younger ones will be entered in regular Kindergarten, for two years if they start at five. However this decision will not be made until the number of children to be enrolled is definitely known. We think there should be a minimum of five."

"As soon as we have completed our canvass through several suggested channels we plan to have a meeting of the School Board and the entire group of parents and interested friends, at which there will be a full explanation of our activities and a discussion of our possibly program.

Very truly yours,  
ROBERT SHERIDAN

## CONVERSION OF J. N. ADAM HOSPITAL UNDER WAY

Conversion of J. N. Adam Memorial Hospital in Perrysburg, from a facility for the care of tuberculosis patients to one for the mentally retarded, is now underway, Dr. Arthur W. Pense, Deputy Commissioner and Head of the Office of Mental Retardation of the New York State Department of Mental Hygiene, announced.

Formerly operated by the Department of Health, the J. N. Adam unit will be utilized for the care and treatment of the severely retarded, according to Dr. Pense. It will be under the direction of Gowanda State Hospital and will be known as the J. N. Adam State School Division of Gowanda State Hospital.

"The first patients to be moved in will be young children requiring bed care from the Newark State School where the transfer will help to relieve overcrowding," he said. "They will be children whose families reside in the western part of the state. Ultimately there will be somewhat less than 400 retardates in the unit."

"For the present, any new patients from the western section of the state will be admitted at Newark, but later on, as the reorganization of the facilities and the training of the staff are completed, we anticipate that some direct admissions will be made."

Every effort will be made to absorb into the new operation as many of the present personnel as is possible, Dr. Pense pointed out. He noted that a special training program in the care of the mentally retarded has been instituted for nurses now on the staff.

## YEAR END PARTY AT LAKESIDE SCHOOL (AHRC) PLATTSBURG



Mrs. William (Sgt. Air Force) Sims, teacher at Lakeside School, leads dancing at party with brothers, sisters and parents.

## DR. BONAFEDE APPOINTED CRAIG COLONY DIRECTOR

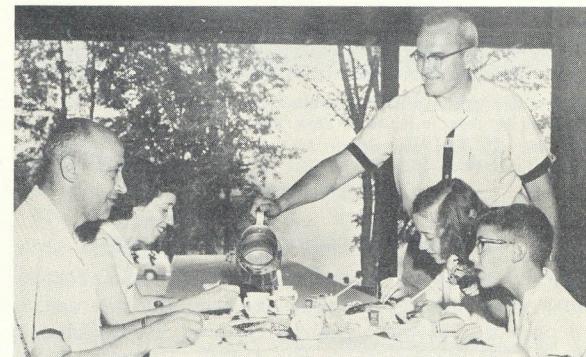
Dr. Vincent I. Bonafede, assistant director at Craig Colony and Hospital in Sonyea, New York was appointed director effective May 1, Dr. Paul H. Hoch, New York State Commissioner of Mental Hygiene, has announced. He assumed the post on the retirement of Dr. George L. Warner.

Born in Buffalo, New York, Dr. Bonafede attended public schools there and studied at the University of Buffalo, receiving his medical degree from the university's school of medicine in 1930. In 1931 he entered state service as an intern at St. Lawrence State Hospital. After transferring to Craig Colony in 1933 he progressed through successive grades until his appointment as assistant director (clinical) in 1952 and assistant director (administrative) in 1959.

Craig Colony provides important residential services for many mentally retarded with epilepsy.

## MARATHON CHICKEN BARBECUE IN AUBURN

Cayuga County Chapter held its Seventh Annual Chicken Barbecue on July 13th. This is the famous marathon barbecue which starts at 1:00 p.m. and continues through until 9:00 p.m. and later. Mrs. Clyde E. Bay, Corresponding Secretary reports that this was a most successful affair and the proceeds will be used for the building fund of the school for retarded children in Auburn.



Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Zichetella and children, Joseph and Sylvia Jo at Chicken Barbecue. M. Jack Headley, General Chairman, pouring.

Two other successful fund raising events were a membership drive in May and presentation by Bea Solomon of her "Sketchbook" in June.

STATE CONVENTION — ROCHESTER — OCTOBER 28, 29, 30.

## CEREMONIES MARK DEDICATION OF NEW UTICA WORKSHOP LOCATION

### FOUNDATION GIVES \$4,500

More than 200 guests attended the open house and dedication ceremonies of the new Workshop and Training Center of the Oneida-Herkimer Chapter, AHRC.

J. Roger VanDenbergh, Director, said he expected the number of children served would be more than double in the next year. Expanded facilities at the new center, 101 Mathews Avenue, would make this possible, he said. This would bring the number of youngsters up to about 30 within a year.

In addition, Miss Dominicia Staffler, Chairman of the open house, said the new center contained a suite of offices for a "proposed diagnostic and counseling service". She called the proposed service "probably the most significant development in the operation".

The Utica Foundation made a grant of \$4,500 to the AHRC to be used in equipping and furnishing the new training center, it was announced by Roy C. VanDenbergh, President.

In addition, Tom Murphy, President of the Chapter received a \$1,200 contribution during the ceremonies from John M. Fuller and Max Dohr, representing the United Commercial Travelers, Council 244. The money was raised by the Council at its Easter Sunday Orchard Sale.

Mayor Frank M. Dulan participated in the ribbon cutting ceremony.

At the offices of the State AHRC, Executive Director Weingold, stated, "This is another example of the enormous progress our chapters are making especially in the rehabilitation of the mentally retarded adult. It is hoped that the State will see the value of these programs in keeping youngsters in the community and provide financing for their on-going existence."



At the dedication of the Oneida-Herkimer Center, Left to right, Thomas M. Lotz, V.P., New York State AHRC; Father Thomas E. Skinner; Rt. Rev. Monsignor Joseph L. May; Mayor Frank M. Dulan of Utica; and Thomas Murphy, President, Oneida-Herkimer Chapter

### NEW DENTAL SERVICE FOR RETARDED

A new dental service for the treatment of the handicapped and unmanageable patients, including the mentally retarded, is now in full operation at the Lutheran Hospital in Brooklyn, it was announced by Stanley R. Spiro, D.D.S., Director, Section of Anesthesiology, Division of Handicapped Patients, Department of Dentistry.

The program is now geared for the indigent as well as for the private fee patient and supplies a very important addition to clinical services for the mentally retarded and other severely handicapped in the New York City area.

## New Federal Grant For New York City Workshop RESEARCH CONTINUES UNDER O.V.R. SPONSORSHIP

The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation has awarded the AHRC Training Center and Sheltered Workshop in New York City a new grant of \$284,954 for the next five years, beginning June 1, 1960. This is for a five year study "To develop more effective techniques for evaluating and training your mentally retarded adults to attain optimum sheltered or competitive vocational potential".

The AHRC Training Center and Workshop has completed its first five year program under O.V.R. sponsorship as of May 31, 1960 and the final report is now in preparation. Beginning soon after 1955, the Workshop in New York City has been used as the prototype for all demonstration projects in the vocational rehabilitation of the mentally retarded sponsored by the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation. The present grant is an extension of the many research possibilities that have been uncovered during the first five years. The program for the next period is a distillation of more than a dozen suggestions made by Joseph T. Weingold, then Executive Director of the City Chapter as well as the State AHRC, Dr. Max Dubrow, Director of the Workshop, and Jack Tobias, Chief Psychologist.

The new grant will mean much greater financial responsibility on the part of the chapter as it entails increasing the present capacity of the shop from about 65 youngsters to over 110. Sixteen thousand square feet of space now under consideration will more than double the present capacity.

It is hoped that through this program a considerable portion of the long waiting list will be cut and much more room will be made for D.V.R. referrals.

### D.V.R. Rehabilitation of Retarded In Westchester Far Exceeds State Average

A report from David R. Teplin, Supervisor of the Westchester Office of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation of the State of New York, indicates that the percentage of mentally retarded referrals closed as rehabilitated in the Westchester office far exceeds the average of such rehabilitations in the rest of the State.

The figures indicate that the percentage of mentally retarded to the total rehabilitated for the six month period October 1959 through March 1960, was 18.8 per cent as against only 4.1 per cent on the State average for the mentally retarded for the year 1958 the last figures available.

His office had 488 new cases during this period of which 52 or 10.7 per cent were those with primary disability of mental retardation. During that same period, 117 cases were closed as rehabilitated of which 22 or 18.8 per cent were those with the primary disability of mental retardation.

Of those closed as rehabilitated, 9 are employed in the AHRC sheltered workshop, 12 in competitive employment full time, and 1 in competitive employment part time.

"It should be pointed out, to our credit," states Mr. Teplin, that all of our clients who ended up in competitive employment are working at or higher than the \$1 per hour minimum. The range of I.Q. score of the clients that we have been working with is from 31 to 75."

In writing to Mr. Tony Lombardo, Director of the AHRC Workshop and Training Center, Westchester Chapter of AHRC, Mr. Teplin states, "We should point out that statistically our figures are too small to be valid. However, credit should be given to both agencies for the professional caliber of their staff and their flexibility and willingness to work with the very difficult problems in this area that have arisen. Finally, we have only been able to encourage referrals and work with this group because of the existence of your workshop and your competence in the pre-vocational and training field with the mentally retarded. We are deeply appreciative of your cooperation and assistance."

## KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS RADIOTHON AIDS RETARDED OF SUFFOLK COUNTY



Helping at 8 hour Radiothon run by Patchogue Lodge, Knights of Pythias. Funds went to Suffolk County Chapter, AHRC.

## GEORGE ASHFORTH FETED AS FOUNDER OF CENTER FOR RETARDED CHILDREN

George Ashforth, who established Pomona Center for Retarded Children in 1958, among his many activities since coming to Rockland County 12 years ago, was honored at a testimonial dinner by the Rockland County Chapter of the AHRC.

The Pomona Center for Retarded Children is the first facility to offer temporary care for mentally retarded children in times of stress in the family or when the parents need a rest. Mr. Ashforth was also the first president of the Rockland County Chapter and is also executive Director of Five Point House the oldest Protestant Agency for the care of children in the United States.

"In honoring George Ashforth," stated President Wagner, "the Rockland County Chapter honors one of the pioneers in the field of parent concern for the mentally retarded. It is a privilege to be in the same association with George Ashforth and work beside him for a better future for all retarded children."

### Teachers Conference (Cont'd. from Page 4)

Chairman; participants Irene Eckstein, Director of Classes, New York City Chapter, AHRC; Rhoda Ferber, Director of Education, Shield of David Institute for Retarded Children, and Estelle King, teacher in New York City public school; "Evaluation of the Child's Progress in a Program" under the chairmanship of Prof. Louis E. Rosenzweig, Head, Department of Special Education, Brooklyn College, with Bernard Warshawsky, Supervisor, Low IQ Classes, CRMD, New York City, and Dr. Esther Rothman, Shield of David Institute for Retarded Children as participants; "Parent-Teacher Relationships" under the chairmanship of Helen Kaplan, Nassau County Chapter, Mrs. James C. Thomas, teacher, Vocational Board class, Nassau County, Edward Penzer, Psychologist, Rockville Center School, Philip Tranfield, parent, Anne Ternbach, Director of Social Service, Shield of David Institute for Retarded Children, and Katherine D. Lynch, Director, BCRMD, New York City as participants.

The afternoon session was devoted to the topic, "The Teacher's Self-Concept" under the chairmanship of Prof. Chris J. DeProspo, Head, Department of Special Education, City College, with Phyllis Manahan, teacher in the AHRC Classes, New York City, Mabel Talbot, Teacher, Special Project for Retarded Children, Teachers College, Howard Riley, teacher on leave, Letchworth Village, and Isobel Edwards, teacher, Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services.

## WEINGOLD SPEAKER AT ROCKLAND COUNTY INSTITUTE ON MENTAL RETARDATION

### FULL DAY INSTITUTE SPONSORED BY STATE DEPARTMENTS

What can be done in the community to help many retarded children and adults live socially useful lives instead of spending their lifetimes in an institution? was a question examined by six experts in an all-day conference on mental retardation held on June 7th in Spring Valley, New York.

About 100 local school and hospital administrators, teachers of voluntary agencies, and social workers attended the meeting of special classes, psychologists, psychiatrists, board members of voluntary agencies and social workers for which the Rockland County Community Mental Health Board served as host agency.

Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of New York State AHRC, was one of the principal speakers in the afternoon session. The greatest gap in services for the mentally retarded comes at adolescence and adulthood, stated Mr. Weingold. He proposed five services to provide help in keeping as many mentally retarded as possible out of the institutions. The program would include 1. continuing vocational programs in the public school; 2. guidance and retraining; 3. sheltered workshops for those unable to compete in private industry; 4. residences to provide social supervision and activities for older retardates; and 5. continuing supportive counseling for them and their families.

Although many mentally retarded require institutionalization, a large number can and do remain in the community. These people can be helped to live more fully and productively with the help of such community services at a far smaller cost to the State.

Many of these services are now being developed in Monroe County where a pilot project is under way, supported by State funds. Melvyn J. Appel, Director of the Demonstration Project, reported on the early phases of the development of the new program.

Prof. Chris J. DeProspo of City College called for community education to change stereotyped thinking regarding retarded children. The changing attitudes toward mental retardation through the last hundred years were discussed by Isaac N. Wolfson, M.D., Director of Letchworth Village who hailed the present as a new era of interest in the mentally retarded, and said that the present emphasis is on treatment, training and rehabilitation.

Charles I. McAllister, Director of Mental Hygiene Education Services, State Department of Mental Hygiene, reported on education programs for children and adults in the state schools for mentally retarded.

The Institute was the last in the series held across the State sponsored by the New York State Departments of Education, Health, Mental Hygiene and Social Welfare, for the purpose of stimulating local communities to evaluate their services for the mentally retarded. Other has been held in Syracuse, Elmira and Kingston.

Speakers were introduced by directors and members of local agencies among whom were Joseph R. Bernstein, Executive Director, Rockland County Mental Health Assn. Louis C. English, M.D., Director of Community Mental Health Services, Mrs. James Gilchrist, President of the Rockland County Chapter, AHRC, and Richard A. Hawkins, Director of Elementary Education in Ramapo Central School District No. 2.

Copies of Mr. Weingold's talk maybe had from the AHRC office.

## CURRENT PROGRESS OF N.A.R.C. RESEARCH FUND PROGRAM

In a recent report, Dr. Glidden L. Brooks, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Scientific Research Advisory Board of N.A.R.C. outlined the research grants that have been made by N.A.R.C.

"As befits both a new research organization and any approach to a serious and complicated problem," stated Dr. Brooks, "the NARC Research fund dollars have been invested in research which begins at the beginning, so-called fundamental or basic research aimed at the roots of the problem."

The following are the grants that have been made: Two grants are making it possible to develop a coordinated basic approach to the problem at John Hopkins University Medical School under the direction of Dr. Robert E. Cooke, supported by the Grover F. Powers Research professorship. Dr. Cooke as chairman of the Department of Pediatrics, has conceived a long-range program of research which coordinates, within one of the world's greatest medical centers, studies in virology, chemistry and genetics.

The second grant, to Dr. Harry E. Gordon, Pediatrician-in-Chief at Sinai Hospital in Baltimore, has been used to underwrite the participation of Dr. Sidney Colowick, one of the world's outstanding enzyme chemists, as an active consultant to the program at Sinai Hospital and at Johns Hopkins Medical School.

Still another grant to Robert Guthrie, President of the Erie County Chapter, AHRC, at the University of Buffalo Medical College is in support of work concerned with the elucidation of the chemical and genetic secrets of the way in which the development of cells may be altered so that mental retardation results. He has already produced a "research tool" of outstanding promise in his hands and in the hands of future investigators.

One of the most significant developments in the search for causes of mental retardation which have their beginning during pregnancy or at the time of birth, has been the establishment of Perinatal Physiology Laboratories at San Juan, Puerto Rico, by the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Blindness. NARC Research Fund has made possible the addition of Dr. C. M. Combs to the investigative team in basic studies of the brain.

A more recent grant from the NARC Research Fund has been made to enable Dr. Irving Wolman of the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine to carry out studies at the Woods School with regard to a blood abnormality which occurs with some frequency in the blood cells of retarded children.

Another recent grant to Dr. William K. Jordan at the University of Arkansas has been awarded to assist in the continuation of basic chemical studies of the developing brain. Dr. Jordan's work has been described by a distinguished colleague as "chemical dissection of developing nerve cells."

Two small "pilot" grants were made to underwrite summer studies in mental retardation on the part of two undergraduate students of medicine, one at the University of Kansas and one at the University of Buffalo. Through grants of this sort, the interest of young medical scientists is engaged early in their careers.

Elaborate and detailed study of foetuses and new born infants by pathologists with specialized interest in the problem is one of the most necessary segments of the research picture as it applies to mental retardation. Unfortunately only a small handful of scientists with this special competence exists today. Through a grant to the University of Chicago under the direction of Dr. Edith Potter the NARC Research Fund is making it possible for a well trained physician to prepare for a career in this important speciality by assuming continued support over the necessity long period of training required.

## BRAIN CHEMISTRY AN INTELLIGENCE CLUE

### SCIENTISTS HOPE RATE STUDY WILL DEVELOP NEW INSIGHTS INTO INTELLIGENCE AND BEHAVIOR

A significant advance toward establishing the existence of a chemical basis for behavior and intelligence has been achieved by a team of scientists at the University of California.

They have shown that environment can lastingly alter brain chemistry.

No immediate practical consequences are seen for this finding.

However, scientists hope that a thorough understanding of brain chemistry derived from such work may eventually give us new insight into intelligence and behavior by following changes of brain chemistry brought about by psychological training. Work along this line is already under way at the Berkeley laboratories. A report has already been submitted on this latest work to the Journal of Comparative and Physiological Psychology.

Specifically, they have found that the brains of rats that lived together in groups of seven or more and had "toys" to play with differed consistently in chemical activity from the brains of those that lived three-to-a-cage without toys or were isolated.

This finding in itself was not surprising because scientists have long believed that certain kinds of physical activity would change brain chemistry.

The direction of the change, however, was totally unexpected, according to Dr. David Krech, professor of psychology and senior author of the report with Dr. Mark R. Rosenzweig and Dr. Edward L. Bennett.

They had predicted that a complex environment in which animals lived together and had plenty to keep them busy would increase the activity of cholinesterase, a chemical in the brain's cortex, or coating. This is the enzyme that destroys another chemical called acetylcholine after it has performed its job of transmitting electrical impulses between nerve cells.

This prediction was based on the group's earlier experiments in which cholinesterase activity in the cortex was found to be proportional to learning capacity. "Bright" or quick-learning rats had more than "dull" rats.

In the new experiments, however, the scientists made an unexpected finding that the cortical cholinesterase activity was lower in larger groups of animals that played with ladders and swinging blocks and learning mazes than it was in animals that lived in smaller groups and received no training.

The level of the chemical was highest in the cortex of those that were isolated completely. These chemical changes, moreover, appeared to be permanent.

In an interview with the New York Times, Dr. Krech said that he and his colleagues had no idea for explaining this finding. He said, however, that another measure of brain chemical activity seemed to make good sense.

This was the level of cholinesterase activity in the so-called "subcortical" portion of the brain, which included the reticular formation. This stem-like structure is believed to control the state of alertness which in turn responds to the demands of the environment.

It was not surprising then, that the subcortical portions of the brains of rats in a demanding environment showed a consistently elevated level of cholinesterase activity, Dr. Krech said.

Perhaps most important, however, was the scientists' discovery of a consistent association between the ratio of cortical to subcortical cholinesterase activity and environmental stimulation. This ratio decreased with increasing environment demands, Dr. Krech continued in the interview.

It appears to be the most sensitive indicator yet found of the response of brain metabolism to the environment.

# MENTALLY RETARDED STUDENTS MAY BE TAUGHT BY ETV

The State Education Department has received an application which, if approved, will result in the first closed circuit educational television curriculum for mentally retarded children.

Dr. Carl N. Schroeder, assistant superintendent of schools for elementary education in Cortland, New York, has submitted the application along with another that would provide funds to continue a science class experiment.

The purpose of the experiment with mentally retarded children, is to determine their responsiveness in special classes to selected elementary subjects that are not usually offered to mentally retarded.

Dr. Schroeder said that the teaching of selected elementary school subjects is not often given to the mentally retarded pupil and when they are it is handled by the regular special class teacher.

"Because of this, the question arises as to whether pupils in this classification could benefit from the efforts of skilled teachers in specific subject fields teaching over closed-circuit television," Dr. Schroeder said.

In addition the experiment would attempt to show whether special class pupils would respond more favorably to this teaching when included in classrooms with average pupils.

Under the experiment proposed one group of special class pupils (ages 7 to 10) will receive televised lessons in language arts for the first grade pupils in first grade classes and in addition they will receive ETV lessons in science, music, and health for grade 2 along with second grade pupils in regular grade classrooms.

Another group of special class children (ages 11 to 13) will receive specially designed reading lessons over television in their own classrooms. The persons responsible for the televised instruction to these special groups will work with special class teachers.

The classes involved would consist of children who range in intelligence from 50 to 75 I.Q.

## DR. FRANCIS J. DALY DIES

DIRECTOR OF STATE'S PUPIL PERSONNEL DIVISION  
LED RESEARCH UNITS

Dr. Francis J. Daly, Director of Division of Pupil Personnel Services in the State Education Department and long-time friend of the AHRC and retarded children, died at his home in South Bethlehem on July 13th. He was 50 years old.

The AHRC and retarded children came to know Dr. Daly when he was Research Director of the New York State Committee of One Hundred for Children and Youth in 1950-51. He was largely responsible for the section on Handicapped Children in the report of the New York State Committee.

Dr. Daly, who directed Pupil Personnel Services since 1951, was born in Boston and graduated from Boston University and the Harvard Graduate School of Education. He served as Chairman of the Research Committee of the Cabot Foundation from 1937 to 1943 and directed adjustment services for the Boston public schools from 1942 to 1949.

He advocated increasing state financial aid for special classes for handicapped children and worked closely with AHRC in many aspects of program development.

## STATE CONVENTION PROGRAM

THURSDAY, October 27th

8:00 P.M. MEETING—BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
FRIDAY, October 28th

REGISTRATION TOURS

Occupational Education Classes, Rochester District; AHRC Work Training Center; Day Care Center for Handicapped Children; Newark State School; School of Holy Childhood.

5:30 to 6:30 P.M. Social Hour—HOTEL SHERATON  
8:00 P.M. CONVENTION CONVENES

GREETINGS by President Robert H. Wagner. "THE YEARS AHEAD", Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director AHRC. Implications of mandatory public education for programs of the AHRC Chapters. Our responsibilities.

9:30 P.M. MEETING OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF CHAPTERS

SATURDAY, October 29th

REGISTRATION

9:00 A.M. 10:00A.M.-12:00 NOON GENERAL SESSION

"A Community Program in Action"

Bernard Kinsela, Chairman, Coordinating Group on Mental Retardation of the Health Association of Rochester and Monroe County; Dr. Harold C. Miles, Executive Director, Community Mental Health Board, Monroe County; Dr. Melvyn Appell, Coordinator, Rochester Demonstration Project; Representative of Day Care Center for Handicapped Children; Representative of AHRC.

12:15-2:00 P.M. LUNCHEON

GREETINGS Hon. Peter Barry, Mayor of Rochester; Hon. Earl W. Brydges, Chairman, Joint Legislative Committee on Mental Retardation; Recognition to members of Joint Legislative Committee on Mental Retardation.

2:15-4:00 P.M.

"Community Programming for the Mentally Retarded"  
Concurrent Seminar Sessions

SECTION 1. RECREATION—Building a total recreation program for the retarded—Donald Weeks, Chairman, Monroe Chapter Recreation Committee; Jack Rubinstein, Director of Recreation, New York City Chapter, AHRC; Fred Gehm, President, Suffolk County Chapter.

SECTION 2. VOLUNTEERS—The role of volunteers in AHRC projects. Their recruitment and training—Mrs. Card Lord, Junior League, New York League for AHRC, New York City; Miss Barbara Griffiths, Director of Volunteer Services, Department of Mental Hygiene.

SECTION 3. ROLE OF THE INSTITUTION—What does the institution look for from the community; what does the community look for from the institution—Leo Fixler, Chairman, AHRC, Institutions Committee; Dr. Arthur W. Pense, Head, Office of Mental Retardation, Department of Mental Hygiene; Dr. Charles Greenberg, Director of Rome State School; Mary Hotchkiss, Director, Social Service, Newark State School; Mrs. Myron Lewis, Chairman, Monroe County Institutions Committee.

SECTION 4. LEGISLATION—Where do we go from here in Legislation. What should our future emphasis be? Bernard M. Fineson, Chairman, Legal and Legislative Committee AHRC, Hon. Lee C. Dowling, Director, Joint Legislative Committee on Mental Retardation; Paul J. Edwards, Executive Director, Erie County Chapter, AHRC.

4:15-5:15 P.M. CONVENTION RECONVENES  
BUSINESS OF THE ASSOCIATION

6:00-6:45 P.M. HOSPITALITY HOUR  
7:00-9:30 P.M. BANQUET

SPEAKERS: Lieutenant Governor Malcolm Wilson; Laurence Hall, President, Canadian Association for Retarded Children; ENTERTAINMENT: Newark State School Choir. AWARDS

9:30 P.M. DANCING  
SUNDAY, October 30th

9:30-11:30 A.M. CONVENTION RECONVENES  
11:30-12:00 NOON BOARD OF GOVERNOR  
MEETING

12:30 P.M. BUFFET LUNCHEON

## Book Reviews

**"Understanding and Teaching the Dependent Retarded Child."**  
By Louis E. Rosenzweig and Julia Long. 185 pages. The Educational Publishing Corporation, Darien, Conn. \$4.25.

Since the "Trainable" mentally retarded child has loomed so large in the picture of mental retardation, reams of articles, booklets and even books, have been written about this child who poses so many vexing problems. Most, however, have been written from limited experience and frequently by persons who have little if any direct contact with such children over any long period of time. Nevertheless, hundreds of classes for such children have been started by the various parents associations, as well as in public schools. There is a great push for legislation to make classes for such children mandatory as it is in many states for the educable." In New York State we achieved this in 1960. Other states have preceded us.

It becomes important, then, to know who these children are, what their potentials are, and what are we going to do about them in an educational setting. Some curricula have been written, a great deal of philosophical discussion has taken place, but the situation cried out for some synthesis of all these scattered writings and some organization of the curricula and help to the teachers who are being cast into these programs with insufficient preparation, mostly because this preparation does not exist in our halls of higher education.

The present book is an effort to fulfill this need. It is the result of a collaboration of two persons who have devoted their professional lives to the education and training of the mentally retarded. Both, in addition, have had very specific and important experience in the field of the trainable child.

Professor Louis E. Rosenzweig, deputy chairman of the Department of Education of Brooklyn College, was the first consultant to the New York City Chapter, AHRC, in 1952, when the chapter set up its first classes for trainable children outside of public school. In addition, he has been a teacher of mentally retarded children and supervisor in the Bureau for Children with Retarded Mental Development in the public school system of New York City before he went to Brooklyn College to establish their department of Special Education. In addition, he had been the consultant to the Westbury School of the Nassau County Vocational Education and Extension Services which operate about 18 classes for trainable children.

Julia Long had been a teacher for her professional life in the public school systems of New York City, teaching high school mentally retarded children and after that had been Director of the AHRC Classes in New York City.

This happy collaboration has resulted in this very important contribution to the field of mental retardation with emphasis on the dependent retarded child, as he is called by the authors. The background material is outstanding, with a novel approach to the explanation of intelligence which should clarify a great deal for many people. It is interesting to note that before the actual curriculum is given, which takes up the major portion of the book, a careful discussion is had of the goals for the retarded, so that we can understand the curriculum in terms of what we

(Continued on next column)

### ASSOCIATION FOR THE HELP OF RETARDED CHILDREN, INC.

19 UNION SQUARE, NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

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Assoc. in Ed. of Mentally Retarded  
Div. of Handicapped Children  
State Dept. of Ed.  
42 N. Pearl St.  
Albany, N. Y.

### Book Reviews (Cont'd. from previous page)

are seeking for these children. One of the most important contributions of this volume is the references which are as carefully screened and brought together as any we have seen. We could wish that some pioneers in vocational rehabilitation had been mentioned, such as Dr. Emily Burr, but this is a small criticism in comparison to the general excellence of the material mentioned.

Chapter Three begins the meat of the book and is divided into such headings as Plans and Procedures for the Self-Help Skills, Social Skills, Motor Skills, Academic Skills, Vocational Skills, Leisure Time Activities and Holidays, a Suggested List of songs, books, records and teacher prepared material, and ends with Classroom Organization and Planning for Instruction.

All of this is down to earth, carefully analyzed suggestions for activities for the teacher, suggested activities for the child, audio-visual and other material that is to be used, all in relation to the skills discussed.

We believe that this book will become a must for every teacher and teacher training course in the country. It may not be the last word, but it stands until something better will be created.

**"Home Care of the Mentally Retarded Child."** By Staff of the Training School at Vineland, New Jersey. Free to parents and professionals.

This 28 page booklet, published by the Training School at Vineland, emphasizes the home care of the younger child with many practical suggestions to the parent, both in terms of dealing with the problem when it is first discovered and doing something constructive for the child through training. Practical suggestions as to toilet training, dressing, brushing teeth, drinking and swallowing are given.

Other sections discussed are the relationship between the parent and the child, including discipline, play, providing entertainment, both individually and with the group.

This will be a very helpful booklet to every parent of a young child and seems to come at a most opportune time to supplement the Rosenzweig and Long book. We note, however, with some consternation that no mention is made of the National Association for Retarded Children, unless we have overlooked it, and no discussion of the most dynamic development in this whole field, that of parents groups to deal with this problem. We cannot understand this omission. Certainly in light of the fact that the Vineland Training School Parents Association is a unit of the National Association, some consideration should have been given to this.

With this exception, and this certainly seriously affects the value of the book for parents, the hints are good and could be helpful to the parent who continues to work in isolation.

