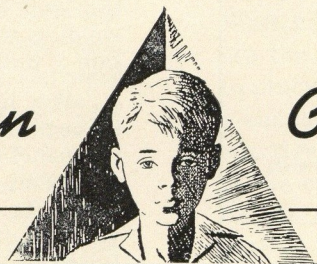


OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE

Retarded Children



Can Be Helped!

VOL. V.—ISSUE NO. 3

16

OCTOBER, 1953

Mental Retardation Study Reports Progress

Annual Business Meeting October 27th

Bernard M. Fineson Nominated For President

The annual business meeting of the Association will be held Tuesday, Oct. 27, 1953, at the Mabel Dean Bacon High School, 129 East 22nd Street, New York, N. Y.

This meeting is open to active members only. An active member is one who is not more than four months in arrears in the payment of annual dues. The membership will hear the annual report of President Fineson, including the financial report of the last fiscal year, and also reports of various committees concerning the activities of the organization.

The Nominating Committee has chosen the slate that will be presented to the membership with ballots at least two weeks before the election. These ballots are to be filled out by the members and returned to the Election Committee or handed to the tellers before 9 P. M. of the night of the annual business meeting.

The slate chosen by your Nominating Committee is as follows:

President	Bernard M. Fineson
1st Vice-President	Augustus M. Jacobs
2nd Vice-President	Evald Gasstrom
	(Westchester Chapter)
3rd Vice-President	Julian Banner
4th Vice-President	Sol Hulnick
Financial Secretary	Maxwell Schachter
Corresponding Secretary	Ann Greenberg
Recording Secretary	Margaret Riva
Treasurer	Irving Shiller

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Two-Year Term

Ruth Bennett	Leonard Levin	Robert Seaman
(Sullivan County)	James McConnell	(Nassau County)
Minna Bober	(Suffolk County)	Joseph Tholl
Edward Fliegel	Rose Nussbaum	(Capitol District)
George Hirsch	Alice Pearlstein	Lou Yonofsky
Irving Krakoff		

One-Year Term

Charles Campana

The following are Board Members who still have one year to serve and will not be on the ballot this year.

Maxwell Herman	Evelyn Shulman
Maxwell Kallor	Sol Stich
Dr. Frederick Kleinberg	Edward Weyer, Jr.
Sidney Leviton	William Weaver
Burton Loewer	(Westchester County)
	Sid Werbin

Subcommittees Active

Considerable progress has been reported by two subcommittees of the Study of Mental Retardation in New York State authorized by Governor Dewey last year and being continued this year.

Two phases of the Study are now being actively investigated by the Subcommittee on the Incident or Prevalence of Mental Retardation and the Subcommittee on the Education of the Mentally Retarded. The Prevalence Study is being conducted by Dr. Melvin Goodman of the Mental Health Commission. Onondaga has been chosen as the county to be studied. The last report indicates that exhaustive efforts are being made to discover how many mentally retarded there are and the problems, physical, educational and social that arise from this condition. Preliminary reports to the Advisory Committee to the Study, of which Jerry Weingold is a member, indicate that the prevalence of mental retardation will not be far from the figures now being used by Parents and Professional groups.

An interesting development, and one of great significance to the whole country, is the proposal for an intensive study of mental retardation in a rural setting. The objective of this study, according to its proposer, Dr. Abrams of the Mental Health Commission, is to make a social investigation of mentally retarded children in a rural community, their relationship to school, to the family, their friends and community agencies.

The study of the education of the mentally retarded is being conducted by Teachers College, under the direction of Dr. Maurice Fouracre, Director of Special Education there. Thus far all Low I. Q. classes in New York City (31), all classes conducted by Parents Groups, all classes in private schools and those in State Schools have been investigated. An interesting and important part of the study is the social study of the family and the community. Dr. Fouracre reports this completed. Results will soon be presented to the Advisory Committee. It is hoped that a complete picture of what exists educationally, and the gaps, will be thoroughly presented with recommendations proposed by the Advisory Committee.

At the offices of the AHRC, Jerry Weingold, member of the Advisory Committee stated, "Though progress is painfully slow for the parents waiting, it is being made. The committee has voted unanimously to ask for a continuation of the State grant for next year." Enough has been learned, he added, to become the basis for legislation this year and we hope that action will not be postponed in the face of an obvious need.

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.

GRamercy 3-4875

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

Chartered by the State of New York
February, 1949

Affiliated with National Association for Retarded Children, Inc.

President: BERNARD M. FINESON

Executive Director and Editor: JOSEPH T. WEINGOLD

President's Message . . .

We enter upon another year of our concerted efforts in helping retarded children with a new strength and determination born of the firm knowledge that solid advances have been attained in the year just past and prospects for further achievements are good indeed. This is not to say that the road before us is without its pitfalls, roadblocks and traffic snarls in the form of ignorance, indifference and misconceptions. However, we do know that such difficulties have been overcome in some segments of the community, and some day will be overcome in the entire world we live in.

No longer are we a small group working almost alone. One of the most encouraging aspects of our experience has been the rapidly growing awareness on the part of the general public of the nature of the problem we face, and the ever increasing willingness to participate in our crusade.

In so far as the parents are concerned, probably no therapy has been so effective in combating their unwarranted feeling of shame in having a retarded child as is the changing communal atmosphere from outright hostility to apathy to interested enlightenment, understanding and approval.

But much remains to be done, and in seeking to reach our goals we should keep ever before us the ideal that what we want for our children is what they are entitled to as a matter of right, and not just by way of sufferance. Moreover, our task lies not alone with the general public, but also with those parents who either have not participated in the necessary work in any way or who have been content to ride along on the coattails of others more willing to make sacrifices for the common need.

Therefore, may I urge all of you to take part in this great crusade, great in its aims and goals, if not yet in its attainments. Volunteer for committees, or help in the schools or with social groups or in the workshops or in fund raising or in the routine of the office work. We must work, and work hard, to achieve our primary goal of a complete, purposeful and useful life (to the extent of his abilities) for each retarded child. As this new season begins, resolve faithfully to do your share.

The NARC (An Editorial)

There may still be some who do not know for what the initials above stand for. They are National Association for Retarded Children. This is the organization welding together all the parents groups in the country into a unified association, combining the strength of all.

We, in the AHRC, are proud to be associated with its beginning and its growth. It began, we may say, with the panel of parents at the May, 1950 convention of the American Association on Mental Deficiency in Columbus, Ohio. To that meeting went Jerry Weingold at the invitation of the AAMD and with a directive from the Board of AHRC to call for the formation of a National organization of Parents Groups. It was there that Jerry Weingold read his paper "Parents Groups and the Problem of Mental Retardation." It was there that the parents first met and chose Minneapolis as the site of the first, organizing National Convention. It was at that momentous meeting in Columbus that a Steering Committee, consisting of Alan Sampson (later first President of the NARC), Harold Bieber of California (now deceased), Eleanor Hayes of Massachusetts, Alfred Kamm of Ohio and Jerry Weingold, was chosen. That Steering Committee brought in a set of purposes for a National Organization which is included, almost verbatim, as the aims and purposes of the NARC.

At the Minneapolis Convention, AHRC was represented on the Nominating Committee and chairmanships of Publicity and Constitution and By-Laws Committees. Our own Woodhull Hay, as the first secretary of NARC, probably did more than any single individual to relate the National to Parents. He was the second president of NARC when he died.

From the Minneapolis convention where only twelve states were represented we now come to the Fourth Convention in Chicago where every state in the union is expected to send delegates. This is phenomenal growth, but NARC is still young and needs help, much help.

Yes, we in AHRC can look back with pride, but we must also look ahead. Active members have been receiving CHILDREN LIMITED, the NARC newspaper, but how many have become subscribers? We send out thousands of copies of OCV, many to non-members. What of you? Will you support NARC, the parents National Association?

We believe that this is the least you can do. It is only \$1.00 a year, or \$1.50 for a two-year subscription. Even if you get CHILDREN LIMITED for nothing, won't you send your dollar now to LEE MARINO, TREASURER NARC, P. O. BOX 857, WALL STREET STATION, NEW YORK 5, NEW YORK.

We have helped give it life; let us help it grow!

GIFT FROM AMERICAN CAN COMPANY

A donation of 15,000 cans from the American Can Company for use in the coming AHRC campaign in the New York area is hereby gratefully acknowledged.

A can campaign is fruitful as we all know in direct proportion to the amount of cooperation from volunteers from industries and stores. These can cut down costs of distribution, increases the revenue per unit.

So a gift of cans is a very real and valuable contribution to all of us and our children. Thanks to the company are heartfelt. This represents real community acceptance.

Sheltered Workshop Featured On Radio and TV Programs

Summer activities of publicity saw Lou Schwartz of our sheltered workshop reveal unusual poise and talent as a spokesman for our cause. Rudolph Hormuth and Alice Perlstein were also seen and heard to their credit.

We don't know whether it is the charm and beauty of our staff or the soundness of their presentation, but neither Mr. Schwartz nor Mr. Hormuth seem to be possessed of the TV assets of Dagmar. We cannot help but conclude that their success on radio and TV is due to the infinite variety possible in dealing with the many facets of mental retardation as well as to the sincere and well prepared manner in which what they have to say was presented.

After an initial appearance on the Maggie McNellis show, late in July. Mr. Schwartz was a member of a panel consisting of Alice Perlstein, Rudolph Hormuth and himself. They discussed twenty pertinent questions on the Coffee Club WAAT, August fourth. This was pronounced by the show producers the most interesting discussion the program had ever featured. As a consequence, the entire panel was invited to a repeat performance on September 4th . . . where again they managed to be excellent. August 6th, Lou Schwartz appeared on the Dumont program. "Food For Thought", and on the Virginia Graham evening radio program that same day. Miss Graham, in fact, became so enthusiastic about our work that she invited Jane Patterson to appear September 9th to talk about the AHRC schools. Then on September 3, Lou rode again, this time to hit a startling jackpot on the WOR program, "Wonderful City". To his complete surprise, the program presented the workshop with a complete set of Proto-tools, an ironing board, a mix-master, and a contact with a firm that will give work to the shop.



LEE BOWMAN



HAM FISHER

Cartoonist Ham Fisher made a nice plea for AHRC too, on the Dumont program, "Where Was I", July 29th. On "Strike It Rich", August 26th, and "Twenty Questions", August 28th, Lee Bowman made a stirring plea for AHRC and our children.

A small item in the "New York Times" during the last week in July which described the revised Speaker's Manual, the Projects Manual and other materials available through the office resulted in dozens of requests for the Manual which is a dollar fifty.

OUTDOOR ADVERTISING TO CARRY AHRC MESSAGE

The five boroughs of New York City, Nassau, Suffolk, Westchester, Fulton, Schenectady and Albany counties are the sites of the beginning of a wonderful new way to proclaim the story of retarded children . . . Billboards—simple, almost starkly so, but extremely dramatic and effective, the signs are red and white with two children at the center, one the sad-faced little boy we have seen on the cannisters and the other, a robust little fellow with a baseball bat. Designed by one of our parents, Harry Kirchner, the billboards will occupy space donated by General Outdoor Advertising Company, Disosway and Fisher, Peconic Outdoor Advertising Co., Schenectady Outdoor Advertising Company and Fulton County Poster Advertising Company.

Our own Ben Egan of Rockville Center and Mr. and Mrs. Parker James are responsible for the contacts. Without them this campaign would not have been possible.

CALLING ALL WOMEN . . .

Once again, in October, the AHRC is opening a can campaign in the New York area. Everything looks as though it could be the most successful in our history. Radio spot announcements are promised to back it up as never before. There will be more extensive efforts to get our cans into stores and restaurants and much handsomer cans than we ever had before.

BUT . . . as everyone knows there is no substitute for dames, WOMEN—long ones, thin ones, plump ones, young ones and those who aren't giving out the date of birth—WE NEED YOU ALL. Our cans in women's hands, with a woman's voice sincerely asking, that's what will make the campaign go over.

PLEASE . . . women, answer our call. Help us to help our children with a little of your spare time . . . **CALL ANNE GITTER, Chairman of Cannister Volunteers, BU. 2-7082.** Or write to the AHRC office.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

For the CAN CAMPAIGN. It will take only a little of your time. Call ANNIE GITTER, BU. 2-7082. Or write to the AHRC office.

"REDBOOK" PICKS SYRACUSE TO TELL PARENTS STORY

The "Redbook" story of the work of the Syracuse Chapter of AHRC will be in the November issue, appearing on the stands October 23. Although the story is about Syracuse it really tells of the work that many parents groups are doing throughout the country. It will be a message of encouragement to all who are interested in the welfare and happiness of retarded children. The AHRC is proud of the part it played in interesting "Redbook" in doing this article.

Ernest N. Roselle Addresses AHRC Meeting

Superintendent of Southbury Training School Tells of New Horizons for Retarded

The members of the AHRC were fortunate to hear Mr. Ernest N. Roselle, Superintendent of the famous Southbury Training School in Connecticut at the first Fall meeting held September 29th, at the Central Needle Trades High School.

Mr. Roselle, a native of Pennsylvania, was for ten years the executive director of the world famous Child City of Loyal Order of Moose, located in Mooseheart, Illinois. When the Southbury Training School was beginning to be planned, Mr. Roselle, in 1936, was called to Connecticut. He had a major part in developing the Training School, now becoming widely known as one of the most complete schools of its type in the country.

As the title of his talk, CHANGING SOME LIABILITIES TO ASSETS IN OUR SOCIAL STRUCTURE suggests, Mr. Roselle stressed the positive aspects of the mentally retarded and how we can make assets of the youngsters instead of liabilities. Understanding and training are the keynotes for this program.

He also spoke of the role of parents groups and the partnership that must be developed between them and the professionals if the retarded child is to have his full opportunity for growth and development. In a memorable statement, parents were given an insight into the philosophy of men like Mr. Roselle, dedicated to our children.

NATIONAL CONVENTION OCTOBER 15 - 17

Record Attendance Expected in Chicago . . .

The Fourth Annual Convention of the National Association for Retarded Children will be held this year at the Conrad-Hilton Hotel in Chicago on October 15th, 16th and 17th.

Besides business sessions, the convention will include a series of workshops including Sheltered Workshops, Clinics, Community Schools, Institution Standards, Legislation, Publicity and Fund Raising.

It is expected that delegates from every state will participate and hear such speakers as Dr. Grover Powers, Professor Emeritus of Pediatrics, Yale Medical School and Chairman of the Scientific Research Committee of NARC; Dr. Samuel A. Kirk, Professor of Education, University of Illinois, and Ray Graham, Director Division of Education of Exceptional Children, Illinois, and a valiant fighter for the educational rights of the retarded.

The AHRC in New York will be represented by President Bernard M. Fineson, Rose Nussbaum, George Hirsch and Joseph T. Weingold.

STATISTICS (VITAL)

Did you know that out of every 100,000 population there are:

- 15 blind
- 7 cerebral palsied
- 7.26 polio victims
- 200 rheumatic heart patients

AND (on the basis of 3% of the population)
3,000 MENTALLY RETARDED?

National Research Advisors Hold Two-Day Conference



PARTICIPANTS IN CONFERENCE ON FORMATION OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO NARC. Left to right, seated, Drs. Samuel Kirk, Director, Institute for Research on Exceptional Children, University of Illinois; Leo Kanner, director, Children's Psychiatric Services, Johns Hopkins; Grover Powers, Chairman of the Committee and Professor Emeritus of Pediatrics, Yale Medical School; George Stevenson, Medical Director, National Association for Mental Health, F. Winternitz, National Research Council. Standing, left to right, Mrs. Lenore Davidson, Chairman, Research Committee, NARC; Mrs. Alice Fitz Gerald, Associate Director, Association for the Aid of Crippled Children. Dr. Abner Wolf, Professor of Neurology, Columbia; Leonard Mayo, Executive Director, Association for the Aid of Crippled Children; Dr. Herman Yannet, Director, Medical Department, Southbury Training School; Dr. Randolph Byers, Chief, Neurological Clinic, Boston Children's Hospital; Dr. Allen Guttmacher, Chief of Maternity Services, Mt. Sinai Hospital; Dr. Daniel C. Darrow, Director Pediatrics, Yale Medical School; John Eberhardt, National Health Institute, Dr. Edgar Doll, Director Research Devereaux School.

Members of a new committee of research advisors now in formation for the National Association of Retarded Children met in New York September 15th and 16th for discussions of plans rapidly taking shape for a program of research to be sponsored by the National Association for Retarded Children.

Representatives of several governmental health and rehabilitation agencies, leading doctors in the field of mental retardation, pediatric specialists and mental health authorities were present. The role of parents groups and the NARC was explained by Mrs. Sidney Davidson, Chairman of the Research Committee of the NARC. Research in mental retardation, long neglected, cannot be brought about with the wave of a wand or even the holding of a meeting. But action is now begun. We can mark here another milestone in the road along which parents of retarded children have come, a milestone reached with amazing speed when you come to think of it, although at times it does seem as though we move slowly in terms of all that needs to be done.

State Convention September 25 and 26

BROOME COUNTY CHAPTER HOST

The last State Convention of the Association was held at the Arlington Hotel in Binghamton on Saturday and Sunday, September 25th and 26th. The Broome County Chapter was host.

This proved to be one of the most important conventions held by the AHRC. The format was deliberately planned to give maximum time to all the delegates for discussion on each item on the agenda. One of the most important topics for discussion was legislation. It is hoped that plans worked out for an all out campaign to bring our program to the attention of all the legislators on a state and local basis will come to fruition.

Two extremely important resolutions came out of the Convention, one dealing with the retarded child in the community, and the other with institutions.

The first resolution concerned itself with the building of a state institution in Western New York. The Convention members went on record as favoring smaller institutions on the cottage plan type of the Southbury Training School idea, and opposed to any plan which contemplates one large institution to house 5000 patients. The second resolution placed the Association firmly on record that it would pursue its plans for the broadening of the education laws to provide public education facilities for the more severely retarded in the community and provide the same educational opportunities for the mentally retarded now extended to the physically handicapped.

The Association will seek the cooperation of other parents groups to discuss the new institution with the New York State Department of Mental Hygiene. It is also expected to redouble efforts in the legislative area. Plans will be announced soon.

At the office of the Association, President Bernard M. Fineson stated, "Our growth is so rapid and so many problems arise that it is of the utmost importance that chapters exchange views and reach an understanding of all we want to do. This Association, after all, belongs to and has its being in every group and parent in the state."

"I hope," he added, "that this convention will launch a successful legislative program, coordinate our projects and state a common philosophy."

REVISED SPEAKERS MANUAL READY

Other Pamphlets Now Available

The SPEAKERS MANUAL, a handbook for parents and others called upon to speak on mental retardation or the parents organization, originally prepared last year by Executive Director Joseph T. Weingold and Public Relations Consultant Gladys Thomas, has been revised and brought up to date. It is now ready for distribution.

A number of other manuals and pamphlets are also available to groups and individuals. Following is a list, with prices:

Speakers Manual	\$1.50
Projects Manual50
Report of a School Training Program For Trainable Mentally Retarded Children, Prof. Louis E. Rosenzweig50
Parents Groups and the Problem of Mental Retardation, J. T. Weingold20
And their Parents, J. T. Weingold and Rudolf P. Hormuth20
Our Children's Voice (One year's Subscription)	1.00
3 R's for the Retarded, published by NARC50

Please mail all requests to the office.

Famous Parent To Speak to Us November 17th



PEARL S. BUCK

Members and friends of retarded children in the New York area will have an additional cause for Thanksgiving this November because of an opportunity to hear Pearl Buck speak at the general meeting of the Association to be held Tuesday evening, November 17th, at the Washington Irving High School Auditorium, 40 Irving Place (near 17th Street), Manhattan.

She will bring to us once again her inspirational message of strength through unity and dedication to the end of creating a climate of public opinion that will make this a better world for our children.

AHRC STIMULATES SYNDICATED COLUMNIST TO PUBLICIZE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Mildred Lawrence, syndicated newspaper writer, whose column, THE MATURE PARENT, appears in five hundred newspapers including the "New York Telegram", listened with eyes that grew larger and larger with increased amazement and pleasure as she heard Rudolph Hormuth, trained psychiatric social worker and assistant to our executive director, explain that mentally retarded children can be helped and most certainly are proving the worth of services offered them. She had sought us out because she had received so many letters from mothers with the problem of raising a retarded child. She had not dreamed that there was so much to tell them, so much that was inspiring, she said.

A visit to an AHRC clinic, a talk with a doctor, opened her eyes and stimulated her typewriter even more. The result was three columns, not just the one Miss Lawrence had planned for this Fall. Later on, she says, there will just have to be several more about our children and what can be done by those who want to help them. The three columns stress the national character of the parents groups and the National Association for Retarded Children.

Chapter News

WESTCHESTER CHAPTER ENGAGES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Westchester Chapter has become the first unit in the state to engage a full time executive director. She is Miss Eliabeth W. Buck of Wantagh, L. I. Miss Buck has had long experience in administrative and organizational work, much of it with the mentally retarded. She spent several years on the social service staff of Letchworth Village and had charge of the community relations program of Southbury Training School.

At the office of the chapter in Pelham Manor, William Weaver, newly-elected president, said, "We feel that the work of the AHRC in this large county will progress much more rapidly now. No doubt, too, all of us will work harder than ever because of the additional projects Miss Buck will find for us to do."

OTHER WESTCHESTER NEWS

George Tiplady has resigned as director of public relations after fourteen months. One of the last tasks he did was the preparation and editing, with art work and make-up by Stan Chamberlain, of a ninety-two page booklet, **HELP FOR RETARDED CHILDREN**, issued by the chapter. Contributors include Pearl S. Buck, Dr. Leo Kanner, Dr. Arthur E. Hill, Dr. Seymour Sarason, Frank Graham, Richard Hungerford, Dr. Helen Braem, Chris DeProspo, Jerry Weingold and others. Copies are available to other chapters.

The Westchester School has just been accredited by the New York State Board of Regents, the first parents operated school for retarded children in the state to receive this recognition. It has reopened with 50 children.

SULLIVAN COUNTY

Has placed coin boxes in the hotels and stores of that well known summer resort. Planned is a dance and entertainment at the Concord Hotel on October 6. A journal is being gotten up in connection with it. Other news is sparse because most of the residents of Sullivan County leave there for summer vacations elsewhere. Oh, yes, Sullivan has put out a new leaflet, describing their work. Very attractive.

NASSAU COUNTY

We do know that Nassau has distributed very attractive cans and had a bang up baseball game between celebrities in the entertainment and sports world, the proceeds of which went to the chapter. BUT we cannot get details—names, etc. We do know that about 3,500 people attended in Rockville Center and it was a great success.

Please, Nassau, more details.

LETTER CARRIERS HELP SCHENECTADY FUND DRIVE

After a thorough investigation, the Letter Carriers' Union of Schenectady took the house to house campaign of AHRC's fund drive as their Retarded Children's Drive. After work, from the hours of 6 P. M. to 8 P. M., on June 26th, the letter carriers went to each home to collect a contribution after having prepared every one with a letter stating their support and that the letter carriers would be around at that time. With a goal of \$15,300 in the drive, more than \$11,000 was collected by the letter carriers to put the drive over the top with more than \$22,000. An interesting detail was that all who wanted to contribute were asked to leave their "Lights ON" in their homes that evening.

CAPITAL DISTRICT

Reports that two rooms have been made available to them in a public school in Albany; that the school enrollment has increased from 15 to 35 and more teachers are being engaged. Fund raising activities this summer included a Fashion Show and a benefit performance at the Malden Bridge Playhouse summer theatre, writes Joe Tholl, President.

BROOME COUNTY

Is all involved being host to the State Convention. We did receive a copy of the President's Report (Glenn Young) and note great activity in their school, housed in public school space. Found it necessary to get their own station wagon, too. Probably much more to report after the state convention.

SUFFOLK COUNTY STIMULATES P. S. SPECIAL CLASSES

Some of the best news we have received is from Suffolk, one of the newer chapters, where much effort is being made to stimulate the formation of special classes in districts where they do not exist. They report two such classes formed and another in preparation.

EAST ISLIP, L. I. NEEDS A TEACHER FOR A CLASS IN P. S. SALARY \$3000. to \$3500. to Begin. If interested, write to PRINCIPAL, EAST ISLIP SCHOOL, EAST ISLIP, L. I., and mention that AHRC suggested that he or she call.

While running an eight-week summer camp, the chapter also had a most successful card party with over 400 guests attending, and a Fashion Show and Dance run by the officers' wives at the air base in Washington Beach.

MONROE COUNTY

Is engaged in a Building Drive with the aid of many community organizations. This, of course, is to house the chapter and the Day Care Center servicing 50 retarded children, 20 with cerebral palsy and 30 without.

The program is under the direction of Naomi Chamberlain, co-author with Dorothy Moss, Secretary of the NARC of **THREE R's FOR THE RETARDED**, a guide for parents in home care and training.

AHRC ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN AND PARENTS RESUME

Are we getting older or are the seasons really shorter? It seems anyway that only a night or so ago we were typing about the annual dinner and summing up the season's end. But it really was last spring. Now again classes in Brooklyn and the Bronx have reopened, with the nursery group being integrated into the Joshua School space, the clinics at Flower Fifth and Jewish Hospital are once more in full swing, the social groups begin about October 15, with an additional group in Manhattan and another one in Queens. Parent Education and School for Mothers registration is open and plans are being made for another training center and workshop to service Bronx, Manhattan and Queens.

Already we can see more to do than ever, more people who need us and call on us. Always it comes back to needing more staff, more resources, more money for those who need so much and have been neglected for so long.

Women, all New York City women who read this, please call to sign up for the AHRC Can Campiagn. Anne Gitter, BU. 2-7082, or write to the Office.

Boroughs Plan Fall Functions

BROOKLYN

With the coming of cool weather, the boroughs of New York City are again humming with plans for fund raising functions for the fall.

Ed Fliegel, Chairman of the Brooklyn Card Party Committee, informs us that the Great Annual Brooklyn Card Party takes place Wednesday evening, November 18th, at Menora Temple, 50th Street and 14th Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y. Subscription is \$1.00.

Ed also requests donations of merchandise to be sold or used as door prizes. Anything at all which has resale value, he says. Ed can be reached at 1680 E. 22nd Street, Brooklyn 29, N. Y. Telephone is CL. 8-2005.

BRONX

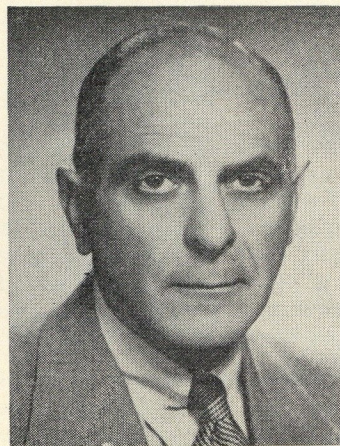
Not to be outdone, the active chairman of Bronx functions, Cy Chicquor, announces the Bronx Card Party at Elsmere Hall, 284 East 170th Street, Bronx, on Thursday evening, October 29th. The same request for merchandise and help. Get in touch with Cy at TA. 9-5592. He lives at 1594 Metropolitan Avenue, Bronx.

QUEENS

We know that Arlyne Bernstein and her co-chairmen are bursting with plans. So won't all you residents of Queens call her at Hollis 5-0473 and really pitch in to make 1953 the best yet. Incidentally, Queens has been working this summer, too, and recently sent in a check for \$103. raised out of nothing special.

PARENT EDUCATION AND SCHOOL FOR MOTHERS

Registration is still open for these two courses. Register by mail. If your child is under six, register for School For Mothers; over six, Parent Education.



AHRC PROFILE . . .

JULIAN BANNER

**Member
Board of Directors**

In Julian Banner, we have one of those rare occurrences, a person who was actually born in Manhattan. And his parents, too, were born Manhattanites. Well, Julian was born on East 71st Street, Manhattan, on January 14, 1903. As expected, he thinks "The Sidewalks of New York" the best song written.

Was graduated from Public School 10, Manhattan, and attended the High School of Commerce. He entered the insurance business in 1926 and married in 1927.

These are the meager facts we have been able to get from Julian by constant nagging, but even if much more elaborate in detail, the facts would not begin to tell us about the Julian Banner who is a member of the AHRC.

A member from that first general meeting in December, 1948, he was on the Steering Committee that built the structure of the AHRC. In fact, many of the meetings were held at his house, with Dora Banner serving the elaborate collations (or was it libations). A member of the first Dinner Committee and later Chairman of two subsequent Dinner Committees, his untiring efforts accounted for much of the success of those functions. And we all know that the AHRC would not be doing what it is if not for those fund-raising efforts. Not content with that job, he has been active on the Budget Committee and his sound business sense, seasoned with an understanding of what the retarded child should have, has helped keep our keel even and enabled us to expand our projects. And not to be forgotten is that the family contribution includes Dora Banner through whose efforts the Joshua League was attracted to our cause.

And incidentally, Julian, in giving us that very brief resume of his life, ends with "Wife as young as ever."

They have one child, charming Susan, born May 1, 1931, who attends the Perkins School.

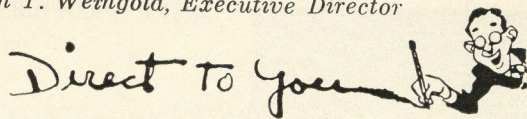
TO OUR NON-MEMBER READERS:

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).



It is a good thing for any organization to stand off, now and then, and examine its philosophy, and restate it clearly and concisely. Hard working organizations, and I include the AHRC among such, are so immersed in **implementing** their philosophy that they scarcely have the time to stop and define it. But now, at the time of our State and National Conventions, it is fitting to see how well our functions express our philosophy.

To cite examples of how necessary this defining of philosophy is, let us look at two major causes. The American Cancer Society and The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

American Cancer has this philosophy: "Cancer can strike anyone but we are not helpless against it. We can strike back . . . by educating ourselves to seek detection examinations early enough in the course of the disease and by financing research."

Thus, when the Society is accused of not taking care of cancer patients medically, or not doing anything for this or that person, the answer is that if as a group the American Cancer Society were to undertake the care of all cancer patients who are in need, the cost would be more than all the money raised by all the Community Chests of the country. This wouldn't be striking back at cancer but letting cancer prevent ACS from acting according to their philosophy of progress . . . better detection techniques . . . better informed doctors . . . research.

In the case of the Polio Foundation, the philosophy is that no one family or community can be prepared to cope with crippling forms of polio when it strikes . . . it is a disease that must be combatted by pooled resources. A community, family should not have to meet this catastrophe alone. Research shock troops sent in when epidemic hits . . . total resources for each case are the implementation of this philosophy.

Let us examine the AHRC philosophy. Briefly, I believed we stand for these things:

1. **All** retarded children, wherever they are, can be helped.
2. As children, the mentally retarded, along with all others have a basic right to the development of their innate capacities to the utmost.
3. Special services needed by the parents, family members and mentally retarded children should be available to answer the specialized needs stemming from mental retardation . . . in the community for children living at home . . . in an institutional setting for those who live in institutions.
4. Public education, inducements to personnel in the field of retardation and research, both medical and educational, are part of answering the needs of retarded children, as are efforts to influence legislation and improve institutions.
5. That within this philosophy, we must work with authorities to increase and improve the services now being rendered.
6. That within this philosophy the parents must help themselves by creating the special services not now in existence and thus, by demonstration, accelerate practical action to help **all** the children, **BUT** . . .

BROOKLYN CUB SCOUT PACK FOR RETARDED BOYS IN FORMATION

Through the joint efforts of the AHRC and the Boy Scouts of America, Cub Scout Pack No. 529 is at present in process of formation. The Pack includes retarded boys, aged 8 to 14, living in Brooklyn, who have had some group experience, preferably in the special classes in the public schools. Some of the dens have already been meeting during the summer and a training program for the Den Mothers is well under way. The program basically is that for any Cub Scout Pack, but in certain areas achievements are geared to the capabilities of the boys.

Pack No. 529 will be the first group for retarded boys organized in a community in the eastern part of the United States. If the group functions successfully, it is hoped that a pattern of organization and program can be evolved for the formation of similar groups throughout the city and State.

Sparked by the late Alexander Russotto, Mrs. Alice Pearlstein and Rudolf Hormuth, the present organization was achieved through the untiring efforts of Ed. Wertkin, Irving Cohen and Victor Wolvek and a corps of training personnel from the Boy Scouts of America.

Brooklyn parents who are interested in this program, write Mr. Rudolf Hormuth at the AHRC office for further information.

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7. Special services for the mentally retarded are rightfully the responsibility of the entire community and not only of the parents of mentally retarded children alone.

According to this philosophy, the children in Special Classes in Public Schools, the children in the institutions and those in the community without facilities are our concern; the young and the teen-agers and the adults; the white and the black; and the parents who influence them.

What all parents groups are trying to do **cannot** be stopped; but it may be impeded by those who plead special causes, parents who think only of their own problems and give lip service only to an overall philosophy.

I was honored at the very first convention of the National Association (it did not have a name then) in Minneapolis in 1950 to make the address on behalf of the parents at the banquet. I believe that what I said then bears repeating and states our philosophy.

"The driving love we have for our children can be harnessed as a positive force to telescope in time the accomplishments delayed for centuries: let no insular or selfish view of the problem of retardation hinder or cloud our objectives. Too frequently our personal problems or what seems to be a personal solution color our **thinking** and blind us to the overall aims, the encompassing philosophy that should guide us. Let us remember that we are dedicated to all the children, whether in public schools, at home, or in institutions, whether mongoloid, brain injured, or whatnot. Let us dedicate ourselves to this proposition: that every retarded child **in every situation** deserves and must get the opportunity to achieve his or her maximum development within his or her capacity. This is their birthright as Americans. This is not the most, but the least they should expect from us."

IN THE **AHRC** LIGHT

RT. REV. MSGR. JOSEPH B. TOOMEY



Director of Catholic Charities of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Syracuse and charged with the responsibility of directing the operation of six branch offices of Catholic Charities in Central New York located at Syracuse, Utica, Rome, Binghamton, Endicott and Oswego, the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Joseph B. Toomey is also Pastor of St. John the Evangelist Church in Syracuse.

He is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame and completed his theological training at St. Bernard's Seminary in Rochester, New York. Following his ordination he attended the Fordham University School of Social Service in New York City and has been actively associated with the Catholic Charities movement for over twenty years.

He is a former President of the National Conference of Catholic Charities as well as a former President of the New York State Welfare Conference. A member of the Administrative Board of the Catholic Hospital Association of the United States and a Trustee of the National Health and Welfare Retirement Association, Monsignor Toomey was Chairman of the section on the Mentally Retarded under the program of the New York State Citizens Committee of 100 on Children and Youth, and continues his interest as a member of the Board of Visitors to the Syracuse State School and as an active participant in the Onondaga Chapter of the AHRC.

A mere outline of the highlights of Monsignor Toomey's work does not begin to tell the great and vital interest he has in the mentally retarded and their parents. Only those who have worked with him or had the honor and pleasure of hearing his talk as principal speaker at the 1952 AHRC dinner can know the depth of that interest.

The AHRC Light shines on Monsignor Toomey for his great understanding of the problems of mentally retarded children and their families; for his translation of this interest into action; for his forthright sponsoring of the Syracuse parents at the beginning of the organization; for his insistence that the Citizens Committee Report have **all** the facts and embrace the AHRC point of view; for his readiness, in an enormously busy life, to help at all times and in all ways to make the retarded accepted and respected members of the community.



MEET OUR CHILDREN....

THEA LAVENDER

Thea's mother has written us such a sweet and understanding letter with the snapshot of her little girl, that we feel we can add nothing and are going to let it speak for itself.

"I have long wanted," she writes, "to send you a picture of my daughter, Thea, who was nine years old on March 24th, but I felt that I had nothing of importance to add.

However, I am encouraged by the sweet and straightforward letter of Mrs. Alice Marsh, who writes of the loneliness of her little boy.

Thea has started to read in the first pre-primers—has learned to hit a tennis ball and a ping-pong ball (played her first, of course), has begun to read and play piano music, and loves to socialize with our own adult good friends, in the tennis and music worlds.

However, she is still a lonesome child; no one comes to play with her, and I have recently begun to think and plan in terms of a foster child 'sister' for her, in a year or less. We are saving her clothes and toys for the "other girl" with Thea's intense and glad cooperation; she has even set aside valise (and toothbrush, etc.) for her, for "her luggage," when 'she' comes.

We hope through the medium of your magazine (**our magazine**, Ed.), and the "Meet the Children" column, and your wonderful organization, to do 'our bit' some day soon, and give our love to another lonely child co-jointly with our own.

With my most earnest and warmest good wishes to A. H. R. C.,

Sincerely yours,

ANNE LAVENDER.

UNIVERSITY COURSE FOR PARENTS

New York University, Division of Adult Education, is offering a course for parents this year under the direction of Cecelia Randeberg who has been for many years a teacher of mentally retarded in New Jersey.

According to the prospectus, "The course aims to develop a realistic understanding of these children and to assist the parent in overcoming the barriers in the path of the fullest social, educational, and vocational development possible within the mental limitations of the child."

States President Fineson, "This concern of a University with the **parents** of the mentally retarded is indeed a great step forward and makes us feel that the philosophy of AHRC is being understood and accepted."

Property of The Arc NY

Letters to the Editor...

EDITOR'S NOTE: Feeling that all parents of retarded children should make common cause, the AHRC has extended what help it could to many throughout the country and even the world. Sometimes it was to help an individual parent, sometimes a group with an organization problem, and sometimes an established group with material, etc. These are just a few of the hundreds of letters from such people and groups.

Allentown, Pa.

Dear Mr. Weingold:

The Lehigh County group from P.A.R.C. (Pennsylvania Association for Retarded Children) who visited you and the Sheltered Workshop want to thank you for the privilege which you extended them.

We were indeed thrilled to see your set-up as an organization . . . I was so happy to see "Association for the Help of Retarded Children" written on the street level door.

. . . A visit to your workshop should convince a doubtful person that it is worth while.

As we returned we felt that some of our own ideas were confirmed and that we had a clearer idea of the whole set-up. I am sure that we are off to a good start with our plans and that we shall be able to open our sheltered workshop in September.

Please pass on to Mr. Schwartz our appreciation. . . . We enjoyed talking to Mrs. Pearlstein who was also of much help in explaining the entire program. Our experiences of the day gave us more courage and insight so that we are better able to go ahead with our plans.

Sincerely yours,

ELMA L. MAJOR.

Des Moines, Iowa

Dear Mr. Weingold:

Thank you for your letter of August 18th and the literature which you sent me earlier. I am sure I will get a lot of ideas from it . . . I had subscribed to the paper published by the National Association . . . Our group has been growing this summer and we hope to be formally organized in the near future. Again thank you and your organization for all the help you have given us.

Sincerely yours,

JENNIE F. McDONNALL.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE HELP OF RETARDED CHILDREN, INC.

323 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

Reno, Nevada

Dear Sir:

My husband and I would like to express our gratitude for your kindness and help concerning our little Jayvee. . . .

Thank you, too, for referring our situation to Mr. John F. Pero, Risse, Colorado. His letter contained helpful suggestions. It is unfortunate for us that our state is so lacking in organization and teaching facilities for our retarded children.

Once again, I would like to express our thanks for your interest and help.

Very sincerely,

Mrs. V. B. SCHAEFER.

Minneapolis, Minn.

Dear Mr. Weingold:

This letter is long overdue. I have told many others, but not you of my deep gratitude for the very real help that you gave me one day nearly two years ago, when I visited New York on a trip through the East in search of a school for my little boy. (They did find a school. Ed). Our family have all benefitted so greatly from knowing that Johnny is so well off that now we are eager to work hard in our Minneapolis group, to be helpful to others as you were to us. My husband found an office for our group . . . and I got the Junior League to take one phase of our work—the Opportunity Workshop—as their project to support this year . . . Thank you more than I can say,

EDNA CHRISTOPHERSON.

San Francisco, California

Gentlemen:

May I have two copies of the report of a school program for trainable mentally retarded children . . . I would like to have a couple of copies that could be used here in connection with the development of school programs in California.

Sincerely yours,

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE
BUREAU OF SOCIAL WORK,

(Mrs.) Helen Harrick, Psychiatric
Social Worker

**Information Center for Parents of Mentally
Retarded Children**

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