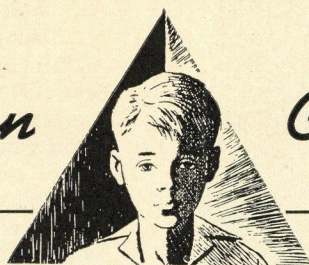


OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE

Retarded Children



Can Be Helped!

VOL. IV. — ISSUE NO. 2

JUNE, 1952

Three Authorities Cited At Annual Dinner

Awards Presented For Community Service, Medicine and Education in Retardation

High point of the Association for the Help of Retarded Children's Third Annual Dinner in the Main Ballroom of the Hotel Astor, Saturday Evening, May 17th was the presentation of Outstanding Merit Awards to individuals who have done most during the year in the fields of community service, medicine and education. The authorities cited by the Association were Mrs. Edna Baer, community services; Dr. George Jervis, medicine, and Dr. William Cruickshank, education. This is an event inaugurated last year and the granting of the awards will be made annually.



MRS. EDNA BAER

Mrs. Edna Baer, executive director of the New York Jewish Child Care Council, aided in organizing and developing the AHRC sponsored Morris J. Solomon Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Retarded Children, Brooklyn Jewish Hos-

pital. She tirelessly attempted to secure legislation to help retarded children and led a successful campaign to secure greater acceptance and increased awareness of the needs of the mentally retarded among social agencies. Mrs. Baer, the wife of Harold Baer, New York City attorney, accepted the award from Honorable Aaron Jacoby, President of the New York Jewish Child Care Council.

DR. GEORGE A. JERVIS

An award for Outstanding Merit in the field of Medicine was presented to Dr. George A. Jervis, Director of Laboratories, Letchworth Village, New York.

Dr. Jervis has faithfully served in the neglected field of mental retardation for twenty years and has given special attention and devotion to the vital problem of the causes, especially to the brain lesions which underly mental development.

When Dr. Harry Storrs presented Dr. Jervis with the Award he said, "The award to Dr. Jervis is the beginning of a recognition of the importance and vital need for a solution to the problems stemming from mental re-



Third Annual Dinner A Huge Success

More than 1,200 members and friends of AHRC were on hand at the Hotel Astor to celebrate a past year of progress and to dedicate a coming year.

Preliminary reports indicate the Dinner raised over \$30,000 net, a gain of over 20 per cent over last year's receipts.

Great credit, if not separate halos, were earned by the enthusiastic Dinner committee, who, under the chairmanship of Julian Banner, made this Dinner the financial and social success that it was pronounced by all present.

Committee members were: Sol Hulnick and Maxwell L. Kallor, co-chairmen; Michael Falk, Jeanette Kantrowitz of Manhattan; Sydney Werbin and Irving Krakoff of the Bronx; Evelyn Shulman, Paul Westerkamp of Queens, and Ruth Seinfeld and Minna Bober of Brooklyn.

(Continued on Page 3)

tardation. This award is part of a new attitude, that those who strive to solve this problem are engaged in a struggle against an affliction which affects more children than any single disease of childhood."

Dr. Jervis is president of the American Association of Neuropathologists, a member of the American Association on Mental Deficiency, the Academy of Neurology, the Association of Human Genetics and the American Psychiatric Association.



DR. WM. CRUICKSHANK

Distinguished in the field of special education, Dr. William Cruickshank, Director of special education at Syracuse University, received AHRC's Outstanding Merit Award in the field of Education.

His most valuable contributions were made for the welfare of mentally handicapped children by his policy of including them and their specialized needs in the overall program designed for handicapped children in general.

In his capacity as President of the International Council for Exceptional Children, a member of the National Committee on their education, a Fellow of the American Association on Mental Deficiency and an important influence in many organizations concerned with child education, Dr. Cruickshank's ability to forward the cause of mental retardation and the dedication and heartfelt sympathy which he has brought to the solution of its problems, has resulted in new hope and great inspiration to the parents of the mentally retarded.

OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE

Issued four times a year by

THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE HELP OF RETARDED CHILDREN, INC.

31 MADISON AVENUE — NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

MURRAY 9-8269

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

Chartered by the State of New York
February, 1949

President: Alexander C. Russotto

Executive Director: Joseph T. Weingold

A Decision, With Sympathy (An Editorial)

With an expression of sympathy for our children, Judge Doscher has decided that the AHRC be enjoined from using its property in Pelham Manor for a school.

Thirty-one residents brought this action. Their right to do so depended on their showing that the value of their property has been or will be depreciated by the presence of retarded children in a school in the community. We need go no further than to point out that the evidence at the trial, virtually **uncontradicted**, showed that all sales of property in the vicinity since the inauguration of the school have been for as much **or more** than the owners originally paid. In spite of this, Judge Doscher, with a sympathetic slant to his reasoning, gives the plaintiffs the right to proceed upon the vague and unsubstantiated possibility of a **future** depreciation.

We need not go beyond this to consider the sympathetic manner in which Judge Doscher finds that the home for cardiac children was not a school, even though for more than 10 years the Board of Education of New York City had teachers for the physically handicapped there and in fact they were known as "400" classes. Judge Doscher's reasoning is a mere extension of his permitting the plaintiffs to come in to court and is to be expected.

The truth of the matter is that the facts are made to fit an early 19th century philosophy that disregards the community responsibility in dealing with the handicapped and the weaker. We say this after very careful thought. The court shows a very tender concern that the value of the plaintiff's property will deteriorate because of the contaminating presence of retarded children but no awareness of the enormous community problems with which the parents are trying to deal **alone**. Had there been this awareness, there is little doubt that the decision could have been in favor of continuing the school, born out of so much pain and determination for self help, without in any way altering the facts as they exist.

It is fortunate, indeed, that there are men not as close to the local scene who will have the final say.

In any case, we cannot let a temporary setback stop our work. To us it is merely another indication of the lip service alone we have so long received. It points up once more the great need for public education. It is a warning that we must not flag in our efforts or supinely accept the sympathetic relegation of our children to the trash heap.

Westchester Chapter Loses Case

School Enjoined . . . Association To Appeal

In a decision handed down on June 19, Supreme Court Justice Robert Doscher, granted an injunction to a group of Pelham Manor residents to stop the Association from using the property at 975 Split Rock Road as a school for retarded children.

This action was brought by 31 residents of Pelham Manor who contended that the value of their property would be depreciated and that their normal children might be injured by possible contact with mentally retarded children.

Judge Doscher held that the present operation differs from the former institutional care of children suffering from cardiac conditions. The former use by the Cardiac Home was carried on before the adoption of a zoning ordinance specifically banning care of invalids or mental defectives in the area.

He pointed out that he must disregard sympathy in reaching this decision. The school, operated on a day basis, now accommodates almost 50 pupils for whom there is no other provision for training in the community.

At a meeting of the AHRC Board of Directors together with the Legal Committee, on June 23, it was unanimously voted to appeal this decision. A stay of execution of the judgment will also be sought to enable the school to continue pending such appeal.

Evald Gasstrom, President of the Westchester Chapter, stated that the school must go on. "The decision is a gross miscarriage of justice. We cannot let it stop us from the pursuit of our goal, the demonstration that these children can be trained in the community," he said.

A Message From Our President

With the coming of the summer season and the slackening in the tempo of our lives, let us pause to review the active and productive season just ending. AHRC and its members may be justly proud of the achievements which have been recorded.

This has been the year in which the first and second State Conventions of the AHRC Chapters were held, marking our attainment of full stature as a statewide organization. This has been the year in which the first pilot classes of AHRC in New York City were conducted as a vital step in the demonstration of how much broader the concept of education for the retarded should be.

This is the year in which our projects already in operation have flourished and grown, helping us to make that impact on society which is necessary to our ultimate success.

As president, I should like to express my thanks to my fellow officers and directors; to committee chairmen, committee members, and the membership generally for their devotion to our joint efforts.

To our office staff; to our teachers and group leaders; to our doctors, specialists and technicians in our clinics, I should like to say, "Thank you and well done."

To our wonderfully generous donor groups, and to the volunteer workers from among their memberships who have rallied to our aid as volunteers, I wish to express my deep sense of gratitude in which, I am sure, all AHRC members join.

And to all these, and to our children, I wish a happy, pleasant and rewarding summer.

ALEXANDER C. RUSSOTTO.

Joshua Orphan Aid Buys Building For Classes

AHRC Bronx-Manhattan Classes To Have Own Home

At the Installation Dinner of the Joshua Orphan Aid, held Sunday, June 15, at the Waldorf Hotel, Charlotte Mandel, President, announced that the group voted to purchase a building for AHRC classes servicing Manhattan and Bronx children.

This organization's generous grant made possible the Joshua School for Retarded Children housed in the YM-YWHA of Washington Heights. The Classes were removed because the building is to be demolished.

In this past year 48 children were serviced in the Joshua and Brooklyn schools. With our own home in the Fall, it is hoped that facilities can expand to achieve greater success.

"The work we have seen being done with the children," said Mrs. Mandel, "has made all of us more enthusiastic than ever about the possibilities of this work. We felt that these children deserve as good a surroundings as their more fortunate brothers and sisters."

ANNUAL DINNER (Continued from Page 1)

Journal Committee: Maxwell Herman, Chairman; Sidney Leviton.

Seating and Ticket Committee: Minna Bober, Chairman; Sol Stich, Joseph Gitter, Edward Fliegel, Shirley Droutman, Annette Karson, Ethel Benson, Abe Tarshes and Leo Jacobs.

Entertainment Committee: Harry S. Goodman, Chairman; Jack Jason, Nat Amerling and Henry Bilker.

Prize Committee: Leo Jacobs, Joseph Gitter, Frieda Kleinberg, Lee Frank.

Floor Committee: Irving Krakoff, Chairman; Elaine Blau, Harriet King, Anne Gitter, Bella Werbin, Jack Bakshy, Sidney Werbin, George Hirsch, Rebecca Noble, William Pasternack, Theresa Synder, Dr. Frederick Kleinberg, Florence Dash, Margaret Rosenberg, Burton Loewer, Eveline Leckart and Dan Testa.

Reception Committee: Rose Nussbaum, Chairman; Minna Bober, Bernard Fineson, Augustus Jacobs, Dora Banner, Shirley Hulnick, Ruth Seinfeld, Rose Krakoff, Jean Kallor and Alice Perlstein.

The principal address was delivered by Rt. Rev. Msgr. Joseph B. Toomey, Director of Catholic Charities of Syracuse and an advisor of the Syracuse Chapter of the AHRC. As a member of the Board of Visitors of Syracuse State School and a member of the Governor's Citizens' Committee of 100 for Children and Youth, he has shown a great and sympathetic interest in the retarded. His talk showed the depth of his understanding and was one of the most moving the parents have heard.

Other guest speakers and celebrated persons who honored the Association with their presence were: Honorable Aaron Jacoby, Honorable Ferdinand Pecora, Mrs. Edna Baer, Mr. Lee Marino, Assemblyman Samuel Roman, Honorable Morris J. Solomon, Mrs. Sarah Jacobson, Mrs. Hy Rosen, Dr. Benjamin Kramer, Mr. Charles Elias, Dr. Emily Burr, Mrs. Jack Katz, Dr. Raymond Wearne, Dr. Arthur Foxe, Dr. William Cruickshank, Mrs. Arnold Mandel, Professor Louis Rosenzweig, Rev. Irving Pollard, Mrs. Lillian Segall, Dr. Lawrence B. Slobody, Dr. Charles Buckman, Dr. Harry Storrs, Dr. George Jervis, Mrs. Bass, Miss Jesse Crampton, Dr. Mark Freedman, Dr. Joseph Wortis and Dr. Clemens Benda.

The Invocation was delivered by Rev. George Jacoby and the Blessing by Rabbi Morris Dembowitz.

Queens Children Helped



President Alexander Russotto receives check for \$3,500 from Mrs. Natalie Katz, President of the Cunningham Women's League.

A grant of \$3,500 was presented to the AHRC, Saturday, May 17, by the Cunningham Women's League during the Claire Mann Luncheon held at the Waldorf Astoria. The Cunningham League, a Queens group, working both for retarded and cerebral palsied children, donated the money to service an AHRC school for Queens children.

Lena Invalid Aid Increases Grant

Expands Speech Therapy Clinic

A generous additional grant of \$1,000 from the Lena Invalid Aid made provision for another part-time speech therapist at the Flower-Fifth Avenue Hospital Clinic.

In announcing the gift, Mrs. Lillian Segall, President of the Lena Invalid Aid Society said, "When we heard Doris Trepel, Director of the Speech Clinic, tell us about the work being done and the long waiting lists, we could not resist the appeal".

This clinic was the first speech clinic for retarded children in the City and has demonstrated amply the necessity and value of such a service.

100 League Supports AHRC Aids Pilot Classes

A newly-formed organization, The 100 League, consisting of young men and women of New York City, made retarded children their first and sole cause.

Beginning with an exploratory meeting at the AHRC office, the League's interest in our work grew until it was adopted as the project for their support.

Their first event, a cocktail party at Gogi's La Rue, enabled their president, Irving Horlick, to present the Association with a check for \$1,350 at the May 17th Annual Dinner. This money was allocated by the League for scholarships in AHRC classes.

Welcome to the latest of our donor groups.

Chapter News

SULLIVAN COUNTY

The register of the AHRC Monticello school has increased to 14. They are looking for a full time teacher for the Fall. Any suggestions? Their newsletter, edited by two non-parents, Julius Cohen and Mildred Dolac, two teachers of special classes, continues to come in regularly. The last issue listed a very impressive number of civic organizations who are contributing to the Sullivan Chapter work. Among them are Catholic Daughters of American Liberty, B'nai B'rith, Hurleyville P.T.A., Monticello General Hospital and many others.

WESTCHESTER

Social clubs for older children have been successfully started under the professional guidance of Mr. and Mrs. David Thurm. They are "Teen Town" in the Mt. Vernon area and "Teen Age Canteen" in the Peekskill area. On April 23 the Chapter held a party celebrating their Third Anniversary. Many members from New York City helped them cut the cake. Their last meeting, at which Professor Rosenzweig spoke, on June 13, was broadcast. From June 11th to 14th, the Chapter had an exhibit at the Annual Peekskill Home Show. The exhibit was planned by Stan Chamberlin.

ONONDAGA COUNTY

An active Speakers Bureau has been formed, led by Frank McCarthy. Chapter activities have included a tea given by the Dan Careys and which over 500 people attended. As their "Bulletin" put it, they raised over \$600. in "warm, warm cash." On April 19th and 20th they were hosts to the State Convention at the Syracuse Hotel. The program was handled flawlessly. Their school plans continue to grow with the help of Dr. William Cruickshank and others in the community. Not content with getting the active support of the community in Syracuse, they are spreading our message to neighboring counties. The William Baines and the Frank McCarthys attended an organization meeting of a new group in Elmira.

Rochester Parents Hold Annual Banquet

Weingold Guest Speaker

The parents of the Day Care Center for Handicapped Children in Rochester held their 3rd Annual Banquet on Tuesday, June 3, at the Eagles Temple.

This group came into being through the work of Mrs. Mary A. Pulvino, not herself the parent of an handicapped child. Dissatisfied with the policy of the Cerebral Palsy Center which discharged children as ineducable, Mrs. Pulvino started a class for these so-called "ineducable" cerebral palsied children. The next step, including the mentally retarded without cerebral palsy, followed inevitably.

Starting with space donated by the Eagles, they outgrew this in two years. The City of Rochester generously contributed classrooms to this project and now there are four classes with teachers and a full time physio therapist. They have also been accepted as members of the Community Chest.

Jerry Weingold's visit to Rochester renewed an acquaintance that began two years ago with the visit to New York of Mr. and Mrs. Karl Schmidt whose son attends the school. Mr. Weingold told the story of the AHRC to the guests and urged the unity of all groups of parents.

LONG ISLAND

Continues to stimulate the public schools to set up special classes. The latest is in Levittown. Four have been set up, three for children with I.Q's between 50 and 75 and one for children with I.Q's between 40 and 50. This is the great hope we have: that all school districts will set up classes and include many children termed "ineducable". The AHRC classes at Kennedy House are part of the program to demonstrate that these children can be trained and change the orthodox concept of education. Their publicity continues to flourish under Bob Seaman's Chairmanship and their fund-raising has that dynamic Mrs. Fay. An outstanding meeting was held in Bay Shore on June 8th. Mother Yvonne, who has been with the Wharton School for Retarded Children and St. Charles since 1907; Mother Margaret and Sister Michael, the school psychologist, spoke about their work and the hope that it can be enlarged. Much refreshments partaken of by all, including a large delegation from the City.

CAPITOL DISTRICT

Continues to grow under the leadership of Mrs. Hotaling. She has contributed a most provocative article, "Developing a Program for the Retarded", to the Capital Area School Development Association. We hope to reprint it in OCV in a Fall issue. The Albany "Times-Union" plans a full page human interest story on the Chapter. Work is continuing to awaken the school districts to the need for classes for our children and they look for results soon.

ERIE-NIAGARA

Let's hear from you. We know your activities are many, your classes are flourishing and much is being planned, but the rest of the State would like to know.

All Chapters are actively engaged in the coin box campaign, with car cards, radio and television publicity. The story is being spread by more and more members.

SULLIVAN CHAPTER SEEKS TEACHER

The AHRC class in Monticello is seeking a full time teacher. Through the generosity of many civic-minded organizations the class can now go on a full-time basis.

The teacher must either be experienced in teaching retarded children or have a degree and experience in early childhood education. Please communicate with Mr. Weingold at 31 Madison Avenue. The term starts in September. Salary is open.

BRONX BAZAAR

The Bronx Fund Raising Committee, finding itself with too much time on its hands in spite of the Dinner activities, embarked on a Bazaar which took place on Saturday, April 19th.

All the members did yeoman service in gathering merchandise under the direction of Chairman Theresa Synder and Co-Chairman Margaret Rosenberg. The Junior League helped greatly to make the affair a success by serving and selling the night of the Bazaar.

Fun was had by all and over \$1,200 was raised in "warm, warm, cash". Good work and let's have more of the same!

AHRC Publicity Steadily Increased

During April, May and June AHRC appeals were heard and seen frequently on radio and television.

For example, on April 12th, Bobby Breen received an AHRC public education citation from bandleader, Henry Williams, over the ABC network.

The Mutual Broadcasting Company on April 21st donated 15 minutes network radio time starting at 10:55 P. M. to a recorded AHRC program called "Orphans With Living Parents". The participants, Mrs. Ann Gitter, parent, and Dr. Harold Michal-Smith, clinical psychologist, broadly discussed the problem of mental retardation. (Copies of this record can be purchased from the AHRC office.)

AHRC Parents Want the Public to Discover: On April 23rd Brooklyn parents of the AHRC appeared on Jim Fair's "Club Matinee". Carol Beitel, our Jr. League President, spoke on our behalf April 29th on the WJZ "Family Circle" show, and again on May 8th over WNYC "For the Ladies" program. Other celebrities who appeared in our behalf were—Lanny Ross, "Quick On the Draw", May 6th; Marguerite Piazza, "Luncheon at Sardi's", May 19th; Jessica Dragonette, "Quick On the Draw", May 27th; Geraldine Fitzgerald, "Luncheon at Sardi's", June 3rd, and Eleanor Ames, of the Daily News' **Correct Thing**, "Quick on the Draw", June 10th. During the latter part of June, Joan Roberts, singing star, has promised to make several appeals for us—and we have a very fine letter from Johnnie Ray with the same news.

Program Cooperation: Phil Stone, Canadian disc jockey, wrote to AHRC requesting the Pearl Buck and Irving Caesar appeals as a result of Ben Gross' Daily News' Column.

Spot Announcements: The DuMont network gave AHRC spot announcement priority June 2nd, using them on almost every day and evening program. Mutual, WOR-TV and WPIX are using our spots through June. This office is now sending 20, 30 and 60-second appeals, with letters followed by phone calls, to disc jockeys, emcees, celebrities and program producers in the hope of stepping up action.

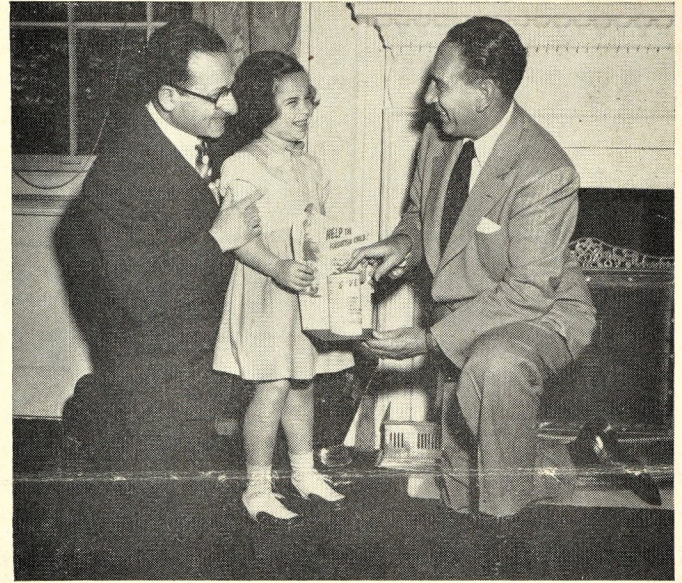
Spot Suggestions for Members: Members who hear or see an AHRC spot announcement could help to increase usage by calling or writing the celebrity, emcee, program or station manager and giving thanks. Chapter publicity chairman and interested members acquainted with disc jockeys or others able to give us a short radio or television announcement should contact this office for sample appeals.

Newspaper Coverage: The School for Mothers, the Annual Dinner and the State Convention received good newspaper coverage. Of course, no AHRC member in N. Y. missed the excellent mention of AHRC in Dorothy Barclay's piece, on June 8th in the N. Y. "Sunday Times."

REGISTRATION PARENT EDUCATION COURSE . . .

will begin this Fall. Please write to the AHRC, 31 Madison Avenue, New York 10, N. Y. if you wish to attend. This is one evening a week for about eight weeks. Write—do not telephone, please.

Mayor Impellitteri Opens 1952 Campaign



Again this year our Fund Raising Campaign was opened by New York City's Mayor Vincent Impellitteri, who had his picture taken with a coin collection can and President Russotto's six-year-old daughter, Isabel.

Pointing out that more than 50,000 children in N. Y. City alone are mentally retarded, the Mayor said, "Mental retardation affects more children than any single disease of childhood and that our clinics and special classes are extremely necessary as a beginning to solve this very large municipal problem, which is a reflection of a national problem affecting 4,000,000 Americans."

N. Y. C. Council Passes Bill To Aid Retarded Children

A resolution, introduced by Bronx Councilwoman Bertha Schwartz, calling for increased training services and facilities for mentally retarded children was recently passed by the New York City Council.

Miss Schwartz presented a 13-point program which includes progressive measures such as:

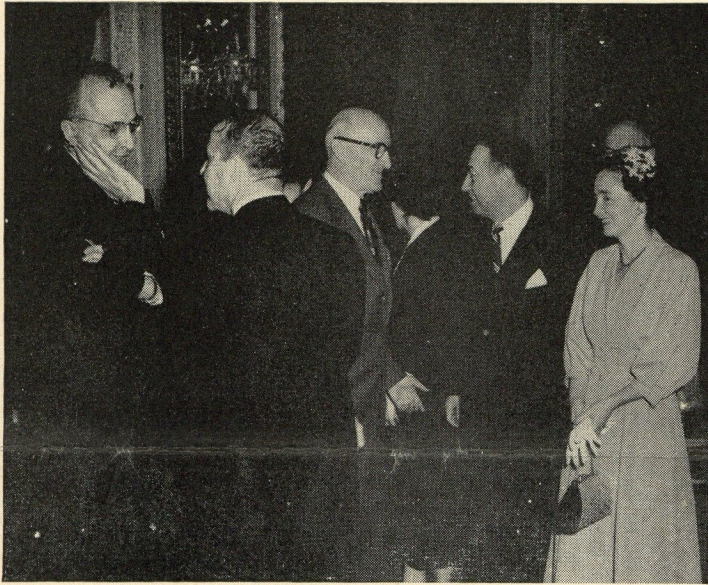
- Establish facilities such as nurseries, and train-
for the pre-school retarded child;
- Establishment of additional classes for the men-
tally retarded.
- Establish at least one vocational high school;
- Establish clinics in each borough for diagnosis,
treatment and research;
- Establish sheltered workshops such as are pro-
vided for the physically handicapped.
- Develop a public education program to increase
public awareness and understanding of the
problem of mental retardation.

Under Miss Schwartz's resolution, the Board of Education, the Dept. of Health, the Dept. of Welfare and other city agencies and departments would participate in the 13-point program.

ED. NOTE: *The Association for the past three years has urged these measures. We welcome Miss Schwartz's support.*

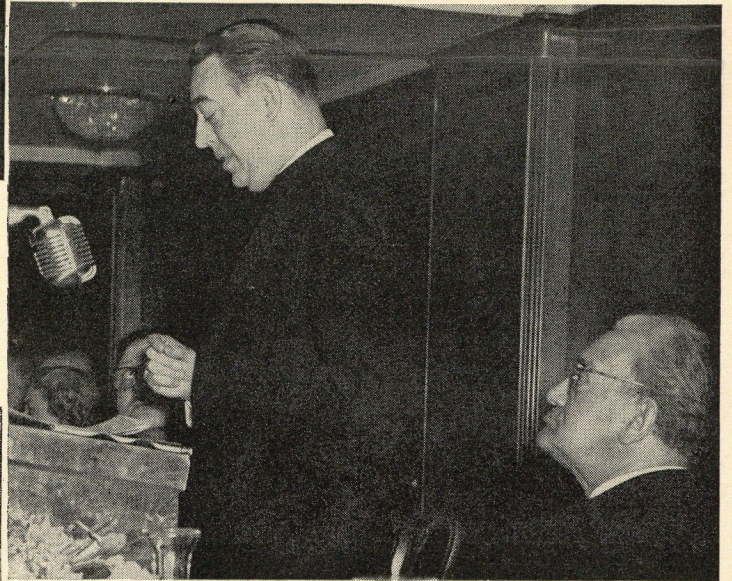


PERSONALITIES AT THE



Dr. George Jervis, Dr. Clemens E. Benda, Dr. Harry Storrs, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Marino.

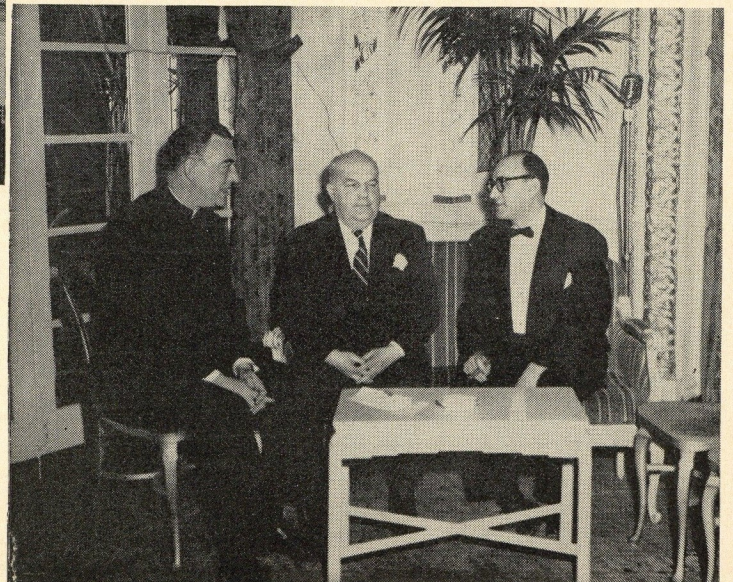
Rt. Rev. Msgr. Joseph B. Toomey addressing the dinner, Honorable Ferdinand Pecora to the right.



Executive Director Joseph T. Weingold, Hon. Aaron Jacoby, Julian Banner, Hon. Ferdinand and Mrs. Pecora, and Mrs. Charles Elias, Ladies' Auxiliary of the Morris J. Solomon Sunshine Fund.



Rt. Rev. Msgr. Joseph B. Toomey, Frank C. McCarthy, of Syracuse, and Jerry Weingold.



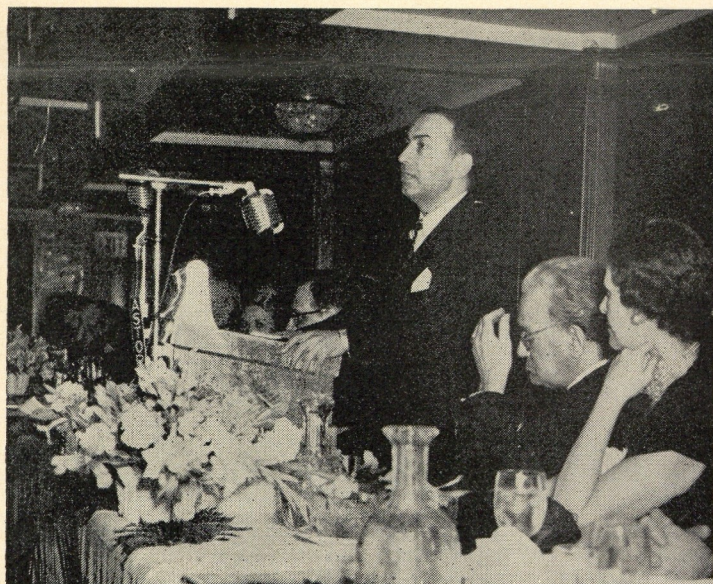
3rd ANNUAL DINNER



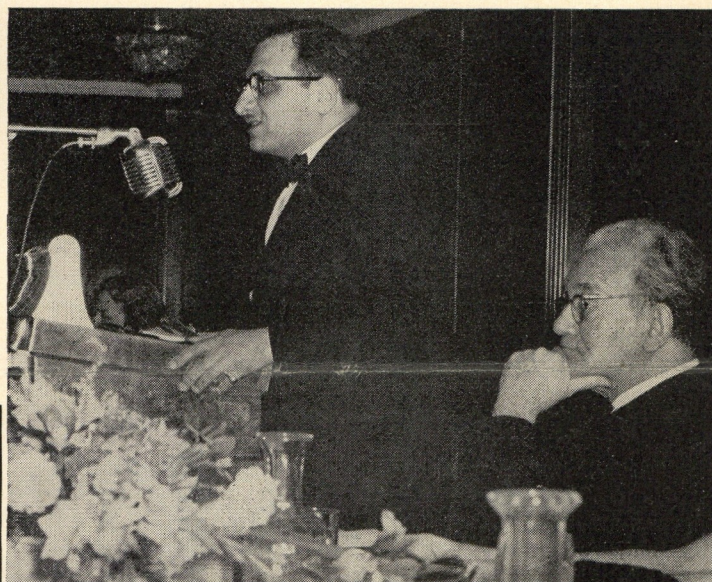
Mrs. Edna Baer, Executive Director, N. Y. Jewish Child Care Council, Hon. Aaron Jacoby and Hon. Ferdinand Pecora.



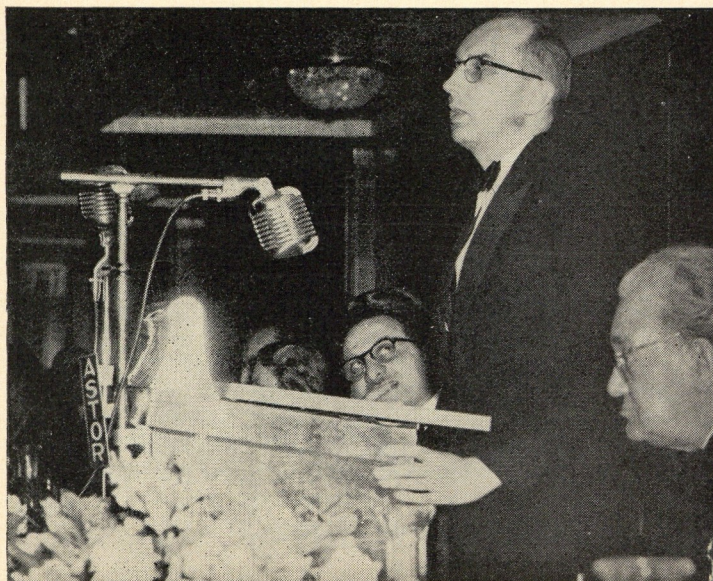
Lee J. Marino, First Vice-President of The National Association For Retarded Children, speaking at the dinner.



President Alexander C. Russotto opening the dinner.



Dr. Wm. Cruickshank, of Syracuse, accepting the award in the field of Education.



School For Mothers Adds To Parent Education

Fall Registration Now Open

By the time you will receive this issue of OCV, the first course of the School for Mothers will be completed.

The first session was held on May 10 when Dr. M. Giannini, of the Flower-Fifth Avenue Clinic, led a discussion on Self Care Activities—feeding, dressing and toilet training. Designed to help the mothers of younger retarded children in the various aspects of home care and understanding the problem, the sessions included the following topics: Behavior Problems, Dr. Michal-Smith, Chief Clinical Psychologist the Flower-Fifth Avenue Clinic; Speech Problems, Shulamith Kastein, Speech Therapist, Vanderbilt Clinic Medical Center; Value and Meaning of Psychological Tests, Dr. Gerald Weider, Brooklyn College Testing and Advisement Center; Choice of Games, Toys and Crafts, Millicent Strazzula, Speech Therapist, Morris J. Solomon Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Retarded Children; Healthy Parental Attitudes, Professor Louis Rosenzweig, Brooklyn College; How To Combat Community Ridicule, Joseph T. Weingold, Ex. Dir. AHRC; Social Skills, Bernard Schneider, Director AHRC School in Westchester; Planning the Future, Wilfred Quaytman, Clinical Psychologist, Morris J. Solomon Clinic.

This course, coordinated by Wilfred Quaytman, is designed to round out the AHRC program of parent education, stressing the problems of the young retarded child and dealing with very specific areas, rather than retardation generally. The method employed was a short talk by the group leader and then a very full question and answer period which brought out the individual problems and which were yet typical.

It is planned to continue this course in the Fall and all parents of children under five should register by writing to the Association office, 31 Madison Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

N. Y. County Medical Society Studies Clinic Needs

Recommends More Clinics

In a report by the sub-committee on Hospitals and Dispensaries, appointed at the request of the Special Committee on Child Welfare of the New York County Medical Society, to explore the possibility of stimulating interest in increasing the number of special clinics for mentally retarded children in New York City, it was disclosed that there is a great need for such facilities.

The sub-committee, consisting of Drs. Seymour B. Jacobson, Chairman, Francis C. Kell, Jr. and Sol R. Hirschman, found that there are approximately 80,000 such children in the City, the majority of whom are not institutionalized. It was common, they stated, for parents to refute the diagnosis, although evident in many cases, and seek out further help. Once they accepted the child's capacities many problems are involved in adjustment.

Seeking more understanding and additional information the committee cited the Association for the Help of Retarded Children's program for meeting the problems arising out of mental retardation. After observing a few cases handled by the staff of the Flower-Fifth Avenue Hospital Clinic for retarded children, they reported that the individual basis of treatment and the high degree of rapport between the professional staff and the patients and their parents led them to believe that much could be

AHRC PROFILE . . .



AUGUSTUS JACOBS
Second Vice-President

Born in New York November 21, 1905. Became restless at an early age and moved to New Canaan, Connecticut. His education was fragmentary, beginning with part of one year in a one-room district school in New Canaan. He spent part of one year in P. S. 115, Manhattan. Graduated from George Washington High School. Went to N. Y. U. College of Arts on the Heights and got his Law degree from N. Y. U. Law School.

He is a member of the New York Bar, Agent for the Farm Bureau Insurance Company and Civil Service in the New York Supreme Court.

He joined the AHRC a few months after it was founded and has served on its Legal Committee, Board of Directors and currently as 2nd Vice President. His calm manner and judicious bearing do not prevent him from fighting for the right, as he sees it, relentlessly and with cold logic. His work on the Legal Committee has been outstanding and will culminate in the authorship of a Chapter Manual, now in preparation and almost completed. It will probably be a model for the country if we know the painstaking and thorough manner in which Gus works. He carries the AHRC message wherever he goes and is great representative for the Association. Just as an extra curricular activity, his visits to his son in Binghamton will probably result in the organization of the Broome County parents into a group. He is one of the architects of the State organization.

He has retained his country ties through his summer place in Washington County (near Vermont) where he rears his herbs all summer. We are trying to get him to commercialize the products his wife, Belle, a splendid volunteer in the office, cooks up. The proceeds would probably finance all the projects of the AHRC and then some. But they are strict amateurs, just letting their friends gorge themselves for nothing.

He has one child, Lewis, 10 years old, formerly in the C.R.M.D. and now at the Binghamton Training School.

done for both the mentally retarded child and his parents.

In conclusion they stated that before attempting to stimulate interest in additional clinic facilities, they would obtain information from the voluntary hospitals of the city as to their current or contemplated provisions for the care of mentally retarded children. This could be gotten by means of a simple questionnaire directed to the administrators of these hospitals. A list of questions was suggested for the hospital inquiry by the sub-committee who requested that when this information is obtained and tabulated it be submitted to the Committee as a whole for decision and appropriate action.

Letters From the People...

New York, New York

Dear Sir,

... As a CRMD teacher, I am very much interested in your program on Parent Education. You are filling a great need in this department as well as in all others. My hat is off to you for a splendid job. If I can help in this field, call on me.

Yours sincerely,

MARY D. LIPKE.

Kew Gardens, Long Island

Gentlemen:

As a member of your organization I had the privilege of having my child undergo a complete examination at Flower Hospital. I wish to express my extreme gratitude for your efforts that make such services available to the average citizen and to the physicians who are contributing so unselfishly to this worthy cause.

As a token of my appreciation kindly accept my enclosed check of \$30.00, but please handle this as an anonymous gift.

Very truly yours,

Chedera, Israel

Dear Mr. Weingold:

After so many months I finally find time to write to you. Since I am back in Israel I started the job as a principal of an institution for emotionally and mentally disturbed boys at the age of 12 to 18.

As you know I was very interested to work with retarded children, I did not find a field here to start with. I am in spite still very interested and have in my mind after a certain period to concentrate on this field. I am aware that I also will have to continue some studying and play very much with the idea to make it possible to carry through my plans. The work in your clinic did stimulate me that I wish I shall be able some day to come back and to combine some further studies there. I would indeed be happy if you could help me in this area. ... I would like you to come here and make sure how much we are in need of the kind of clinic for retarded children as you established in New York.

I would be obliged to you if you could write to me about all this, as I am very much interested in all your progresses.

With warm regards for yourself and all the members of the clinic, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

ZVI GALIBOF.

Shamokin, Pa.

Dear Sir:

I attended your forum last night in Manhattan. I felt very blue before I attended this meeting for my wife and I were informed that our four-year-old boy was retarded and should be sent to a home.

... The great value of the forum to me was to relieve the empty feeling of despair and build up our confidence in the knowledge that we parents with retarded children are being assisted by an organization such as yours. ...

Very truly yours,

EDWIN SMITH.

MEET OUR CHILDREN....



So busy are we with material gains for our children, it took one of our devoted and aware parents to point out how WE have neglected "Our Children's Voice." The youngsters most definitely deserve a column of their own and once more we ask your help—why not tell us about your child and send along a picture which we can proudly print.

We are thankful to Mrs. Betty Stevens of Webster, N. Y., who brought this oversight to our attention and know you will be interested in reading about her little boy, James.

Dear Sir::

We enjoy **Our Children's Voice** a great deal. I was disappointed in not finding any pictures of children in the September-October issue. I have never seen other retarded children, except in your paper, yet their sweet little faces speak better than words in their behalf. You may use this snap of our retarded son, James Hammond Stevens, who is three. He is a happy little boy who can bring springtime into a room just by smiling. I know there are others like him. And there must be others like me who would like to see them and read about them.

Yours truly,

BETTY J. STEVENS.

Let's Hear and see those you love.—Ed.

Young Adult Group Publishes Newspaper

Junior League Ends Season With Aid To Brooklyn Adults Group

Bustling with current news and future plans, the newspaper, "Youth Speaks", engineered by the young adult group of Brooklyn published its first issue, June 1952, with the able assistance of the Junior League gang.

This ambitious project was engineered by the entire group who contributed gossip and reports of all their activities. Since seeing this first copy, we hope the summer months will inspire more of the same and stimulate other adult groups to follow this venture.

Sneaking in as many functions as possible before they sign off for the summer, the Junior League teenagers put on a cake sale, square dance and field trips. The joy and merriment of our boys and girls at these affairs was something to behold.



DR. JOSEPH WORTIS

**Director, Division of Pediatric Psychiatry,
Jewish Hospital of Brooklyn**

Apparently his life began with his internship at Bellevue Hospital in 1933-34, because the biographical material he sent in ignores anything before that. Fellowship in psychiatry under the joint guidance of Havelock Ellis and Dr. Adolf Meyer, 1934-1941. Studied in London in 1934 and then in Vienna at the Neurological Institute under Prof. Otto Marburg. In Vienna, the fellowship allowed didactic analysis under Prof. Sigmund Freud. At that time observed Sakel's insulin treatment in Vienna and upon return to America in 1935 introduced shock treatment to this country, subsequently translating Sakel's monograph. For several years managed the treatment ward and research laboratory in Bellevue Psychiatric Hospital. In 1938-39, Assistant in Psychiatry at Johns Hopkins Medical School. Thereafter instructor in psychiatry, N. Y. U. Medical College and Research Fellow in Bellevue Psychiatry Hospital. 1943-1945 service in the Navy as psychiatrist. Honorably discharged with rank of Lt. Commander.

At present, among many, many other things, he is Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, N. Y. U. Medical College and Attending in Pediatric Psychiatry and Director, Division of Pediatric Psychiatry at the Jewish Hospital of Brooklyn.

Since early in 1951 when the Morris J. Solomon Clinic was made part of the Division of Pediatric Psychiatry at Jewish Hospital, Dr. Wortis has taken a very active interest in the affairs of the clinic and in the problems of retarded children. Among the innovations he has sponsored are: a close tie-in with the work of the CRMD classes in the neighborhood school, the use of music therapy in the clinic, the use of an educational consultant in the clinic, an information panel for AHRC parents, and a special waiting list parents' evening to allow contact with the clinic for the waiting parents. He takes the view that retardation is mostly preventable and that with proper re-

Brooklyn Clinic's Team To Aid "Waiting List" Parents

M. J. Solomon Clinic to Provide Interim Guidance for Children on Two-Year Waiting List

Confronted with a two-year waiting list for clinic admittance, the Morris J. Solomon Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Retarded Children at the Jewish Hospital of Brooklyn under the direction of Dr. Joseph Wortis, developed a plan to provide interim guidance for these children.

A meeting of all parents of children currently on the waiting list was held Wednesday evening, June 18th, at the Louria Memorial Auditorium, Jewish Hospital of Brooklyn, with Dr. Benjamin Kramer, Chief of Pediatrics; Dr. Joseph Wortis, Director of Pediatric Psychiatry, Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of the AHRC, and members of the staff.

More than 300 parents were told of this plan, set in motion by Dr. Kramer, which would send trained clinic teams out to meet with groups of parents and discuss the many facets of mental retardation including home management and guidance.

Dr. Wortis cited the new plan as the first time in New York hospital history that a program such as this has been initiated to deal with the tremendous gap between the community's need for the mentally retarded and existing resources.

Members of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Morris J. Solomon Sunshine Fund, whose three-year grant made the clinic possible, participated actively in the meeting and along with the clinic personnel met with the parents to explain its function.

33 CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS GRANTED

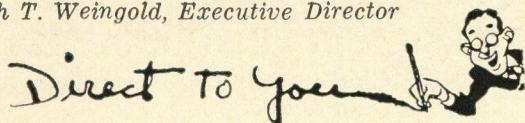
Gifts from the Sarah Starkman League, Esther Baila League, Ruth Kirzon League for Handicapped Children and the Women's Aid of Kew Gardens enabled the Association to send 33 retarded children to special camps this summer.

It was possible to send many more children this year primarily through the greatly increased grant from the Sarah Starkman League who more than tripled last year's donation.

Our heartfelt thanks to all the generous donors and to Camps Arlen, Pine Grove and Waterford who have cooperated by reducing their regular fees to make this possible. If any of our parents would like to visit these camps, please contact the AHRC office for further details.

search we will be able to eliminate it in the not too distant future. Meanwhile, he believes a main function of the clinic is to help parents learn to develop the child's utmost power through understanding and proper training. He is a strong believer in the AHRC and supports its fine struggle for more and better community facilities for retarded children.

The AHRC light shines on Dr. Joseph Wortis for his great hope for the retarded, his intense sympathy with the family and community problems raised and his belief that something can be done and that psychiatrists should help do it.



For centuries, before the growing awareness of society's responsibility to the handicapped, the atypical was the butt of ridicule and jokes. In most civilized societies, those whose handicaps are visible, such as the orthopedically disabled, no longer meet this attitude. Unfortunately this does not hold true for the mentally retarded.

Too often, on radio and television do we see him used as the foolish foil for his more fortunate brothers; too often are the words "moron" and "idiot" applied as terms of opprobrium.

Without going into the semantics of the question—and that is a column in itself—we in the AHRC try to educate the misusers of these terms. Whenever we are aware of an incident, we try to bring about a more sympathetic attitude towards the retarded.

Because so many editors and producers pleaded ignorance, a FACT SHEET (reprinted below), conceived by our public relations advisor Gladys P. Thomas, and submitted to our Board of Advisors for approval, and subsequently distributed to those who have access to the public mind.

FACTS ABOUT MENTAL RETARDATION

A Guide to Editors, Program Producers and Writers

Opportunity to help those who face one of life's most heart-breaking problems — a mentally retarded child awaits those who join our Association in our fight to combat ignorance and superstition about mental deficiency.

The most common offense, misuse of clinical terms, causes great anguish to the thousands whose children are clinically classified — morons, imbeciles, idiots, cretins, mongoloids or "feeble-minded".

To use these terms with the connotation implicit or explicit that persons who have these specific handicaps are logical targets for ridicule and contempt is to foster a harmful public attitude toward 3% of our population, their parents and their relatives. They are entitled to the same respect, consideration and freedom from "cruel and unusual punishments" as are others who are handicapped.

Parents hope there will be a clear and honest facing of facts about mental retardation. Unfortunately when a child is so handicapped, not even time and growth will add to the natural potential, but training to develop the potential is possible.

The appearance of a less than normally alert youngster in the family also often unnecessarily causes strained relations. Yet the causes of this condition are, for the most part, still unknown, and it is definitely established that heredity does not play a very large part. To find causes is of vital interest to all who expect to have children or grandchildren. Actually three out of every 100 families, with both parents normal, may be found to have a mentally retarded child.

The concept of the mentally retarded as "crazed", violent, aggressive, delinquent, sexually precocious, is also false. These children are slow learners, passive, affectionate and docile.

They enjoy as a rule routine work, react to kindness and supervision with cooperation.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR RETARDATION STUDY APPOINTED

AHRC Executive Director Chosen As Parent Representative

The study of mental retardation to be made by the Department of Mental Hygiene, resulting from the \$25,000 appropriation by the last session of the legislature, got under way with the appointment of an Advisory Committee by Commissioner Newton Bigelow.

Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of the AHRC was designated a member. As a parent representative, he will try to coordinate and represent the views of all parents.

The committee, under the chairmanship of Dr. Arthur W. Pense, Deputy Commissioner of Mental Hygiene, consists of Dr. I. J. Brightman, Assistant Commissioner for Welfare Medical Services, State Department of Social Welfare, Miss Katharine A. Ecob, representing Social Service, Joseph J. Endres, Chief of the Bureau for Handicapped Children, State Education Department, Very Rev. Msgr. Sylvester J. Holbel, Superintendent of Schools for the Diocese of Buffalo, Dr. Morris Krugman, Assistant Superintendent in Charge of Guidance, Board of Education of the City of New York, Miss Dominicia Staffler, Acting Chairman, Department of Psychology, Utica College of Syracuse University, Dr. George S. Stevenson, Medical Director, National Association for Mental Health, Dr. Harry C. Storrs, Director, Letchworth Village, and Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of the AHRC.

The first exploratory meeting was held in Albany on June 9.

URGENTLY NEEDED!

Room and board in private family for 19-year-old retarded girl. Steadily employed. Able to pay for own maintenance. Parents not living. Relatives unable to continue providing home owing to illness. Please contact Mrs. Rea Sonntag, 228 East 13th Street, Manhattan, or call Wisconsin 7-7938 from 1 to 2 P. M., Monday through Friday.

Even the small proportion of delinquency traceable to retardation is not proof of frequent exceptions. The quick-witted among the lawless get caught less frequently than those whose reactions are slow.

Authorities agree that only a small proportion of the mentally retarded, those so defective that institutional care is an absolute necessity, need be removed from families who want them. If the community provided the specialized facilities for training which these children need, many now in institutions might be able to live and work usefully.

Fostering superstitions and public attitudes about mental retardation which make people laugh at those affected, inspires fear of them or suggests that their presence in a family is a punishment for sin also drives parents to a despairing belief that they must part with their children.

So **CHECK THE FACTS**, won't you, next time you are confronted with material on this subject.

**HELP US HELP THOSE WHO CANNOT
HELP THEMSELVES**

AHRC VOLUNTEERS CITED BY UNITED HOSPITAL FUND

In recognition of the splendid work done by volunteers in entertaining children waiting for appointments at the Morris J. Solomon Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Retarded Children, Brooklyn Jewish Hospital, the United Hospital Fund presented emblems to Mrs. Alice Perlstein, Chairman of Clinic Volunteers, Mrs. Harriet King and Mrs. Abelow, a non-parent.

The awards were presented by Ben Grauer, radio and TV commentator, and Yul Brynner, star of "The King and I". Brig. Gen. David Sarnoff, Chairman of the Board of R. C. A., was guest speaker.

ATTENTION, PARENTS!

Dr. Israel Zwirling, whose sister is a member of the AHRC, has been asked by the National Association to prepare a brochure, "Informing Parents of the Diagnosis of Mental Deficiency." He requests that parents of retarded children write to him the experience they had when they were first informed by a physician or psychologist that their child was mentally retarded. He wants to hear this whether your experience was good or bad.

Through your letters, he will be able to see what has happened at the point of diagnosis and what are the best means of imparting this information to parents.

Write to Dr. Israel Zwirling, c/o General Hospital, Cincinnati, Ohio.

RETARDED? GOOD FOR YOU!

Brilliant persons are often a greater menace to mankind than mentally retarded people, mental hygiene expert, Dr. Cuning Dax, of Melbourne, Australia, says, adding: "A backward child in a secure job usually is happier than a frustrated and unstable genius".

(Reprinted from Daily News of Monday, July 7, 1952)

OPENINGS IN AHRC CLASSES

AHRC Classes Still Have Openings For the Fall Term

If you have not yet registered, please do so. Requirements: Children must be over five and under 14. Psychological tests will be administered. If interested, write immediately to AHRC School Board, 31 Madison Avenue, New York 10, New York. Special attention Queens and Bronx.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- September 24, 1952**—Central Needle Trades High School
225 West 24th Street, New York,
N. Y. General Meeting.
- October 29, 1952** —Mabel Dean Bacon High School, 129
East 22nd Street, New York, N. Y.
Annual Elections. For members
only.
- November 12, 1952** —Claire Mann Fashion Show and
Luncheon. Gold Room of the Savoy
Plaza. Tickets \$6.00. Obtainable at
Office.
- December 4, 1952** —Central Needle Trades High School,
225 West 24th Street, New York,
N. Y. General Meeting. All wel-
come.

TO OUR NON-MEMBER READERS:

To help us defray the cost, and enable us to continue sending you this newspaper, we are asking all who are not dues-paying members of the AHRC to send us one dollar (\$1.00). (This will cover one year's subscription.)

Your doing so will make one more dollar available for the help of our children.

—THE EDITORS.

(Our thanks to those who have already sent their dollar.)

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