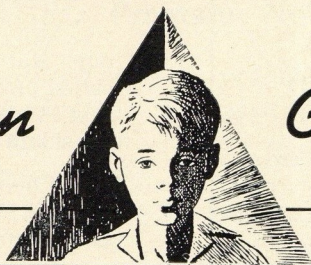


OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE

Retarded Children



Can Be Helped!

VOL. V. — ISSUE NO. 1

MARCH, 1953

Association Mourns Alexander C. Russotto

AHRC Loses Beloved President



ALEXANDER C. RUSSOTTO

A great loss to all of us in the AHRC and all who have the cause of mental retardation at heart occurred when death came to Alexander C. Russotto on the morning of March 24, after a short illness.

He was the son of Henry A. Russotto, composer of Hebrew liturgical music and Louisa Russotto, an opera singer. He was educated in the New

City public schools, City College of New York and the Brooklyn Law School.

After passing the New York State Bar in 1931 he engaged in private practice in New York City. In 1941 he entered the Contract Section of the government, negotiating contracts with aircraft and parts manufacturers all through the Eastern part of the United States. From 1946 until death came, he was a member of the Butter and Silverman law firm of New York City.

He began his service to the AHRC as Manhattan Fund Raising Chairman during 1950. We elected him President in 1951 and re-elected him again this year.

Some of these words are from the announcement of his passing as they appeared in the "New York Times" of March 26, but what he was to us cannot, as no words ever can, express the feeling throughout the membership when the word came that Alec Russotto had left us.

When he took over as President he said, "A great many people doubt the strength of the organization". But under his leadership there was no weakness. He was a man whose life was full and brimming with the joys of family life and personal friendship before he became the parent of a mentally handicapped little girl. His wife, Jeanne, first saw a newspaper notice of a meeting of parents of mentally retarded children. As Alec told it later, they hardly dared to believe that anywhere there was such a group. But they came. They saw and they heard and they stayed.

When he undertook the task of Manhattan fund raiser it was with touching humility because he said he had never before done anything like this. But he put his heart in it and he did it very well.

In this spirit he accepted the next honor which his fellows members pressed upon him. In him they always saw the man who led because his was a spirit that edifies others. The organization grew under his leadership, grew not only in new projects, new affiliations, progress in the struggle for adequate legislation, but it strengthened with the qualities that were his strength. He never stopped believing in the growth potentials of our children. Following this premise, he guided the Association's programs to include more opportunities and new facilities.

The schools grew, the clinics received additional grants and new projects were established: the Sheltered Workshop, the Nursery Class, the School for Mothers. Under him, too, we grew as a State organization, adding many chapters. His warm personality reached out not only within the organization but to external groups. New affiliations, lay and professional, were established; his liaison work with long-standing Donor groups created goodwill and continued aid. The Greater New York Fund accepted the Association unconditionally as a participating member. His desire for a better world for all retarded children found additional expression in the Association's legislative struggle. Alec's focus on the problem was not limited, however, to New York State. He saw the necessity of National growth and after returning from the last National convention in California, set out to impress the membership with the importance of national cooperation. Wherever he went, whomever he met, Alec's human kindness, devotion, sincere and humble dedication to the cause of our children shone through.

He left us suddenly and without warning. He left us while still a very young man, head of a growing family.

To us, his having to go was the only time he made us unhappy. Now for the sake of the children he loved so much we will carry on. We will remember and continue to feel that the spirit in him which once led us can still continue to be our inspiration.



Little Isobel Russotto poses with Mayor Vincent Impellitteri at the opening of the AHRC 1952 Fund Raising Drive while her devoted father looks on.

OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE

Issued four times a year by

THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE HELP OF RETARDED CHILDREN, INC.

323 FOURTH AVENUE — NEW YORK 10, 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

President: Bernard M. Fineson

Executive Director: Joseph T. Weingold

President's Message

As President of the Association, one of my first duties is to write a "Message"; a message to parents and friends of retarded children. And I am asked to write this message soon after we have suffered the grievous loss of our beloved Alec Russotto. What shall I say in such a message when as yet I am scarcely accustomed to the idea of taking Alec's place as your leader? Shall I try to convey what I believe would have been in his heart and mind during this important era in our existence, or shall I try to express only my own ideas? But I can't do it entirely on my own, because Alec and I worked so well and harmoniously together in the affairs and for the welfare of the Association that it is impossible for me to work without his guiding spirit beside me.

However, despite our sad and serious loss, the work must go on. The cause of retarded children must be advanced; projects must be continued; funds must be raised; RETARDED CHILDREN MUST BE HELPED. So to all parents and friends of retarded children, issue a call to service; to continue and redouble their efforts; to help in these great endeavors on which we have embarked.

In a recent issue of "OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE," Alec Russotto said, "We must dedicate ourselves to a determination to make every tomorrow rich with realization of the promise of today." Sadly enough, Alec passed away before much of that promise came to fruition. For those of us who are left behind, no greater tribute can be paid to the memory of Alec than a firm and thorough renewal of that dedication and exertion of extended efforts to bring about the concrete realization of which he spoke. In that spirit, I ask for help and guidance from all of you. May we go on to justify Alec's death.

AHRC STATE OFFICE MOVES

PLEASE NOTE!

The new address and telephone number of
AHRC'S State Headquarters are:

323 Fourth Ave., New York 10, N. Y.

(corner of 24th St. and 4th Ave.)

GRamercy 3-4875

BERNARD M. FINESON ELECTED AHRC PRESIDENT

Succeeds Alexander C. Russotto

At a special meeting of the Board of Directors Thursday, March 26, held at the Association's headquarters, called after the sudden death of Alexander Russotto, our first Vice President Bernard M. Fineson was elected President of AHRC.

When notified of his new office, Mr. Fineson commented, "I follow a courageous leader and take office with great humility".

Mr. Fineson will serve until the next annual election.

Deaf Ears . . .

(Editorial)

The Brydges-Roman Bill sponsored by this Association has been killed in committee. We would be less than human if we had not had some slight hope of its success. We should have learned, however, that the thinking of centuries is not changed so quickly and that we must at all times assume the sad virtue of patience so glibly advised and so inconsiderate of the living.

The sad part of this failure is the refusal of the committees involved even to hold hearings, listen to those men who have spent their lives in this field, if not to the human side of the parents. It is even sadder because this is probably one of the few states in the union where legislators cannot find the time to listen to progressive thinking affecting the lives of three percent of the population, their families and relatives.

This was legislation that attacked the problem of mental retardation through community effort and facilities. This was legislation that would help solve, too, the overcrowding in institutions, but the state continues to think only in terms of more and larger institutions. This is a stereotype apparently very hard to break.

We wonder, sometimes, whether a statesmanlike approach can do as much as the direct, emotional, pressure method. Because those who have bothered to listen to us have turned away our requests, not with reason, but the evasion that we wait until the results of the Department of Mental Hygiene studies are completed. There is no such carefulness in planning service in terms of bricks and mortar.

Were we not surrounded with the thousands of lives that are being wasted we could be more philosophical about what, in the end, must be merely a delay, but each year sees those who are being expended, neglected and forgotten. How shall we answer to them?

Although the road is clear, it is difficult and rocky. We must realize the colossal task it will be to break through the walls of indifference to reach the now deaf ears. It will take a total effort and we must start now, in each community, with each legislator—**now**, not a month or a week before they meet. If they will not do so alone, we must make them see their responsibility to our children in accordance with our wishes. For our children, too, make up part of the community.

—J. T. W.

TRAINING CENTER AND SHELTERED WORKSHOP OPENS

All Phases of AHRC Program Now In Operation

On Monday, March 2, 1953, one of the last phases of the AHRC Long Range Program was completed with the opening of a Training Center and Sheltered Workshop in Brooklyn, at 724 Nostrand Avenue. The purpose of the Center is to offer young men and women, from 18 to 25, an opportunity for training in habit patterns and skills which will equip them eventually to work in industry or in the less competitive environment of the Sheltered Workshop.



Young adults working at commercial operations in the AHRC Sheltered Workshop and Training Center under the supervision of Director, Lou Schwartz.

The Center and Workshop is under the supervision of Louis Schwartz, an industrial arts teacher with experience in mental retardation. A graduate of N. Y. U., Mr. Schwartz has taught industrial arts to mentally retarded teen agers at Butler High School, Butler, N. J. and is at present doing graduate work at N. Y. U. In explaining his desire to turn his career in the direction of helping these youngsters, Mr. Schwartz said, "I believe that the fundamental purpose of the Training Center and Sheltered Workshop serving the mentally retarded is the physical and psychological preparation not only for work, but for living. Self-help is my Workshop philosophy. I want to give those who work here not only the ability to earn money, but the sense of usefulness, of achievement and belonging. I want this Workshop to be a bridge in every

possible way between what these young people need and what the world and the market place demands."

The principle of the sheltered workshop, as most of our readers know, is this: to help the handicapped person ultimately to take his place in the community by training him not only to be able to perform commercial skills but also to adjust to his handicap, understand his limitations and overcome them, if possible. This is known as rehabilitation. There are many, however, who, though they will be able to perform work for which businessmen would be glad to pay, for various reasons cannot do this work under the conditions that exist in competitive industry. A Training Center and Sheltered Workshop trains the handicapped in a realistic manner, while at the same time taking into consideration individual needs, additional direction, modified machinery, staggered hours, advice, counseling and leadership. Those workers who find it impossible, after training, to work under normal conditions in private industry find their niche in the Sheltered Workshop where contracts are obtained from industry on which the persons in the workshop can work at their own pace, with special supervision and get paid for what they produce.

The Training Center and Workshop is the result of much planning in which we have been helped immeasurably by an advisory committee consisting of Dr. Emily Burr, Vocational Guidance Bureau; Dr. Mary Harnett, Assistant Director CRMD; Chris de Prosopo, Assistant Professor CCNY; Miss Jewel Phillips, Goodwill Industries; Miss Eugenie D'Arso, Brooklyn Bureau of Social Service Workshop; Mr. Leonard Rockower, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, N. Y. State; Louis E. Rosenzweig, Assistant Professor, Brooklyn College, and Mr. Emil Trapani, Director of the Workshop at the Institute for the Crippled and Disabled and Treasurer of the National Committee on Sheltered Workshops and Homebound Programs.

Oh, yes, after one month of operation one of the young men has been placed in private industry and we are ready to take our first contract.

Note for Parents Groups. The National Committee on Sheltered Workshops put out an excellent handbook, "Sheltered Workshops and Homebound Programs." Cost \$1.00. It can be obtained from the Committee at 15 West 16th Street, New York 11, N. Y.

AHRC OPENS FIRST NURSERY CLASS

Another pilot project was established by the AHRC the first week in March with the opening of its Nursery Class for pre-school age children. This new and experimental nursery group is located at the Melrose Community Center, 277 East 153rd Street, Bronx, and is under the direction of Joan Heith, a special education teacher.

The nursery class meets daily for a morning session and offers refreshments and a program in all respects similar to that given normal youngsters at early ages.

The importance of such a group was pointed out by Mr. Weingold, "Early training and social experiences for children who are destined to function at a mentally

CAMP SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

Will all those interested in a scholarship for camp this summer please **write** (do not telephone) the AHRC, 323 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y., attention: CAMP COMMITTEE. Do so immediately, please!

retarded level is of vital importance, often more important in terms of the child's need than is nursery school training for those who are developing at a normal pace. Yet in New York City today for the thousands of children who need it there are as yet no pre-school groups of this type available."

Mongolism Subject Of All Day Meeting

Focus On Professional Misconceptions

An all-day Institute on Mongolism sponsored by the Morris J. Solomon Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Retarded Children at Brooklyn Jewish Hospital and the Association for the Help of Retarded Children, featuring some of the topmost authorities in the country was held Friday, February 27, at the Jewish Hospital of Brooklyn.

Recommendations by professionals for institutionalization of newborn mongoloid children has resulted in an over-population of such children in New York hospitals because State institutions are over-crowded and generally do not accept children under one year of age. Furthermore, severe dislocation of families occurs and in most instances this resulting dilemma is not necessary.

The Brooklyn Council for Social Planning, disturbed by a situation not consonant with the best social thinking or present day information concerning the potentials of mongoloid children, approached the Clinic and the AHRC with this growing problem.



Standing left to right: Prof. Louis Rosenzweig, Dept. of Education, Brooklyn College; Dr. Moses Carnes, Adjunct Pediatrician, Brooklyn Jewish Hospital; Dr. G. A. Jervis, Director of Laboratories, Letchworth Village, N. Y.; Rudolf Hormuth, Asst. to Executive Director of the AHRC; seated, left to right: Dr. H. Yannet, Medical Director, Southbury Training School, Conn.; T. H. Ingalls, Harvard School of Public Health; Benjamin Kramer, Chief, Dept. of Pediatrics, Brooklyn Jewish Hospital, and Clemens E. Benda, Director of Research, Fernald School, Waltham, Mass.

The Institute was divided into two parts. The morning session was devoted to the medical aspects of the problem, and the afternoon meeting concentrated on the educational, psychological, speech and social service approaches. While the material presented was primarily intended to inform physicians about new thinking in the field, parents and others concerned were welcomed and attended in considerable numbers.

The authorities heard all agreed that the medical profession and the community be made aware of the potentials of these children.

Dr. Clemens E. Benda, Director of Research, Fernald School, Waltham, Mass., disclosed during the morning session that, "The new concepts based on research findings in mongolism suggest much more effective treatment possibilities than did former notions that this growth disorder was connected with a mystical biological reversion because mongoloid children, whatever their origin, resemble persons of Mongolian ancestry."

Dr. Joseph T. Wortis, Director of the Division of Pediatric Psychiatry of the Brooklyn Jewish Hospital, Prof. Louis Rosenzweig of the Department of Education, Brooklyn College, and Mr. Weingold presented to the assembled parents and physicians the predicament of educators, psychologists and parents with regard to the education and training of large numbers of mongoloid children.

AHRC Legislation Killed In Committee

Brydges-Roman Bill to Amend Education Law Not Reported

The efforts of the AHRC and other parents groups in this State to have the Education Law amended have met with failure in this session of the Legislature. Senate Bill Introductory No. 1776 and Assembly Bill Introductory No. 2094 were killed in the Finance Committee of the Senate and the Ways and Means Committee of the Assembly.

These bills were the result of the careful thinking of many advisors of the AHRC, educators throughout the state, and represented the pooled experiences of tens of thousands of parents. It was felt that this legislation, the first attempt in forty years to overhaul the education law concerning mentally retarded children, should cover as many as possible of the urgent and vexing problems that have been recognized but not dealt with. In summary, these bills provided the following:

1. More adequate facilities for children with I.Qs between 50 and 75 (the so-called "educable"). Under the law as it exists there are many gaps through which they fall. For example, although the law speaks of minors, there is almost no provision for their education anywhere in the state beyond the age of 17 or 18. School districts label them ineducable after that age merely because adequate facilities suitable to their mental attainments are not set up.
2. Make public school facilities mandatory for children with I.Qs between 25 and 50 (the so-called "trainable"). There is nothing novel about this and New York lags behind such states as California, Ohio, Minnesota and Wisconsin.
3. Provide for increased state aid to special classes.
4. Provide for a differential of \$480 per year in pay for all teachers of the handicapped.
5. Provide for a compulsory school board census of the mentally retarded as is now required for the physically handicapped.
6. Provide for home teaching where found necessary for the mentally retarded as is now required for the physically handicapped.

"The purpose of these bills," commented Augustus Jacobs, Chairman of the Legal and Legislative Committee of the AHRC, "is to bring the provisions of the law into line with realities and up to the best social thinking in the community. The time has come to redefine the mentally retarded for education purposes and to act on the accumulated knowledge and experiences of the parents and progressive educators." He went on to say that the major excuse given for not acting on the bills was the study being conducted by the Department of Mental Hygiene. "We have great hopes for what this study will produce," he concluded, "and it would be perverting its purpose to use it as an excuse for the postponement of action."

Rudolf Hormuth, Assistant to Mr. Weingold, urged more facilities to educate and train mongoloid children in the community from the point of view of the well being of their families. "Institutional care," Mr. Hormuth said, "is not necessary in many, many cases if the community provides facilities for schooling up to the mongoloid child's full developmental potential."

Prof. Rosenzweig stated, "Pilot educational projects indicate that these children can be trained and their performance level markedly improved."

The proceedings will be published in the Pediatric Quarterly beginning with the May issue.

ANNUAL DINNER PLANS SET

Allen Prescott Dinner Toastmaster for 1953

Ticket sales for the 1953 AHRC Fourth Annual Dinner to be held Saturday night, May 16, 1953 in the Grand Ballroom of the Hotel Astor, increase daily although the over-the-top spurt expected before the date draws nearer has not yet come. But attendance will certainly be good as members learn of such attractions as the acceptance of the Toastmaster assignment by Allen Prescott, urbane and experienced emcee of radio and television.

The highlight of the evening will be the presentations of AHRC citations to leading personalities who have given outstanding service to the cause of mental retardation in the fields of Medicine, Education and Community Service. Gardner Cowles, editor of "Look" Magazine is to receive a special award for Public Information for facilitating the appearance of "Out of the Shadows" in his magazine.

Speakers for the evening include AHRC's ardent friend, Congressman Jacob K. Javits. A radio hook-up to the Dinner is in the planning stages to cover not only the presentations but Congressman Javits' remarks.

Those attending the Dinner (which of course means ALL AHRC members and interested friends) will be glad to hear that the evening's schedule will permit plenty of time for after-dinner dancing and entertainment.

The Dinner Committee has been fortunate in obtaining the time and talent of Elise Rhodes, popular singing artist of radio and TV. (The children of our Joshua

School are familiar with Miss Rhodes' singing skills. She has unselfishly spent time with our children just singing to them—and they love her.)

First prize, Dinner Chairman Sol Hulnick reminds you, is a trip to Nassau for two. Prize books and Journal ad blanks have already been mailed and more are available from the AHRC office. Read the information in the box below—and then won't you redouble your efforts to make our Dinner a tremendous success. Time is growing shorter. We can only depend on your full cooperation.

PRIZE BOOKS AND JOURNAL AD BLANKS FOR ANNUAL DINNER

Each of you has received two prize books and several Journal Ad Blanks. You can help by selling the books and obtaining ads for the Souvenir Journal. Here is how you can come to the dinner.

1. By purchasing a ticket (\$15.00 each).
2. By selling two prize books (you get one free ticket to the dinner).
3. By obtaining \$50.00 worth of ads for the Souvenir Journal (you get one free ticket to the dinner).

Earn a **FREE TICKET** and make the dinner a success.

RECREATION GROUPS AT JOSHUA SCHOOL

About forty boys and girls, under competent group leaders, are now meeting every Saturday in recreation groups at DeVoe Terrace. This service has been set up primarily for children between the ages of 7 and 16 attending special classes in the public school (CRMD). The demand was so strong from others, however, that another group, ages 12 to 16, was included for children who do not attend public school.

"One of the points in the AHRC program for CRMD children," stated Jean Katz of the CRMD Committee, "has been the necessity for recreation. These children have no after school or Saturday programs for them in the school system, as exists for the normal children. We are trying to show what can be done and hope that the division that runs recreation centers for the Board of Education will provide the additional counselor in those centers for our children."

The groups are now operating at capacity and the need has certainly been demonstrated.

AHRC ACCEPTED UNCONDITIONALLY IN GREATER NEW YORK FUND

Although the AHRC has participated in the Greater New York Fund both for 1951 and 1952, it has been on a conditional basis. In a letter to our late President, Alec Russotto, we have been notified that we have been accepted without condition.

"This action was taken," wrote Mr. J. N. MacDowell, Acting Secretary to the Fund "as the result of a report

WALTER ABEL CHAIRMAN OF AHRC TALENT COMMITTEE

Walter Abel accepted several months ago the chairmanship of the Talent Committee to help us give added prestige to Our Children's Voices as we try to make them heard through the immensely complicated communication system as it is today.

Shortly, therefore, in our correspondence with the entertainment industry, columnists and so forth, we will be able to use special stationery proclaiming people as Walter Winchell, Jimmy Powers, Sid Caesar, Bill Hayes, Earl Blackwell, James Farley, Red Buttons, Joan Roberts, Allen Prescott, Robin Chandler, Jessica Dragonette and many, many others.

In the rounding up of all this wonderful help to us in publicizing, great credit is due, in addition to Walter Abel and Bernard Rosenberg, to Allen Prescott, Annamae Fay and Robert Seaman of the Nassau County Chapter.

Mr. Abel is currently in California making a picture with John Wayne. With him certainly go all the good wishes of retarded children everywhere.

from the Welfare and Health Council of New York City which, in the opinion of the Committee, warranted the admission of your organization to participation in the Fund without any further conditions."

"We are glad that the Association for the Help of Retarded Children will continue to be associated with the Fund."

And we are, too, not only because of the money (and we need it) but the warm community acceptance of our cause.

MAKE THIS THE BIGGEST YEAR YET

SUPERVISORY POSITION CREATED TO DIRECT ACADEMIC PROGRAM IN STATE SCHOOLS

In accordance with recommendations made by the State Education Department and approved by Governor Dewey, a new position, supervisor of education, has been created in the central office of the Department of Mental Hygiene. The item is in the budget of the department for the first time.

The appointment of a supervisor of education for the development of the academic program for children in the state institutions for the mentally retarded was advised by the State Education Department as a result of a study of the educational program of the state schools being made by Elizabeth B. Carey, Ph.D., and Robald P. Daly, supervisors of elementary education.

Although this is not what the Wicks Committee recommended some years ago; namely, that all education of children in state institutions be under the supervision of the Department of Education, commented J. T. Weingold, Executive Director of the AHRC, "It is a very long forward step. We hope that the advances in **special** education made in recent years will be carried over into the institutions, both for the educable and the trainable. This is an opportunity for the institutions to blaze the trail for the community to follow."

The position will be a civil service one on a competitive basis.

JOINS SYRACUSE FACULTY

G. Orville Johnson Associate Professor For Exceptional Children

The appointment of Dr. G. Orville Johnson, Director of Special Education, University of Denver, as Associate Professor of Education for Exceptional Children at Syracuse University has been announced by Dr. William M. Cruickshank, director of the Syracuse program. At Syracuse Dr. Johnson will have primary responsibility for the development of the teacher preparation program for mentally retarded children.

Prior to his appointment at the University of Denver, Dr. Johnson was assistant professor at the University of Illinois. He is co-author with Dr. Samuel A. Kirk of the text, "Education of the Retarded Child."

STATE CHARITIES AID TURNS OVER INFORMATION SERVICE TO AHRC

Recognition of the AHRC as a professional agency was established at the beginning of this year when the New York State Mental Health Society, State Charities Aid, turned over their information service for the mentally retarded to this Association.

The State Charities Aid, up until this time, confidentially surveyed and rated schools for the mentally retarded as part of their mental hygiene program.

By relinquishing their findings and turning over all referrals of this nature to this organization, they made it possible for the Association to create an Information Bureau, to become a clearing house of information on mental retardation.

This new program, now under the supervision of Rudolf Hormuth, Assistant to Mr. Weingold, is regarded by this organization and professional groups to be a valuable and essential service to parents.

Study of Retardation Continues

\$25,000 Granted Department of Mental Hygiene to Continue Work

The budget of the Department of Mental Hygiene containing a request for \$25,000 to continue the study of mental retardation in this state begun last year has been granted by the legislature.

The initial grant made last year was in answer to the AHRC request for a Joint Legislative Committee. The study by the department is to have four aspects and is to include a survey to determine the incidence of mental deficiency in this State, a study of community aspects of the problem, a study of care and training of the mentally retarded children both in the community and in institutions, and an analysis of research needs in causes and treatment methods.

So far, the study of two areas has been begun. The first is the incidence or prevalence of mental retardation and the second, the educational facilities for the mentally retarded both in the community and in institutions. The former is being done by the Mental Health Commission under the direction of Dr. Melvin Goodman. It is proposed to try to find the mentally retarded in Onondaga County, with intensive studies of samples as to etiology, intellectual functioning, social functioning, etc. The latter, study of educational facilities, has been placed in the hands of Teachers College under the direction of Dr. Maurice Fouracre, Director of Special Education. They propose to study the needs and what there exists educationally and quantitatively, for all the retarded of the school age. It is proposed to study the Special Classes, the Low I.Q. Classes, private schools, the schools set up by Parents Groups and the Institutions.

As can be seen, much remains to be done because Community Aspects (outside of education) have not yet been touched. Some of these could be the job situation, indigency, how is philanthropy involved, community agencies, effect on the family, etc. Under Care and Training, such topics as recreation, post school training, home training, clinics and others are not yet being considered. And of course research needs should include education, psychology and social service. "It is hoped that these areas will come in for study as time goes on," stated Joseph T. Weingold, a member of the Advisory Committee. "Of course, the sum of \$25,000 is very small for this work, but progress reports will show the need for more funds and give us a reason for asking for them."

HUNGERFORD RESIGNS AS CRMD CHIEF

Heads State School in New Hampshire

Richard H. Hungerford, Director of the Bureau for Children of Retarded Mental Development in the New York City School System since 1942, resigned as of February 1, 1953. He becomes the Superintendent of Laconia State School in New Hampshire.

Mr. Hungerford came to New York from the Detroit Public School System where he was a Supervisor of Special Education. Past President of the American Association on Mental Deficiency, Editor of their "Journal," founder of the magazine "Occupational Education," his contributions to the field of education of the mentally retarded have been trail blazing. When Mansfield Training School in Connecticut built their new \$2,500,000 school they invited Dick Hungerford to set up the program.

The children of New York have lost a courageous friend, but his standards remain for those who are staying to maintain and build upon.

Look Article Inspires Good Publicity

AHRC Supported In All Media

The appearance of OUT OF THE SHADOWS (an article in "Look" magazine, February 10th issue, which surely everyone of our readers saw because it dealt with our children) inspired a great deal of additional publicity before, during and after the time the article was available on the news stands.

For example, Mr. Weingold talked about it on the George Hamilton Combs program, WJZ, January 3rd. Alice Pearlstein got herself seen over CBS-TV . . . and in addition won \$120 for the cause. Jane Patterson took time off from her schoolmarming to hustle down to WINS on January 3rd and talked about the article on the Jo Halpin show. Three days later Jane stayed up a little later than usual to join Jerry Weingold and Allen Prescott in a panel discussion which went over some 500 Mutual Broadcasting stations at 10:15 P. M. On January 27th listeners of the Barry Gray program heard our late President, Alexander Russotto, in the very wee and small hours of the morning. (It was Barry Gray who later on his program mentioned the untimely death of Mr. Russotto and publicly paid his respects.) January 28th Allen Prescott, perhaps our bravest of publicizers took his chances with that barbed commentator, Henry Morgan, on WMGM. Meanwhile Mrs. Thomas had written a complete sequence and designed visual aids for the Tex and Jinx TV program. This sequence was aired February 5th and explained not only the "Look" article but much more about our children.

Also during February, Walter Abel went to bat for us on the DuMont TV network (Where Was I?). He won \$140 which he proudly turned over to us. Others who were heard publicly during the month were Robin Chandler on Luncheon at Sardi's, February 4, Bobby Breen on "Do You Want To Be A Star", February 6th Dr. Lawrence Slobody of Flower Fifth appeared on "Maggie's Magazine," on the same day Food For Thought presented Allen Prescott as a guest, and February 11th ended the month with Jessica Dragonette on "Do You Want To Be A Star."

In addition to the "Look" article, a Macfadden Publication featured a story in their March issue of "True Love Stories" which, while it seemed to be in rather questionable literary company if one happens to be a literary snob, manages to explain AHRC and the emotional history of the problem of mental retardation, lucidly and thoroughly. (We have ordered reprints of this piece and hope to make them available soon.) "Baby Talk" magazine is working with us on a similar type of article.

As for newspapers, as usual our state chapters, Nassau and Westchester Counties did outstandingly well, ably serviced as they are by such workers as George Tiplady, Mrs. Robert Seaman and others. In the New York City papers we did almost too well, especially for Rudolf Hormuth for whom a long story about his information service has caused a deluge of customers.

Dale Evans and Roy Rogers Aid Retarded



Dale Evans and her famous cowboy husband, Roy Rogers, announced their membership in the fraternity of parents whose concern is mentally retarded children, with the publication of a new book "ANGELS UNAWARE". All royalties from "ANGELS UNAWARE" will be turned over to the National Association for Retarded Children, a fact which would insure for each and everyone of us a deep desire to see many copies sold. In addition to this value the book is an inspired interpretation of the meaning to parents of the experience, when a child is born with a mental handicap.

To Dale Evans (Mrs. Roy Rogers) the deep sorrow caused by the death of her mongoloid baby at the age of two years seems to mean that her God had sent her as an emissary to explain eternal truths. She saw her little girl, Robin Elizabeth, as a person mentioned in the Bible, a being whom we must not fear to entertain, lest the stranger be an ANGEL UNAWARE.

Buy your copies at your local book stores. They are not available in any other way. (Price \$1.00.)

GLADYS PRIEUR THOMAS TO ADVISE NARC

Gladys Prieur Thomas who for the past two years has directed the Public Relations and Public Information for the AHRC has agreed to act as voluntary public relations adviser to the National Association for Retarded Children, Gilbert Hanke, President, announces from Grand Rapids, Michigan, his headquarters.

Mrs. Thomas has a long experience with large national campaigns and has become very familiar and interested in the particular problems which confront this new organization with such a difficult message.

NARC MEMBERSHIP KIT CONTAINS AHRC PUBLICITY MATERIAL

The membership kit of the National Association for Retarded Children, this Association recently learned, contains almost all of the publicity material produced and distributed by the AHRC.

Included in this kit sent to all new groups are the: Speaker's Manual, Radio Kit, "Parents Groups and the Problem of Mentally Retardation" by Joseph T. Weingold, Let the People Know and the Fact Sheet.

Mr. Weingold and Mrs. Gladys Thomas, creators of these respective aids, are pleased that these publications can be used for such cooperative measures.

HOPE YOU CAN MAKE IT

Chapter News

BROOME

Final figures for the first fund raising campaign of this less than one-year-old chapter show \$12,018 raised. This is indeed a wonderful showing and is the result of organizing the community and industry on a local level. As a result of this drive, Glenn Young, President, writes that they have bought a station wagon for the transportation of the children in the school and that the car travels 121 miles a day.

CAPITAL DISTRICT

The last two issues of the Capital District News-letter delighted our sentimental heart. The February issue had a paste on of a double heart (in two shades of red) for St. Valentine's Day and the March issue had a beautiful green shamrock.

The motor service of the Albany County Chapter, American Red Cross has offered to assist in the transportation of some of the children to the AHRC classroom at P. S. 18. Their Annual Dinner takes place on April 21st. We were very sorry to hear that the Hotalings will be moving to California. Phyllis has been dynamic and tireless in her work for the children. They will be hard to replace.

CHEMUNG

We know that they are doing well because we saw Annie Bosner at the Mongolism Institute in February and she told us so. How about a News-letter so that all the chapters can know what is going on?

ERIE-NIAGARA

The new AHRC center for the chapter has opened in the building recently purchased at 253 Humboldt Parkway. The classes, with enrollment now 21 and growing, are housed there. The rotogravure section of the "Courier Express" will carry a series of photographs of the school and its activities. Congratulations from all.

Parent education courses have been started with the group dividing into parents of older children and parents of younger children.

Community participation continues with the Credit Women's Club of Buffalo adopting the chapter as its project for the year.

MONROE

The Day Care Center For Handicapped Children, housed in a public school continues to flourish, the Board of Education of Rochester having given them an additional room.

A wonderful job of getting the community to participate in the work is being done by the chapter. In the first place William H. Mostyn, President of the Eagles, is Chairman of the Board, and Charles Jenks, President of the State Restaurant and Tavern Association, is a member of the Board. The Soroptomist Club have taken the Center as their project for the year. And they are participating members of the Community Chest. Great work is being done here and we can all profit from the example.

NASSAU

The chapter has retained a firm of experienced fund raisers to conduct a campaign for funds to build a proposed center and school. Frederick Wiedersum who designed the C. P. building in Roosevelt has made a set of blueprints as a contribution.

An excellent approach in community relations was a tea given by the chapter to which the school supervisors and supervising principals of Nassau County were invited. (They came, too!) A wonderful doll raffle was held by the alumnae of Kappa Kappa Gamma Sorority

in Levittown. It netted \$650.

Following the lead of Westchester, Nassau has broken down the county into local districts with key people organizing and carrying on the work. All they need are a few more Helen Kaplans, Annamae Fays and Bob Seamans (those we haven't mentioned, please forgive us) to get the job done.

ONONDAGA

The May Memorial Church in Syracuse has offered the chapter five rooms and a kitchen at very little expense for the school. They expect to move from the smaller quarters at the C. Y. O. Building right after Easter.

The Advisory Committee has been enlarged to include Dr. C. A. Sargent, Commissioner of Health; Dr. William E. Cruickshank, Director of Special Education, Syracuse U.; Dr. John Ross, Head of Onondaga County Child Guidance Clinic, and Msgr. Joseph B. Toomey.

A drive for \$7,000 has been launched under the leadership of Msgr. Toomey to finance the needs of the chapter until December 31st.

Always active throughout the area, Frank McCarthy and others have spoken to parents groups in Auburn and Oswego, spreading the word and preparing for new chapters.

SCHENECTADY

The Schenectady County Control Council has approved a fund raising drive for June with a goal of \$15,300. (What happens if you raise more?.) The money will go towards the support and expansion of the school program and (we hope) for other projects in the AHRC Long Range Program.

The big news is the Idea Clinic to demonstrate ideas in the training of the children. A job well done.

SUFFOLK

This is a new chapter, covering the Eastern half of Long Island. Our old friend, Jim McConnell is President, E. P. Henn, 1st Vice President; Wm. Paffrath, 2nd Vice President; Diana Jacoby, Treasurer; Helen Sgarlato, Financial Secretary, and Joan McConnell, Corresponding Secretary. The organizing meeting which our Executive Director addressed was well attended and most enthusiastic. The second and third meetings, the latter addressed by Chris de Prosopo, more than doubled this attendance. Fund raising plans were made immediately with plans for a summer bazaar. Plans for a summer camp, too, have been completed. It will be located on an old farm in East Setauket.

SULLIVAN

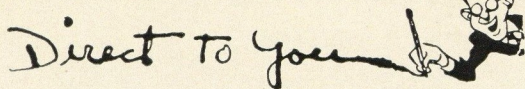
Sullivan must now be engaged in "Operation Preparation" after the winter and for the coming summer season. We have visited Monticello in the winter and readily understand the lack of news. But after they come out of hibernation, watch out!

WESTCHESTER

The big news from Westchester is the approval of the State Board for Testing and Guidance Center at the New Rochelle Guidance Center, open to all the mentally retarded of Westchester County. This is the first step towards the establishment of a full scale clinic.

The Annual Dinner will be held on June 6th. Six thousand copies of the "Dinner Journal" will be printed and distributed to every doctor, educator and professional in the county.

Note, other chapters. A very interesting publicity idea was Free ads in forty odd Westchester Time Tables, starting in January and continuing through the fall.



Elsewhere in this issue you will read of the Symposium or Institute on Mongolism recently held under the sponsorship of the Morris J. Solomon Clinic and the AHRC. In connection with that event I was privileged to make some introductory remarks that I want to make the subject of this column, not only for the parents of mongoloid children, but for the parents of all retarded children and, above all, for the non-parents and the professionals who may read *O. C. V.*

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS AT CONFERENCE OF THE MONGOLOID CHILD

The labeling of a child as a "mongoloid" has many overtones, far beyond the description of a clinical entity. What flows out of this unscientific name results in enormous complications of a problem that, medically, is complex enough. It is both the result and the cause of a pathetic and dangerous lack of knowledge, sympathy and understanding of a very large group of children with a handicap.

It is high time, indeed, that this problem be removed from the shadows, placed in the light of day and examined, not only as to its medical implications, but also educational and social. In short, let us see the "mongoloid" as a child, unblinded by an unfortunate name and unhampered by outworn prejudices.

I feel particularly qualified to speak about this, not only as the Executive Director of the Association for the Help of Retarded Children, the New York State Parents Group, where I come in contact with hundreds of parents of such children, but also from personal experience, because I am the father of a mongoloid boy.

My experiences were, perhaps, rather more fortunate than those of many other parents, because no one ever told us to "put him away"—but I did learn the diagnosis about two days after Jonny was born from the lips of a very personal friend and one of the country's leading neurologists. "I must tell you something you have to know," he said, "your child is a mongolian idiot". This was in 1943. These were two words that went together, "mongolian" and "idiot", and, unfortunately, still go together in the minds of too many professionals whom the parents consult, not to mention literature and the entertainment field. And why not the latter two? Are they not a reflection of the professional point of view?

I shall not speak of the repeated diagnoses we sought—but at last we admitted openly (secretly we had a long time ago) that we were convinced. What now? What manner of child is a mongoloid child? Where was the literature? And above all—what will be the future of such a child?

So began our search for a **prognosis**—and all we got was diagnosis over and over again. The nearest we came to prognosis was when my boy was about a year and a half old. "Mongoloid of the worst type—prognosis: hopeless"—and the kindest from a famous pediatrician: "Go home and love him—have other children—be kind to him." As if we could be anything else.

It is easier, sometimes, to surrender than to fight on and the temptation is sometimes great, but a streak of stubbornness in my wife and certainly myself made us strive to make a human being of this foredoomed child. I need not go into all the possible psychological reasons such as refusal to admit that we could produce this, etc. Our whole focus became the training of Jonny.

Later on—much later—we met persons who under-

WESTCHESTER SCHOOL DECISION REVERSED

We just learn as we go to press that the decision of Justice Doscher, granting an injunction to property owners in Pelham Manor who sought to stop the use of our building for a school for retarded children, has been reversed by the Appellate Division in a 4 to 1 decision and the complaint has been dismissed.

stood—some of them participating today, but at every step were the misconceptions which doom so many of these tantalizing children, so near like others and yet so different.

The first teacher nurse we had came from a Pennsylvania institution. "Oh, such children die young," she said. And so did the doctors. "Such children's teeth decay early". He has had one cavity in nine years. But she did train him in good habit formation. And then came glutamic acid, with no significant change, and the first psychometric—I.Q. in the 70's—surprise at this high level. Naturally our search carried us to the public schools—and there, too, on an administrative level, we met the same lack of understanding and hopeless attitude encountered among doctors. Although he qualified intellectually and socially, we were offered a low I.Q. class for children with I.Q.'s between 40 and 50. It was only after a classic letter by Dr. Benda on the equal rights of all races, Asiatic as well as Caucasian, to public education, that Jonny was admitted to a regular special class.

"Prognosis: hopeless". Yet, today, he is an altogether delightful little boy whose stubbornness we attribute to character. His future? Not in our hands alone, but in the hands of the whole community where an awareness and understanding must be developed so that facilities will be set up to meet his needs and abilities.

This is an educational process made very difficult by the misconceptions concerning mongolism that are perpetuated in generation after generation of the professionals. These are reflected not only in the attitudes of neighbors, but also in the attitudes of some teachers who don't want mongoloids in their classes and even in the attitudes of parents of other retarded children who say, "Are there any mongoloids in the group? You know my child is much higher."

Well, what can we expect when so many doctors advise parents of mongoloid children to send them to a state institution even while the child and mother are still in the hospital? I leave it to others following me to tell you of some of the terrible consequences of such quick advice to the family. I say: on what is such advice based. I say: what is the professional reason for coupling the two words "mongolism" and "idiot" as if they are one word? I say: where are the studies of mongol, mongolian, mongoloid children made **in the community** in a normal environment?

I am full of hope, however. A few short years ago a symposium with a focus such as this was an impossibility. I feel that soon we shall see the day when mongoloid children will be considered just children with a handicap, worthy of all the consideration given to other children, **not necessarily** the subject for institutionalization by decree or by attrition by depriving him of community facilities.

I have come to believe in miracles. In a way, this meeting is a miracle. I hope for even more. Dr. Bigelow, Commissioner of Mental Hygiene of New York State, in speaking to me about research, said, "The answer to mongolism is right outside the door." We are here forging the key to open the door—understanding and the recognition of the worth of a mongoloid child as an individual, and his dignity as a human being.

WITHOUT YOU IT WILL NOT BE COMPLETE

BOROUGH EVENTS...

The Bronx and Bazaar seem to be synonymous. They did it again. After collecting a tidy sum for the Association at the Rummage Sale they held in January, the Bronx Committee went ahead with a Gigantic Annual Bazaar from February 28 to March 1. After holding forth at the Pilgrim Church in the Bronx for those days, selling every kind of imaginary type of merchandise, they gave Charlotte Donnelly for AHRC a sum well over \$2,000. Sy Chicquor certainly has a darn good working fund raising committee under him.



It would be almost impossible to list all the people selling and buying at the Bronx Bazaar above but our own Anne Greenberg is staring us right in the face.

The active borough of Queens certainly knows how to get out and get the customers. Their shindig at the Boulevard in Queens February 23rd was a great, great success. To begin with they didn't charge. And to be moderate over 200 people showed up to enjoy the dancing, floor show and refreshments that were more than plentiful. Arlyne Bernstein, the Queens Chairman, naturally had her hand in this affair and for a better view of she and her committee, just look below. . . .



One of the last pictures taken of our late President, Alexander Russotto as he posed with members of the AHRC Queens Committee at their Membership Reception. Left to right: Adrienne Gussman, Mr. Russotto, Chairman Arlyne Bernstein, Minnie Lichenstein and Ruth Oloff.

Never let it be said that Brooklyn could be outdone. Not only did they have a most successful Rummage Sale from January 19th to the 31st, at 303 Nostrand Avenue, Brooklyn, collecting approximately \$960, but we have to tip our hats to their Rummage Chairman, Mrs. Sid Safia. That determined member worked while ill and refused to enter the hospital until the sale was over. She is now at home recuperating and we all wish her well for a speedy recovery.

DONOR DOINGS...

DONOR COUNCIL MEETING



Members of the AHRC pose with some of the representatives of the many and varied Association Donor groups during the last Council Meeting held March 8th, in the Riviera Room of the C & L Restaurant, New York. Meetings of the various Groups are held periodically to discuss Association problems and needs.

Theodora League has just completed their annual luncheon at the Plaza with the usual brilliant results. Helped by the incomparable Lennie Levin, the room was filled to capacity and unless it was a celebrity you didn't bother to rub elbows.

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Morris J. Solomon Sunshine League has more activities than we can keep track of. On April 15th they have the last of their monthly matinees and on May 4th their annual Riviera affair at Miller's Riviera. Then two theatre parties are scheduled, one for May 12th, The Fifth Season, and the other for May 20th, matinee for Can-Can. And finally on June 17th a Spring luncheon at the Atlantic Beach Club. After which all members and guests will repair to the beach to rest from the dizzy whirl. It's all for the kids, however, and that gives them the strength to do all this.

Cunningham Women's League For Handicapped Children held their annual luncheon at the Waldorf, on March 7th, with fashions by Claire Mann, our old friend who continues her good work for the retarded. An outstanding success. Of course, this was preceded by the February 3rd theatre party at "Time Out For Ginger." Plans are now being made for "Cunningham Capers", a show by the members, and the GREAT BIG BAZAAR. There is more, much more, but space does not permit listing all of it. But I must mention the Easter Party for the children of Queens.

Lena Invalid Aid Society has elected Elizabeth Buxbaum president and our old friend, Lillian Segall, became honorary president. Their Annual Luncheon is planned for Saturday, May 16th, at the Hotel Madison. (This is the same date as the AHRC Annual Dinner and some of our members will be over-eating, all for the cause.)

Gertrude Vos Children's Fund has had a Luncheon and then a Dutch Supper and Card Party. Mrs. Esther Blumenson has been elected president for this year. Much more is being planned but we guess they are too busy to write us all about it.

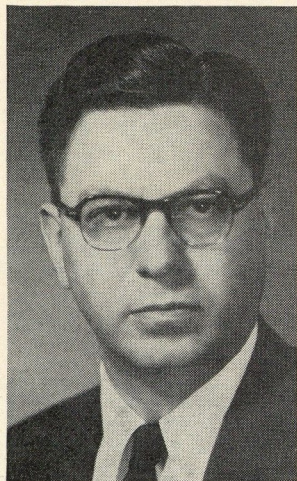
Although no information is forthcoming, we know that the **100 League** and **Esther Baila** are busy with plans and doings that will benefit the youngsters. We must mention, too, one of the new Donor Groups, **The Lenton Ladies**, whose Monte Carlo Night recently was an outstanding success.

And certainly this column would not be complete without **Joshua**. I don't know how they can have time for anything else with all their planning and doing for the Joshua School. Please, all of you, tell us about your doings.

REMEMBER THE DATE... MAY 16th

IN THE AHRC LIGHT

ASSEMBLYMAN SAMUEL ROMAN



A native of New York City, he was born on August 26, 1910. He is a graduate of Dwight Prep School and completed courses in economics and accounting at the College of the City of New York.

Has served in the Assembly continuously since January 1947, a Republican endorsed by the Liberal Party. In 1947 was appointed consultant to a subcommittee of the House Foreign Affairs Committee to visit and study the displaced persons situation in Europe and to take up various phases of the international trade or-

ganization. In the course of this committee's travels, Mr. Roman visited Ireland, England, Belgium, France, Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia and Poland.

An extremely active member of the Assembly, no session passes without some far-sighted legislation introduced by Sam Roman. (Whether it passes or not is another matter. See editorial). From our first request, he has spearheaded the AHRC drive for legislative action, from the bill for a Joint Legislative Committee, finally resulting in the appropriation of \$25,000 to the Department of Mental Hygiene to make a study of mental retardation in this state, to the bill introduced at this session for increased public school facilities for the educable and the trainable mentally retarded (and defeated in committee).

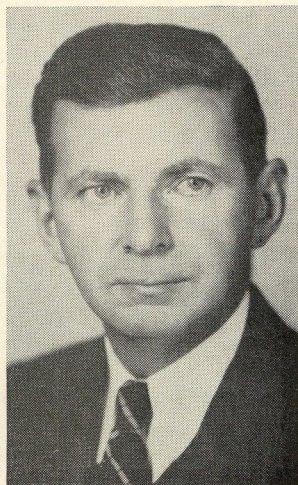
He is an active member of B'nai B'rith, Zionist Organization of America, Manhattan Civic Club, the Elks, New York Young Republican Club, Fort Tryon Synagogue and many other organizations.

He is married to the former Beatrice Adler of New York City, is the father of three children and the grandfather of a little girl just over one year old.

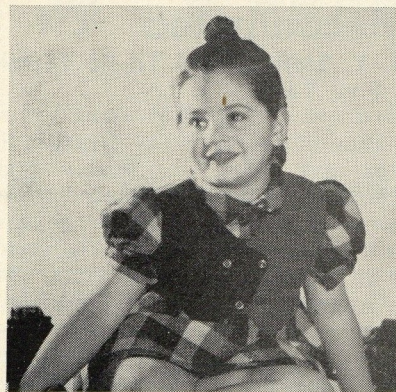
SENATOR EARL W. BRYDGES

Born May 25, 1905 in the City of Niagara Falls. Attended Niagara University Preparatory School on a scholarship for three years. Graduated from Niagara Falls Senior High School and received his degree of Bachelor of Laws in 1926 from the University of Buffalo. Practices law in Niagara Falls as a member of the firm of Orr, Brydges and Orr.

He has served in the Senate continuously since 1948 and is now chairman of the Public Education Committee. His name is usually connected in this state with progressive education legislation and he early allied himself to the cause of the mentally retarded by sponsoring the bills in the senate for a Joint Legisla-



MEET OUR CHILDREN....



SANDRA WASSERMAN

Given the chance to meet our little five-year-old glamour girl Sandra Wasserman, we have accomplished two things. Not only do we have the pleasure of including this cute little youngster in our column for the readers to meet, but we also met Sandra's mother.

We know this column belongs to Sandra, and rightfully so, but just one quote from her mother's letter and you will understand. "It is a wonderful gesture on the part of the staff to devote a column to Meet Our Children. What a novel way of having parents who are in similar circumstances to meet and read about other retarded youngsters," says Mrs. Wasserman.

Sandra's mother has found out that she and her little one are **not** alone.

Sandy is at home and has a good friend in her eight-year-old sister, Toby. The Wassermans have evidently created only love and understanding in their home. Many of you out there know that means so much—and along with us you can certainly appreciate the pretty smile of this little girl. Thanks, Mrs. Wasserman, it has been a pleasure to meet both of you.

PLEASE BE PATIENT IF YOU HAVE NOT SEEN YOUR YOUNGSTER.

tive Committee and the more recent bill to amend the Education Law for the mentally retarded (Senate Int. No. 1776), a declaration of independence for the "have not" children of the state.

He is past president of the Niagara Falls Bar Association and is currently a member of the New York State Bar Association's Committee on Administrative Law. In civic affairs he has served as campaign chairman and later president of the Community Chest. He is currently a director of the Council of Social Agencies. He is also president of the Associated School Boards of Niagara and Orleans Counties.

He is married and resides in Wilson, N. Y. with his wife and seven children. He does not boast that he is a grandfather (as Sam Roman does) but it is entirely possible, isn't it?

The AHRC Light shines on Sam Roman and Earl Brydges because, from the first day they were made aware of our problem, they espoused our cause, never quibbling, always understanding and willing to fight for the mentally retarded. The AHRC Light shines on them because they both believe as writes Sam Roman, "The legislation introduced by Senator Brydges and myself based on the recommendations of the AHRC would have done so much toward making the lives of retarded children and their parents more enjoyable and fuller. These bills were the sum total of the experiences of tens of thousands of parents throughout the State."

Syracuse State School To Be Discontinued

First N. Y. State School To Be Terminated Within Five Years

The Department of Mental Hygiene has recommended the termination of operations at Syracuse State School within the next five years, Dr. Newton Bigelow, Commissioner of Mental Hygiene announced this month.

This move is necessary, stated Dr. Bigelow, because of over-crowding in state schools and the urgent need for new facilities in other parts of the state. The location of the three upstate schools at Newark, Syracuse and Rome (all in the central part of the state), when by far the greater number of patients come from the Western part of the state, creates a hardship on the parents, according to Dr. Bigelow.

It is the Department's plan to build a new institution in western New York as rapidly as possible, gradually transferring to the new school the patients in the city division of Syracuse State School. The Fairmont division and the several colonies in the Syracuse area will be maintained as at present, but will be operated from Rome State School.

Dr. William Cruickshank of Syracuse University has protested this move, not only because of the historical position of Syracuse State School, but also because of the important work being done there for the educable mentally retarded. In answer, Dr. Bigelow states that field experience for the training of teachers will be provided at the Fairmont division and the colonies, but that he does not agree with the principle of segregating the educable children in a single institution.

(Ed. Note: We invite comments on this difference of opinion from supervisors and directors of state schools and educators of the mentally retarded. This is an important question, bearing on the whole idea of what kind of state institutions we should have. So please let us have your comments.)

RETARDED IN ISRAEL AIDED BY UNITED NATIONS

An enlightening international item concerning the problem of mental retardation is the recent United Nations agreement to help Israel create a rehabilitation institute for mentally retarded young men. This special assistance came about from a three-point technical aid program the UN Assembly granted to the Israel government.

It is curious to note that governing bodies, faced with problems of survival, can still find time and interest to consider innocent and unprotected minorities.

Meeting Held With CRMD Teachers

Committee Being Activated

On January 23rd a meeting with CRMD (special classes for the mentally retarded in New York City) teachers was held by the AHRC in the Mabel Dean Bacon High School Auditorium. Although a great portion of the activities of the Association has been with the CRMD Bureau and the Board of Education (see AHRC Minimum Program for the CRMD, for the increase and betterment of facilities for the children in special classes), it was felt that we could learn much from the grass root problems of the teachers.

The meeting discussed the CRMD program, possible avenues of working with the parents and legislation. The legislative program of the AHRC, dealing this year with the education law exclusively, was presented for discussion and was approved. An interim committee of teachers was formed and further meetings are planned.

"Hundreds of our members have children in the special classes," declared Bernard M. Fineson, then 1st Vice President of the AHRC and now President. "Their problems are frequently best seen by the teachers having daily contact with the children. We are very hopeful that a committee of teachers and parents will help highlight and implement the things now missing from the program and that should be included."

Among the CRMD people present at the meeting were Acting Director Katherine D. Lynch, R. Crowley, S. Page, Marvin Hirshfield, Murray Schaffner, H. Joscelyn Smith, Howard Goldstein, Lamar Jones, Elizabeth J. Morrone, Jacob L. Redstone, Oscar Greene, Evelyn D. Sawyer, and Professor Louis E. Rosenzweig.

Parents with children in the special classes are invited to join this committee. Please write the office. All teachers who wish to join may do so and also become an Associate Member of the AHRC without payment of dues.

KATHERINE D. LYNCH AT CRMD HELM

Miss Katherine (Kay) D. Lynch, assistant director of the Bureau for Children of Retarded Mental Development, has been named acting director to succeed Richard H. Hungerford who has resigned.

Active in education circles, Miss Lynch is chairman of the International Relations Committee of the International Council for Exceptional Children, chairman of the New York State Planning Conference for the Exceptional, member of the State Regent's Planning Committee for Curriculum for Mentally Retarded among many other affiliations.

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