Retarded Children

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President: Nathan Feder

Executive Director: Joseph T. Weingold

2ND ANNUAL DINNER TO BE HELD AT HOTEL ASTOR - ACTIVITIES BEGIN

The AHRC will hold its 2nd Annual Dinner in the Main Ballroom of the Astor Hotel on the evening of May 20th, 1951. Plans are now in progress with the aim of producing a record attendance, including distinguished guests and figures from the entertainment world.

"As OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE goes to press, AHRC members should be receiving, or will soon receive Raffle Books and Souvenir Journal Ad Blanks", a Fund Raising Committee spokesman stated.

"As was the case last year," he said, "the sale of the raffle book earns you one ticket, which otherwise costs you twelve and a half dollars. Fifty dollars worth of advertising placed in the Souvenir Journal through your efforts, will also earn you a ticket. You may earn tickets with the sale of either a raffle book, ads, or both."

In addition to the raffle books and ad blanks, members will also receive a printed letter which they may use in soliciting Journal ads and selling raffle books. The letter reviews the accomplishments of the AHRC since it began; including:

> the two special clinics the speech clinic play therapy classwork social activities program for children vocational training program camp scholarships parent education courses public enlightenment

Space is provided on the reverse side of this letter which can be used for the writing of a personal plea to friends, business acquaintences, etc. in the solicitation of the ads and raffle books.



The Dedication Exercises of the Morris J. Solomon Rehabilitation Clinic for Retarded Children were addressed by AHRC President Nathan Feder (shown speaking) and AHRC Executive Director Joseph T. Weingold (seated, 2nd row right).

NEW AHRC CHAPTER FORMED UPSTATE

A new AHRC chapter, to be called the Erie-Niagara Chapter, has been formed in upstate New York, according to an announcement by AHRC officials. It will be composed of members from the Buffalo and Niagara Falls areas.

The formation of this chapter derived its impetus from a letter received some time ago at the AHRC offices. It was written by Ruth M. Schuyler, of Kenmore, New York. Ensuing correspondence, and referral of other interested parents to Mrs. Schuyler, resulted in the formation of a class by these parents for their children, and the establishment, in effect, of a parents' group.

(contid on p. 2)

CHAPTER (continued from p.1)

Mrs. Schuyler, together with Mrs. Holler and Mrs. Heembrock of this group, came to New York to attend the AHRC's December meeting, at which Pearl S. Buck was guest-speaker. They also at that time visited the AHRC clinic at Flower-Fifth Avenue Hospital. (Mrs. Ruth Bennett of the Sullivan County chapter also visited the clinic that day.)

On December 12th, the AHRC received word from Mrs. Schuyler that the parents there had voted to organize as the Erie-Niagara Chapter of the AHRC. The Board of Directors of the AHRC unanimously accepted their application.

ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTING OUR EFFORTS FORM A DONOR COUNCIL

At a special cocktail party honoring the efforts of the various organizations supporting the work of the AHRC, a Donor Council of these groups was formed.

The event took place on Saturday, December 9th, and announcement of the formation of the Council was made by AHRC President Nat Feder.

The Council will consist of representatives of all the groups now supporting AHRC projects, including: The Theodora League (Flower and Fifth Avenue Hospitals Clinic for the Retarded) Gertrude Vos Children's Fund (Flower & Fifth Clinic) Lena Invalid Aid Society (Speech Clinic for Retarded) and the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Morris J. Solomon Sunshine Fund (Morris J. Solomon Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Retarded Children at the Jewish Hospital of Brooklyn).

"We hope," Said Mr. Feder, "that through the Donor's Council we will be able to integrate the work of all these wonderful organizations who have taken the cause of our children to their hearts. The Council can serve to expand this work together with the AHRC so that more facilities can be established for the "remembered children".



FREE SUMMER CAMPS OFFERED TO RETARDED CHILDREN

Parents who wish to send their retarded children to camp in the summer of 1951, and who cannot afford the tuition fee, are invited to apply to the Camp Committee, c/o AHRC, 31 Madison Ave. N.Y.C. According to officials of the Association, several philanthropic groups have declared their interest in supporting free camp facilities to such children. Parents who are interested, and who feel that they are qualified, are asked to write, not telephone, their requests. These requests will be turned over to the philanthropic organizations for their investigation and selection.

SULLIVAN COUNTY'S RUTH BENNET CALLED "A DYNAMO"

Mrs. Ruth Bennet, President of the Sullivan County Chapter of the AHRC was described by a New York City AHRC-officer as "a human dynamo ... a wonderful exemplification of the energy and determination which makes us strong. Newspaper clippings from upstate publications have been coming into our office in a steady stream, tracing the speeches, the organizing activities, the grand Public Relations job Mrs. Bennet is doing up there", it was stated. In recent weeks Mrs. Bennet has appeared before Parent Teachers' Associations, in Woodbourne and Fallsburg and in Monticello, and Sullivan County's Jewish Community Center.

BULLETIN FROM AHRC SCHOOL COMMITTEE RE: CO-OPERATIVE CLASSES

We are in the process of grouping children for possible admission into co-operative classes. The classes are being planned primarily for children not eligible for or not attending CRMD classes in public schools. We have received many applications from the various boroughs, but if you have not yet filled out such a form, indicating your interest, please do so. A written request to the office will supply you with the necessary form.

We especially need more children from the Borough of Manhattan.

We are also interested in hearing from Brooklyn parents of older children -- including those who have gotten out of CRMD -- with a view toward organizing some form of further training classes for them. Two meetings have already been held in that borough, regarding this project. If interested, please write the AHRC office to that effect.

FAMED PEDIATRICIAN ESTABLISHES FOUNDATION FOR RETARDED CHILDREN IN CHICAGO

Dr. Abraham Levinson, distinguished pediatrician of Chicago, has established the Dr. Julian D. Levinson Memorial Foundation to aid mentally retarded children. The foundation is named for his son, also a pediatrician, who died in June of 1950 at the age of 27. The foundation is to be connected with the Hektoen Institute for Medical Research.

Dr. Levinson is chief of the children's department of Cook County Hospital and associate professor of pediatrics at Northwestern University.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

As we enter a new year, it is natural for us to briefly look back upon the year just ended. And we can take much satisfaction in what we have accomplished during 1950. It was a year marked by the achievement of a number of projects for our children which can truly be termed momentous. Perhaps equally important, however, was the very great contribution made by this Association towards a greater public enlightenment and understanding of the problem of mental retardation. For it is only through such public understanding, and consequent support, that we can hope to achieve the many, many more things our children so desperately need.

Nor can we turn from consideration of the past year without proudly noting the part this Association, together with scores of others throughout the United States, played in laying the foundation for a national parents' organization — the National Association of Parents and Friends of Mentally Retarded Children. Now, at last, the time has come when millions of parents like ourselves shall march forward together, adding strength to strength, toward the shining goal of a brighter tomorrow for all the mentally handicapped, everywhere.

But now we must turn our eyes to the year that lies ahead. 1951 begins in an atmosphere of great national crisis. As Americans, it is a crisis of deep concern to all of us. As parents of mentally retarded children, we have an additional reason to weigh with the utmost gravity what lies ahead. For it is an unhappy fact that, just as the welfare of the mentally retarded has always been the last to receive positive consideration, so too the "forgotten children" are always the first to suffer in a period of retrenchment in social services.

That is why we must now, more than ever, dedicate ourselves with complete single-mindedness of purpose to furthering the work of this Association. Not only must there be no slackening; the momentum we have achieved must be increased through the intensification of effort on the part of every one of us.

In any organization, there must always be differences of opinion and viewpoint. That is natural and inevitable; for an organization is but the whole sum of many individuals; and it is in the nature of individuals to differ. Moreover, such differing can be a healthy and vital force, so long as the basic objective is never allowed to become obscured.

I know that that objective — the better world for our children that is the stuff of all our dreams — lies indelibly engraved on the heart of every one of the men and women who have done so much in the past to bring that better world a little nearer. I know also that above all else, they will continue to work for that one, shining goal.

Secure in that knowledge, as your President I ask you all to face the future with confidence and determination. Difficult though they may be, the days that lie ahead shall, I am sure, bring a greater measure of the better life for all our beloved children.

Nathan Feder

CLINIC AT FLOWER-FIFTH AVE. HOSPITAL ASKS PARENTS' COOPERATION

OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE has been requested to print the following information regarding the AHRC's clinic at Flower-Fifth Avenue Hospital:

Parents are urgently requested not to make more than one application, and to refrain from writing to the clinic repeatedly once such application has been filed. Doing so places an unnecessary load on the already overburdened staff, Applicants will be notified of their appointment as quickly as is humanly possible.

It is also of the utmost importance that if an appointment must be cancelled, the clinic be notified at least 48 hours in advance, so that another applicant can be notified. Failure to do so may deprive a child who desperately needs treatment of the opportunity of receiving it.

Applicants who have a telephone should list their number on their very first communication or application for appointment; so that if a cancellation of appointment occurs, they can be notified in time to fill that vacancy, and thus perhaps have their child examined much sooner than they had expected.

Mrs. Moe Fink, of the Hospital Committee of the Theodora League, stated, "The cooperation of the parents will do much to bring nearer the day when every child on the waiting list will have reached his turn to be helped."

AHRC MEMBER TELLS POIGNANT STORY OF HER CHILD IN MAGAZINE ARTICLE

"PETER BEAUTIFUL, THE STORY OF AN ENCHANTED CHILD" is the title of a moving article by Edith Gramm which appears in the current issue of the magazine, THE WOMAN. The magazine, dated March, 1951 is now on sale at newsstands, and will probably be available until the middle or latter part of February.

AHRC RUNS FULL PAGE AD IN NEW YORK TIMES



This full page advertisement appeared in the NEW YORK TIMES on December 7th, 1950. Planned and written by the AHRC Publicity Committee, the ad was paid for by a group of individuals and business concerns whose names and addresses appeared in the right hand column of the ad. (Not shown in illustration). Described by the Publicity Committee as a "public enlightenment project, not a fund raising one" the ad, nevertheless, raised close to a thousand dollars from sympathetic

Plans are now in progress for making wide use of ad-reprints as a publicity instrument of the AHRC.

KOSHER FOOD GUIDE GIVES FREE FULL PAGE ADVERTISEMENT

Through the efforts of the Publicity Committee's Jack Raynor, a full page advertisement on behalf of the AHRC was donated by Mr. George Goldstein and appeared in the current issue of Kosher Food Guide.

FUND RAISING IN BKLYN.

First: a vote of appreciation to our out-going chairman Freida Kleinberg and Gladys Linden, who were Co-Chairmen, and to Alice Pearlstein, who was Corr. Secretary.

Second: Welcome to the new Co-Chairmen --Harriet King, Chairman -- 923 Linden Blvd., Tel: Di 6-8662... Mina Bober, Co-Chairman -- 387 Ocean Parkway, Tel: GE 6-6851 ... Ruth Seinfeld, Corr. Secretary -- 83 Bay 28th Street, Tel: Es 2-5539 ... Gladys Linden, Publicity -- 4819 Church Ave., Tel: Sl. 6-2654. (Note to volunteer workers: please contact the new Corr. Secretary by mail, not telephone!)

Other Newsworthy Comments: Once again we point with pride to the huge success of our Card Party, which took place at the Manorah Temple on December 29th, 1950. To Eddie Fleigel, who was Chairman of the Card Party, and to his Co-worders: Lou Yanofsky, Jack Jason, Leo Jacobs, Jack Bakshay -- Well Done! It was a BIG job that would have staggered lesser men ... To our own Billy Schaefer, who broke the record last year in selling tickets, and now has done it again -- good work, Billy, and speedy recovery for your mother! The following also played a great role in making the affair a resounding success: Mr. & Mrs. S. Cohen, Mrs. Chertoff, M. Bober, S. Droutman, L. Glatset, H. King, Dr. & Mrs. F. Kleinberg, Mr. & Mrs. H. Linden, Mr. & Mrs. Malmoid, Mr. & Mrs. Jack Max, Mr. & Mrs. Maisel L. Nurick, Mr. & Mrs. H. Nussbaum, Mr. & Mrs. O. A. Pearlstein, A. Polomo, R. Seinfeld, S. Safeir, R. Fischer, Mrs. Wabnick, Mr. Infontino, S. Yonofsky, Mr. & Mrs. Wiss Mimi Hirsch, Pearl Schwartz. Thanks from parents who attended the puppet show held at Tropic Isle, Dec. 16th. Mrs. Brooks, a charming and lovely lady donated the show to us and made the children very happy. Party & Smarty entertained everyone with their puppets for the second time, and left us all spellbound. They are to be heartily thanked for their sweet and unselfish interest in the happiness of our children. Also deserving of our thanks are: Florence Goldman (not a parent) who made the show possible -- and all of her co-workers ... including SANTA, played by Herman Linden ... 1951 is here with its full challenge to all of us ... a better year for retarded children -- if we choose to make it so! Then let's all get behind the 2ND ANNUAL DINNER at the Astor. Let's make it the triumphant success it HAS to be ... for the organization's sake -- for the children's sake -- for heaven's sake! More RAFFLE BOOKS, more ADS, more everything! Just watch Brooklyn! - the "Brooklynita"

NOTICE

At the last AHRC public meeting, a question was submitted to guest-speaker Pearl S. Buck during the question-and-answer period by a parent who did not give her name. She stated that she was on relief, and would like to go to work, but had no one to care for her retarded child; and asked for suggestions. A response has come from a person who has offered to help her. If this parent will write or call the AHRC office, she will be put in touch with the party making the offer.

ARTS-CRAFT CLASS FOR OLDER CHILDREN

A class in arts and crafts work for older children has been organized by AHRC in Brooklyn. Sessions are held every Saturday morning at the Arlene School, whose owner, Mrs. Ray Sears, has donated the use of the school's facilities. The class is under the direction of Mr. Jay O'Brien, instructor at the Institute for Crippled and Disabled, with the assistance of Miss Wanda Rysz. There are at present some 20 children in the group, some of whom are doubly handicapped.

The parents have generally expressed amazement at the work accomplished by the children, who have not only shown remarkable aptitudes, but who are displaying great interest and pleasure in the work. Mr. O'Brien declared that he is very much pleased by the progress shown by most of the children, and that in his opinion some of them are capable of more complicated manual tasks.

Mrs. Alice Pearlstein has been acting as official AHRC representative for this project which was planned and steered by 1st V.P. George Hirsch.

WESTCHESTER CHAPTER

The opening of the school is approaching. Psychologist-Director and teacher have been hired. With assistance from Dept. Mental Hygiene, 60 children have already been tested....1st Annual Dinner Dance of this Chapter to be held Feb. 10th at Vernon Manor. For info contact Bernard Rosenberg, Pres.



BULLETIN FROM THE BRONX

Bronx Fund Raising Committee Members have taken the initiative in starting the new fund raising device known as the "Clock Project". This new and unusual way to raise funds for the retarded was introduced by the Queens Committee, under the direction of Mr. Mac Kallor. The project involves the display of an 8-Day clock. Each second is offered for sale at 5¢ per second. A valuable prize is offered to the holder of the precise second at which the clock stops after it has been wound.

Through the efforts of the two Bronx Chairmen, Mr. Irving Krakoff and Mrs. Rebecca Noble, volunteers were organized to man a booth, the booth was purchased, signs were made and the Grand Opening took place on Tuesday, December 19th.

Members are advised to attend their respective Borough meetings to learn details of when and how clock projects may be started in their boroughs and neighborhoods.

The slogan for the clock projects: EVERY SECOND COUNTS ... FOR THE RETARDED!

JOBS WANTED!!

YOUNG MAN -- 18 years old. Completed his training at Goodwill Industries in November after referral from Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. Has been on Goodwill Industries' payroll since, assisting in baling of salvage material

HIS ASSETS: Has good work motivations and is able to do a job provided he is given one routine at a time to learn. He learns to do operations requiring gross movements of the hands fairly well and with a degree of speed. He was recently tested on the job of polishing a car with a machine weighing 20 lbs. He learned well and did a fair job under difficult circumstances.

If placed, Goodwill will grant him a leave so that he can work a week without pay. while learning the routine

YOUNG MAN -- 18 years old. Trained for 14 weeks at Goodwill Industries. Now employed there doing the following tasks in the basement store: cleans shelves and keeps merchandise in order as customers rummage. He keeps coats and dresses picked up, placed on hangers and on the proper racks. He wraps packages, putting small articles in paper bags and wrapping and tying larger articles in wrapping paper.

HIS ASSETS: Goodwill States: "In performing his work, he has assumed considerable responsibility on his own, seeing what was required without being told. His work is neatly done, and he seems really to enjoy what he does. He can read fairly simple directions with help. He is ready for placement in competitive industry."

THESE YOUNGSTERS ARE READY FOR JOBS! WHAT HAVE YOU FOR THEM? -- REMEMBER, WHEN YOU HELP THEM YOU HELP YOUR OWN!

SPEAKERS NEEDED!

The AHRC's Speakers' Bureau needs men and women to address organizations and enlist their help in our cause. If you have had any experience at all in public speaking; or if you just feel that you could do a good job of telling our story to small groups, write to: David Weiss, Chairman, Speakers' Bureau -- AHRC, 31 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y.





IN THE

EDITOR'S MAIL

All questions and contributions for this newspaper should be addressed to OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE, Association for the Help of Retarded Children, Inc. 31 Madison Ave., New York 10, N. Y.

"JUNIOR LEAGUE" TO AID RETARDED BROTHERS AND SISTERS SUGGESTED

Dear Sir:

I am like millions of other children who have a retarded brother or sister ... Last Sunday I attended the puppet show with my parents and brother (Ed. Note: Given by Brooklyn Committee of AHRC) ... I thought it the most wonderful thing that could have been done for such children ... This gave me inspiration to form a Junior League ... We (the brothers and sisters of the retarded) ... could be the juniors of your Association ... We could form socials and shows for these children ... plan activities for our brothers and sisters. It is our duty to help them as much as we can. In later years these children are our responsibility, so why not now form a Junior League! ... I would appreciate suggestions and ideas ... Please feel free to call on me at any time for my services ...

Sincerely yours, SANDRA FRANK BROOKLYN, N.Y.

(Editor's Note: We think your idea is wonderful, Sandra, and we also think that you're quite a gal. We hereby invite other youngsters like yourself to climb on the bandwagon, by writing to the AHRC, 31 Madison Ave., N.Y. ... and saying "I'm interested in forming an AHRC Junior League." When we have enough responses, we'll call you all together for a meeting and get the ball rolling.)

Dear Sir:

I thought you would be interested in knowing that arrangements have been made to provide bus transportation for the children attending the Low I.Q. classes in P.S. 19, Queens, effective January 2, 1951.

In order to make this possible, the children have been put on a schedule from 8:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.

Very sincerely yours, FRANK J. O'BRIEN, M.D. Associate Superintendent, Board of Education of the City of New York

(Editor's Note: The AHRC expresses its appreciation to Dr. O'Brien for his co-operation in our efforts to improve facilities for our children.)

RESPONDS TO AHRC AD IN NEW YORK TIMES

(Editor's Note: Space limitations make it impossible to print all the responses to the AHRC's recent full-page appeal in the New York Times. The following letter is typical of many received.)

Dear Sirs:

We are parents of four beautiful, healthy and intelligent children -- and have little money. But I feel as little as we can give may still be enough to help in your work. Money is valueless unless it can be put to productive use -- and what is more productive or creative than giving children a sense of security and feeling of love? Please accept our small contribution with all the good wishes that come from our heart.

Sincerely, MRS. CARL MARCUS NEW YORK 67, N.Y.

VISIT TO AHRC CLINIC GIVES PARENTS NEW COURAGE

Dear Sir:

I am writing this letter because I want you to know how two grateful parents feel about our organization and the wonderful work it is doing. A few days ago we took our little girl to the (clinic at) Jewish Hospital ... We were near the breaking point ... because for seven years wherever we went ... no help ... On our arrival at the hospital we were met by a charming young lady and I at once knew we were among friends ... I would like to refer to all these wonderful people as Angels for that is what they truly are ... You who are devoting your time, effort and energies to help these innocent children deserve the greatest of praise. It is through your wonderful work that we may yet find the street without a dead end. Let me thank you again. It has given us new courage to carry on.

MR. & MRS. DAVID GIMBEL BROOKLYN, N.Y.

DENTISTS WANTED !!!

Because of the difficult problems encountered in the dental treatment of retarded children, many dentists are reluctant to undertake this work. As a result, these children often suffer from dental neglect.

With this in mind, it is proposed to set up a Dental Council composed of dentists willing to work on retarded children. If you are a dentist, or can enlist the interest of a dentist in this project write to: Dr. M. Hecht, c/o AHRC, 31 Madison Ave. N.Y. 10, N.Y.

Direct to you by

One of the things in which we are all extremely interested is the setting up of pilot classes for the children who do not qualify or do not attend the Special Classes in the Public Schools for one reason or another. This is one of the projects in our Long Range Program which is every day coming nearer realization in some small part.

The task of starting such classes is not as simple as it would appear. It isn't a case of just finding a certain number of children, a teacher and space. Even if this were all, it would present difficulties. Our membership runs considerably more than the 100 or less found in small communities: we number several thousand. The problem becomes one of choosing groups who can profit from working together, space donated or not too expensive (and it has to be the right kind of space), teachers who understand and love this work.

This is how we are going about it and a few of the difficulties that arise. First, we have sent application forms to each member of the Association to find out who is interested in such classes. When these are returned each is put into an individual folder and divided into age groups, birth to 6, 6 to 10, etc. These are then divided into Boroughs and, as near as possible, neighborhoods, although this will not necessarily be followed if enough children cannot be found in a given area. In Manhattan, for example, we face the problem of finding enough children eligible and whose parents are willing to participate. This may seem strange, but Manhattan is not a residential Borough and this is at present a real difficulty.

Sometimes what we do first is influenced by the willing workers who take the initiative in organizing. Thus, through the efforts of Margaret Rosenberg we are negotiating for space in the Bronx which may give us room for three classes with very little expense. Our first efforts in Brooklyn are directed towards the older children, due primarily to the work of Alice Pearlstein whose own child is too young for this group. We have held two meetings of the Brooklyn parents of older children, finding 12 willing to participate at the first meeting and 6 more at the second meeting. We must get 20 to 25 for this project for older children. Not waiting for this, however, the youngsters have been attending an Arts and Crafts class at Mrs. Sear's school (donated by her). It has become a regular Saturday morning project where they are doing very interesting work indeed and which serves as a preliminary testing ground for the Vocational class.

So we are now in the organizing stage, after which will come competent psychological testing and grouping of the children. We don't want these classes to be just a custodial dumping ground: we must plan them carefully and have continuing evaluation of the program and progress so that they will indeed be "pilot" classes pointing the way to what can be done.

These are all difficulties of organization and although sometimes obscured by these temporary impediments, the way lies clear ahead for us.





DR. LAWRENCE B. SLOBODY

Director of Pediatrics at the Flower & Fifth Ave. Hospitals, Professor of Pediatrics at the New York Medical College, highly respected by his colleagues for other distinctions in his field, Dr. Lawrence B. Slobody could well have afforded to rest on his present and future laurels when he was approached on the problem of mental retardation. For here is a field fraught with uncomfortable discouragements, with a long history of defeatism and despair. Being the man that he is, it was these very challenges which spurred Dr. Slobody on, and led, at length, to the opening of the Clinic for Mentally Retarded Children. More inspiring, still, the soft-spoken, hard-driving doctor has embraced this work with a zest and a determination that is, to this observer, a model for the entire medical field.

Looking ahead into the future, Dr. Slobody sees the possibility that mental retardation may be virtually eliminated through preventive measures. And from his vision, and his courage, we parents take new courage of our own ... courage to go on, knowing at last that from the dilemma of our own lives a purpose springs forth whose influence may reach across time to help those yet unborn.

The AHRC light shines on Dr. Lawrence B. Slobody because as Pediatrician turning with concern and compassion toward the mentally retarded, his gesture has stated clearly: "These too, are the children of God!"

WHO WILL BE FIRST AMONG US TO EMPLOY THE RETARDED ???

Elsewhere in this issue you will find two "Job Wanted" ads placed on behalf of two of our own young men who have been trained for employment. That they deserve a chance to prove the value of their training, goes without saying. What is more important, however, is the larger truth they are waiting to prove...For behind them are hundreds of thousands of other retarded youngsters who now face, or will soon face this choice -- a job among their fellows, or a bench in the dayroom of a state institution (if there's room on that bench!) ... What are we going to do about these two young men? Surely there are manufacturers, merchants, and other business men and business women among us who can find a place for them. If the very parents of retarded children won't give these youngsters a chance, what can we expect from disinterested businessmen who have no emotional stake in the future of the retarded? We sincerely believe that these two young men will prove themselves to be profitable investments to the employer who is ready to put aside the age-old prejudice against the mentally handicapped and place them on his payroll. What do you say? Are you ready? Or are you prejudiced too?

"WHAT CAN I DO?"

(An Editorial)

Every man and woman who has the best interests of the AHRC at heart can find some way to serve those children whom we love - the retarded. For some, there will be the tasks of pounding a typewriter, or organizing a committee on into the wee hours of the morning ... on nights when it would be so much more fun to go to the movies or watch Arthur Godfrey. For others, there will be pioneering steps to be taken - the acceptance of a retarded person into their business -- the swaying of a philanthropic organization toward the support of another AHRC project. And always, from the midst of the membership a voice will frame the question: "What can I do?". Perhaps this person cannot pound the typewriter. Perhaps this person is unable to organize the committee, or open the door to a job, or stand before an audience and speak for the retarded. Perhaps all this person can do is sell two more books of raffle tickets or some advertisements in the Souvenir Journal. And when the final tallies are made, perhaps it may turn out that this person, this quiet worker who understands that without funds to support our efforts, all is lost - perhaps this is the most important person in the AHRC. The 2nd Annual Dinner drive is under way. Let each member address to his or her own heart and conscience the question: "What can I do?", and then let the answer be a reaffirmation of our slogan: Retarded Children Can Be Helped!



MICE, MEN AND MONGOLISM

(Editor's note: The following are excerpts from an article in November 27th, 1950 issue of Time Magazine. We are indebted to Miss J.A. Lima of Ozone Park for bringing it to our attention.)

... "In the 85 years since mongolism was defined, authorities have disagreed widely as to its cause Last week, a keen-minded Harvard physician offered the most convincing explanation yet It seems, said Dr. Theodore H. Ingalls at the New York Academy of Medicine, to be the result of an injury or shock to the fetus in approximately the eighth week of pregnancy. This does not mean that the cause is always the same type of injury or shock....

... "The clue: all these signs (stigmata and physical defects common to mongoloids) affect tissues which develop at about the eighth week of fetal life. In mongolism victims, the body structures formed earlier than that, are usually normal, said Dr. Ingalls; and so are those formed later....

... "The Fetus', suggested Dr. Ingalls in explanation, 'has been blighted by what might be called intrauterine draught. (It may be) a metabolic draught, a bio-chemical upset, transient vitamin or enzyme deficiency, or oxygen lack.'...

... "To test his theory, Dr. Ingalls and colleagues at Harvard's School of Public Health took mice ... subjected them to oxygen lack ... on certain days of their pregnancies Dr. Ingalls found skull defects (actually worse than mongolism) in about a third of the litters....

... "Even if Dr. Ingalls' challenging theory is proved right, a greater challenge ... (will be) in putting the theory into practice and preventing mongolism Says Dr. Ingalls: 'The important consideration is the prenatal environment. It is man's environment that is susceptible to manipulation, not his genes or chromosomes."

AHRC-PROFILE GEORGE HIRSCH No. 2

(1st Vice President)

Born: Bklyn., Sept. 1st, 1914. Graduate Eastern District Evening H.S., B.S. N.Y.U. Major: Public Utilities, Transportation, Finance. In his early youth, active in Social Service -- including Club Leader, Brooklyn Philanthropic League, Stuyvesant House, Young Israel, Boy Scouts. At present: Member of the School Board of Cooperative Folk School, Scoutmaster Troop 241, Bklyn., Ave. N Jewish Temple, Knights of Pythias, member: AAMD ... Daughter: Fern, 9½, 5th grade Public School ... Daughter: Marlene, 7, CRMD ... Son: Joshua: 2½, apple of the Hirsch's eyes! Wifey: Mina, a hard-working AHRC member and a wonderful person. G.H.'s business Corporate Secretary and Managing Director of an International Merchant Finance House ... Hobbies: Winter Sports, Hiking, dabbling in poetry.

Ed. Note: Looking back over the years since the AHRC came into being, it occurs to the editors that in every major step forward ever taken by this org., George was invariably in the thick of it. Moreover, he is probably one of the most, if not the most well-liked member we have. To know him is to know why!