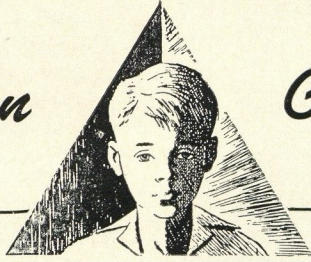


OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE

Retarded Children



Can Be Helped!

VOL. VI. — ISSUE NO. 1

2

MARCH-APRIL, 1954

Legislation For Experiment Passed

Directors and Teachers of AHRC Classes Map Program

The statewide conference of directors and teachers of classes sponsored by the various chapters of the Association for mentally retarded children not attending special classes in the public schools was held Friday and Saturday, February 19th and 20th at the offices of the Association.

More than 100 teachers and educators interested in the mentally retarded discussed a program for the education of the retarded children for whom the state makes no provision in the public school. It is estimated that there are about 10,000 such children in New York State.

OPENING OF TEACHERS' CONFERENCE



Left to right, up front: J. T. Weingold, Helen Kaplan, Nassau, Prof. Chris De Prospe, Prof. Maurice Fouracre.

During the past three years, thirteen chapters of the Association throughout the state have organized and are operating such schools in their own communities. About 450 children attend some 54 classes. Set up on an experimental basis, their purpose is to demonstrate to the community and educators that these children can learn, at least to be socially and economically competent in their own homes or in a sheltered environment, if given proper training.

"Over 80% of all retarded individuals are in the community," stated Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of the Association, "and should be given the opportunity for development to the limits of their capabilities. New York

(Continued on Page 2)

GOVERNOR SENDS SPECIAL MESSAGE ON PART OF AHRC LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

Legislation introduced by Senator Earl Brydges and Assemblyman Samuel Roman to implement a special message of Governor Dewey calling for experimental classes for children with I. Qs. under 50 was unanimously passed at the last session of the legislature.

The Governor's message recommended an appropriation of \$50,000 for the establishment of 12 such classes. Five of the classes will be in the City of New York where the Board of Education has agreed to cooperate in the program. Two more will be conducted in a community outside of New York City where classes for the mentally retarded exist, and five additional classes will be conducted in State Institutions under the jurisdiction of the State Department of Mental Hygiene.

For the classes in New York City, the City has agreed to furnish teachers, classroom space and other needed facilities. Half the appropriation of \$50,000 will be required for the purpose of setting up a professional research team to guide the program and evaluate the results achieved. The State will also pay the cost of transportation of the children to and from the classes and for certain equipment and personnel. The cost of the five classes in State Institutions will be financed out of regular appropriations.

The program is a modification of the experiment proposed in the legislation sponsored by the Association. The original Brydges-Roman bill called for 30 classes, 20 in the community and 10 in State Institutions, under the State Department of Education, with an appropriation of \$200,000. The bill as passed puts the experiment under the Mental Health Commission with the cooperation of the State Department of Mental Hygiene and the State Department of Education.

The recommendations stem from the Mental Health Commission which is doing a study of mental retardation in this state, originally urged by the Association.

In his message, Governor Dewey said, "The new experimental program is to determine the means through which the severely mentally retarded children can be trained and educated to make the fullest use of their capacity. Too little is known about how this can be achieved or what results may be reasonably expected. It is my hope that this project will find that more can be done in the training of these children than has generally heretofore been thought possible."

(Continued on Page 2)

ARE YOU WORKING FOR THE MAY 22 DINNER?

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

Six New Chapters Join AHRC

With the latest additions to the growing family of AHRC Chapters, the Association now speaks for groups from the Canadian border to the tip of Long Island and from the Great Lakes to the eastern borders of the state.

The latest affiliates, in the order in which they were accepted, are Upper Hudson Chapter (Saratoga, Warren, Washington and part of Rensselaer counties), Mrs. G. Lucius Cary, President; Oneida-Herkimer Chapter, Elliott Hunt, President; Ontario Chapter, Mrs. Wm. A. Morehouse, President; Putnam County Chapter, Russell Mahar, President; Clinton County Chapter, George D. Cameron, President; Rockland County Chapter, Mrs. Laura Maroon, President.

In extending a welcome to the new groups, President Fineson said, "Only through a really unified voice can we present the case of all retarded children to the community. It is my devout hope that still more groups will join the AHRC so that no parent in the state will be without representation and a voice."

TEACHERS CONFERENCE

(Continued from Page 1)

State probably has one of the most extensive programs for the public school education of children with I. Q's between 50 and 75, but has not yet recognized its responsibility to the children with I. Q's under 50, those sometimes termed "trainable." (Editor's note. This was written before the bill providing an experiment for such children was passed by the legislature.)

Participating in the conference were Chris De Prospro, Assistant Professor, Special Education, C. C. N. Y., Louis Rosenzweig, Assistant Professor, Special Education, Brooklyn College, Dr. Maurice Fouracre, Head, Department Special Education, Teachers College, Miss Grace Rourke, Supervisor Low I. Q. Classes, N. Y. C. Bureau for CRMD children, Miss Dorothy Cleverdon, Consultant, Play Schools Association, Naomi Chamberlin, Director, Day Care Center for Handicapped Children, Rochester, Dr. Grace Kaczynski, Director, Syracuse AHRC School, Mr. Rudolf Hormuth, Assistant to the Director, AHRC., Elizabeth Buck, Executive Director, Westchester Chapter AHRC., Mrs. Helen Kaplan, Nassau Chapter, AHRC., Mrs. Jane Patterson, Director AHRC Schools in New York City, and Bernard Schneider, Director, Westchester AHRC School.

The conference explored the philosophy of these classes, their administration, curriculum, methods of evaluating the program and goals. Nationwide interest was expressed in the Conference and the Association hopes to broaden the conference next year. Committees were set up to develop many of the facets discussed.

A Happy Beginning

We were going to head this article "A Happy Ending", but we think that what is happening at P. S. 84 in Brooklyn is just a beginning for so many of the mentally retarded children of this state.

Late last year, Col. Arthur Levitt, member of the Board of Education, introduced a resolution asking that public school space in P. S. 235, Brooklyn, be assigned to the three AHRC classes that desperately were seeking a home. Faced with the hostility by the parents of the normal children in P. S. 235, the AHRC asked the Board of Education to change the resolution to a general one, which they graciously did.



Reading from left to right Rabbi Harry Halpern, Col. Arthur Levitt, Member of the Board of Education, and Mrs. Elizabeth O'Daly, Principal of P. S. 84, greeting the children on arrival.

Mrs. Patterson, Director of the AHRC schools in New York City, then began looking for a school with space. Her good fairy, and the guardian angel of the children, led her to P. S. 84, at Stone and Gilmore Avenues, where Mrs. Elizabeth O'Daly is the principal. Her complete sympathy and understanding made us feel that at last we were home; furthermore, her sympathetic handling of the problem gained the support of her own parents group to make for complete cooperation. So, now the 30 children, who never attended class in a school building, are taking their place with the other children.

"You should just see them join in fire drills," says Jane Patterson. "You would think they have been doing it all their lives."

We could not close this happy beginning story without thanking Edna Baer, Executive Director of the New York Child Care Council, and Neil Lieblich, prominent Brooklyn citizen and a member of their Board, for the many days they gave in this effort and their unstinting contribution of time and talent. Our thanks, too, to Rabbi Harry Halpern for his championship and, of course, to Col. Levitt who stuck to his guns and principles in the face of seemingly great opposition. We know their faith will be justified.

LEGISLATION

(Continued from Page 1)

The balance of the AHRC legislative program, calling for a differential of pay of teachers of the handicapped, increased state aid to local school districts for special classes, equal facilities for the mentally retarded as for the physical handicapped and all the provisions tightening the laws for the "educable" mentally retarded, died in committee.

SELL THOSE BOOKS FOR THE DINNER !

Roosevelt Testimonial Dinner Benefits AHRC

SELLOUT AT WALDORF

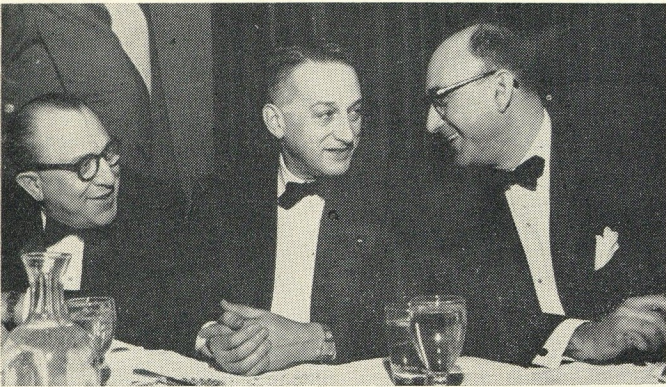
More than 500 people packed the Starlight Room of the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel on Sunday, March 21, when a \$100 a plate testimonial dinner was tendered to the Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr. All proceeds went to the AHRC.



Reading from left to right, Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., Bernard M. Fineson, President, AHRC, and Democratic National Committeeman Hon. Carmine G. DeSapio.

Chairman of the affair was Democratic National Committeeman Carmine G. DeSapio. His co-chairmen were the Honorable Birdie Amsterdam, Justice of the Municipal Court, Samuel M. Bernstein, Premium Coal & Oil Co., Hon. Jacob Markowitz, Justice of the New York State Supreme Court, and Martin Tananbaum, Tanbro Fabrics Corp.

The principal speakers were Congressman Roosevelt and Mayor Robert F. Wagner, who spoke of the great needs of the mentally retarded and the responsibility of the community to meet them. Chairman Carmine DeSapio presented the program of the AHRC and the role it plays in meeting the problem. A most heartrending appeal was made by Judge Birdie Amsterdam.



Reading left to right, Harry Rogers, publisher, West Side News, Col. Arthur Levitt, Board of Education, Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of the AHRC.

The Hon. Gael Sullivan was a most effective and stirring toastmaster. A special award for Community Service to Congressman Roosevelt was made by Martin Tananbaum.

Notables too numerous to mention were present. Seated on the dais were Harry Rogers, publisher of the West Side News; Col. Arthur Levitt, member of the Board of Education; Justice Jacob Markowitz; AHRC President Bernard M. Fineson; Hon. Samuel M. Bernstein, Honorary Deputy Commissioner of Borough Works; Hon. Hulan E. Jack, President, Borough of Manhattan; Justice Birdie Amsterdam; Hon. Car-



Reading left to right Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., Bernard M. Fineson, Hon. Leon Finley, Mayor Robert F. Wagner.

mine G. DeSapio; Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr.; Hon. Robert F. Wagner; Martin Tananbaum; Hon. Gael Sullivan; Hon. Abe Stark, President of the City Council; Hon. Leon Finley, Honorary Deputy Commissioner of Borough Works; Arthur H. Konvitz, Public Relations Director for the AHRC; Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director, AHRC; and the Hon. Aaron Jacoby, Clerk of Surrogates Court.

One of the most gratifying features of this eminently enjoyable evening is the fact that the dinner was so successful financially!

AHRC Publicity Branches Out

The AHRC really put its name on the map in connection with the telethon of March 28. Listings in the Sunday papers and in such publications as TV Guide gave the event a big play, and the entertainment industry's trade press such as 'Variety' gave it both announcements and reviews. Radio-TV columnist John Lester, whose syndicated column appears as far south as Miami, devoted a whole column to discussion of the show both before and after. The broadcasting industry's trade organs like 'Radio Daily' and 'Broadcasting' carried announcements, and columnists like Ed Sullivan, Bob Farrell and many others mentioned it in passing.

The Sunday Times of January 17, 1954 carried the Murray Illson story on the Brooklyn Shelter Workshop, and on February 28, the Times' Dorothy Barclay devoted her weekly Times Magazine page to a discussion of "New Help for the Retarded Child", with prominent and numerous mention of the AHRC.

The March issue of 'New York State Education', an organ of the N. Y. State Teachers Association, contains an article by Rockland County member James D. Maroon entitled "Parents Group Seek Help for Mentally Retarded Children."

The story of Brooklyn's P. S. 84 giving classroom space to our children, hit the local press with pictures. On hand to cover Board of Education member Arthur Levitt's reception of our kids were photographers from the Daily News and the Brooklyn Eagle. In addition to the Daily Mirror and the World-Telegram, the item was mentioned on a television newscast over WPIX on March 21 and on Faye Emerson's Show over WNBC on March 26.

DuMont invited us to have someone discuss the new legislation on schooling for retarded children on their show "Cameron Cornell and the News" on April 5. Jerry Weingold did the job.

And wherever we go,—schools, clinic, workshop—we seem to be stumbling over Life photographers at work for a picture article on our kids!

ADS FOR THE JOURNAL WILL GET YOU FREE TICKETS !

AHRC Presents First Telethon For Mentally Retarded

Mammoth Show Tells Own Story

The first telethon for mentally retarded children made history in its own right by being the first all-day show of its kind. Presented over station WATV (channel 13) from 10 a. m. to 7 p. m., Sunday, March 28, it was planned to reach a maximum audience in Greater New York, New Jersey, Westchester, Nassau and Suffolk counties, and at the same time did not interfere with the big weekend nighttime shows.

The roster of stars who gave of themselves in songs, dances and heartfelt appeals reads like a Who's Who of showbusiness. Jack Barry, Joey Adams, Morey Amsterdam, Jan Murray, Herb Sheldon, Steve Allen and Milton Berle divided the emceeing chores of the 9-hour performance among themselves. Eileen Barton, Don Cornell, the DeMarco Sisters, Kitty Kallen, Al Kelly, the Skylarks, Elise Rhodes, the Star-time Kids—those are just a few of the luminaries who lent their talents to our cause. Also Alan Dale, Lou Monte, Jimmy Nelson, Sara Vaughn, Louis Armstrong, Fran Warren, Jill



Steve Allen making appeal

Corey, Bill Lawrence, Karen Chandler, Charley Applewhite and Frank Luther. Ben Grauer and Judge Birdie Amsterdam came on the air to appeal for funds. Actors Mark Stevens and Lloyd Nolan made memorable pitches. Magic Clown and Captain Video and the Space Cadets were besieged for autographs by the small-fry in the audience.

The world of officialdom was also well represented. Governor Robert Meyner of New Jersey and Democratic National Committeeman Carmine DeSapio spoke, and an especially moving appeal was made by Father Dwyer, head of Child Care of Catholic Charities, Diocese of New York. President Fineson was introduced to the viewers, and graciously thanked everyone.

Phones on the stage, manned by the lovely Conover models headed by Candy Jones, rang incessantly. Behind the scenes, the Capitol Hotel's Walnut Room had been temporarily converted into a telephone exchange which was in the capable hands of members of the New York Telephone Traffic Union, who donated their time.

An instance of the telethon's effectiveness came to light when Mrs. Lois Revett, of 60 Throop Ave., Brooklyn, teenage wife of a serviceman, showed up at the Hotel Capitol with a pickle jar containing \$18.38 in change. She had been so inspired by the show that not only did she turn over her year-old daughter's shoe-money in the amount of \$4, but she and some friends started ringing door bells and taking up a street collection in her Brownsville neighborhood. An hour's solicitation produced over \$14!

The advertising agency responsible for the mammoth show was Benton & Bowles, whose staff—all the way from director, producer to camera crew—pitched in gratis. Director was William Vallee, and producing chores were divided among Oliver Barbour, Aram B. Ojalian, Budd Granoff and our own Board member, Lenny Levin.

Effectively working behind the scenes were members of the Cunningham Women's League, Esther Baila League, Gertrude Vos Children's Fund, Joshua Orphan Aid, Ladies' Auxiliary of the Louis Fleishman Benevolent Society, Ladies' Auxiliary of the Morris J. Solomon Sunshine League, Lena Invalid Aid, Lenton Ladies, 100 League, Sarah Starkman League and the Theodora League.

Minna Bober did a bang-up job in organizing the volunteers; Theresa Snyder in getting much of the food and the waiters who did the serving; Sylvia Schachter in handling the bookkeeping details. Many, many others, too numerous to mention, attended to the thousand and one details necessary to put a telethon on the air.

Also pitching in were members of Hotel Restaurant Union Local 16 and Countermen's Union Local 60. Mountains of food were donated by the Brass Rail Restaurant, Tip Toe Restaurant, C & L Restaurant, Katz Delicatessen, Ratner's, Steinberg's Dairy, The Original Gluckstern's, Atlas Caterers, Carnegie Delicatessen, Gallagher's, Gaiety Delicatessen Co., Hortense Spier, Leone's, Reuben's, Sixth Avenue Delicatessen, Stage Delicatessen, Stella D'Oro Biscuit Co., Sutter French Confections, Tavern-on-the-Green, Stratton Restaurant in Forest Hills, Turnpike Village Delicatessen, Ben's Delicatessen & Restaurant, Boulevard Delicatessen, Henry's Dairy Restaurant and Jay Dee Bakery, all in Forest Hills, Gottfried Baking Co., Hector's Cafeteria, Roth's, Madison Restaurant, Manhattan Pickle Co., and Tip Top Delicatessen. The Pepsi-Cola Company not only provided their own product, but passed out baby orchids to all volunteer workers. The coffee urns had no chance to cool off. The oh-so-necessary cups and plates were supplied by Lily Cups and the Diamond Match Co. respectively and the spoons and napkins by the Hunter Paper Company.

For all AHRC members and their friends, March 28, 1954, will go down as a red-letter day! At this point, money is still coming in and totals received are not yet available, but all of us feel that over and above the money we have been able to reach thousands and thousands with our message.

Although telethons have been mercilessly panned recently—just read what those super critics of 'Variety' say about us: "... a smooth-flowing affair that eschewed the hit-'em-on-the-head pitch for coin and stressed the entertainment values ... The emcees ... shared the hours of pitch-patter and intros with the kind of telesavvy that holds on to a viewer."

Our Campaign Committee which worked so hard in connection with the show was composed of Julian Banner, chairman; and Max Schachter, Mack Kallor and Sid Leviton.

To all who helped so untiringly and selflessly, and whose name is legion and impossible for us to enumerate, we can only say a heartfelt "Thank you!"

**THE DINNER IS YOUR PROJECT
MAKE IT A WHOPPING SUCCESS**

MAKE OUR 5TH ANNUAL DINNER THE BIGGEST YET !

Some Personalities Who Pitched In March 28



Morey Amsterdam



Milton Berle



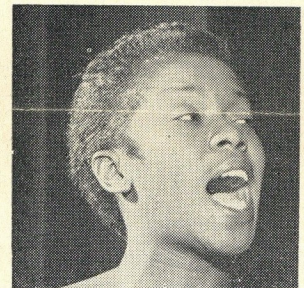
Kitty Kallen



Jack Barry



Ben Grauer



Sarah Vaughn



Eileen Barton



Father Dwyer, Head of Child
Care, Catholic Charities,
Diocese of New York



Captain Video and the
Video Ranger



Jan Murray

HAVE YOU GOTTEN AN AD YET?

AHRC Continues To Expand Recreational Facilities

Since the last issue of OCV, we have been steadily advancing our recreational program, demonstrating that retarded children can be helped.

With the success of Cub Scout Pack No. 529 in Brooklyn, AHRC together with the Greater New York Council, Boy Scouts of America, have completed the organization of Cub Scout Pack No. 207 in the Bronx and a Boy Scout Troop in Queens. Cub Scout Pack No. 207 will accept boys aged 8 to 14 who are attending CRMD or Low I. Q. classes in public school and who reside in the Bronx. The Queens Boy Scout Troop will accept boys aged 11 to 16 who are attending CRMD or Low I. Q. classes and live in Queens.

In another interesting development, the Senior Girl Scouts of Troop 4-217 have, together with AHRC, organized a recreation group for retarded girls in Queens from 7 to 12 years of age attending CRMD or Low I. Q. classes. This group is organized as a service project of the Senior Girl Scouts and we are attempting to evaluate how feasible it would be for this group to operate as a Brownie Unit.

An additional project is being sponsored jointly by Bronx House and the AHRC for an experimental group of boys aged 13 to 16 attending CRMD classes in the Bronx. These boys meet once a week, utilizing leadership and facilities of Bronx House. Through this program we hope to evaluate how feasible such a recreational program is in a group work agency.

Future plans, in addition to continuing our 8 Adult Social Activity Groups, the Canteen, 3 Teen-Aged Groups, Scouting and Camping, we hope to develop a Cub Scout Pack in upper Manhattan, Brownie and Girl Scout Troops in all Boroughs, expansion of the Adult Program in Brooklyn, another Canteen and Teen-aged groups for girls in the Bronx.

Continuation School For CRMD Children Eliminated From Board of Ed. Budget

For several years last, the Budget of the Board of Education of New York City has made provision for a special CRMD school for pupils of high school age who wish to remain in school and do not qualify for the CRMD classes in academic or vocational high schools. It has been variously termed an Occupational High School, an Occupational School, etc.

The Budgets since 1952 have shown a decreasing concern for this large group of CRMD children. In the budget of that year, provision was made for a special school with 18 positions; in the budget of 1953-1954, the positions were reduced to 7 and in the current budget, 1954-1955 all provision is eliminated.

Many of the type of children who would be part of this program are in the AHRC Training Center and Workshop where they give definite evidence that they could have profited materially from such a school; in other words, they are "educable" beyond the age at which they must leave school, if the facility is provided according to their abilities.

AHRC Staff Active In Conferences and Publications

One of the most important functions of the Association is the presentation of the problem of mental retardation before professional groups and in professional journals.

On February 16th, at the convention of the American Association of School Administrators, our Executive Director, Jerry Weingold, appeared on a panel discussion of "Is the Trainable But Uneducable Mentally Deficient Child The Responsibility of Public Education?". More than 500 educators from all over the country attended. A hand vote at the end of the session indicated that they thought these children were the responsibility of public education.

On April 12th, in Buffalo, at the convention of the National Vocational Guidance Association, he read a paper on "Experience in Realistic Self-Understanding in Home and Community" in connection with a panel on "Counseling Mentally Retarded Adolescents."

The March, 1954 issue of Exceptional Children has an article, "Case Work Approaches in a Community Clinic for Mentally Retarded Children", by Rudolf Hormuth, Assistant to the Director. On May 10th, Rudy will journey to Atlantic City for the National Conference of Social Work to participate in a discussion on "Realistic Goals for Mentally Retarded Children."

And again, on May 21 at the annual convention of the American Association on Mental Deficiency, he will read a paper on "A Reorientation of Case Work Approaches to the Problems of the Mentally Retarded."

Retarded Children Get Psychiatric Aid

A research project is under way at Lenox Hill Hospital to determine whether the functioning of certain mentally retarded children can be improved through psychiatric treatment of the youngsters and guidance of the parents.

Eligible for the program are a limited number of retarded children under 4 years old in whom there is no organic basis for retardation. By studying them, the staff hopes to determine the role of emotional factors in retardation.

Dr. Katherine Woodward, pediatric psychiatrist, is in charge of the project, which will include a nursery school when funds and personnel permit. Additional information is available from Mrs. Edith Ganon of the hospital's social service department.

The Association has been cooperating with Dr. Woodward in this project and has made several referrals to it.

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.)

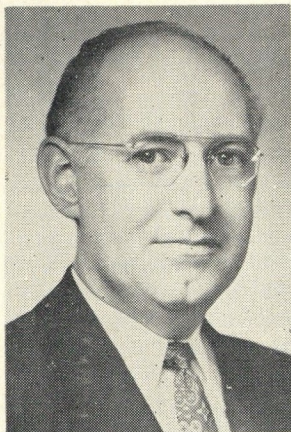
Your doing so will make one more dollar available for the help of our children.

—THE EDITORS.

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

HAVE YOU SOLD YOUR BOOKS?

MAURICE H. FOURACRE



Just doesn't tell us when or where he was born. Just starts right out at the University of Michigan where he received his A. B. in 1935 (Sociology major-Psychology minor), his M. A. in 1940 and his Ph.D. in 1952 (Education). Does tell us he is married; wife's name Mary, and has three children, Mary Ellen, 15, John, 11, and Linda, 7. Lives in Tenafly, New Jersey.

His broad professional experience has fitted him for the role he now plays in the field of education of the exceptional child. One year a teacher at the famous Wayne County Training School in Michigan, counselor at a camp for underprivileged boys, principal of an elementary school, five years Director, Division Education of Exceptional Children, Wisconsin State College, guest professor U. of Illinois and U. of Florida, six years Director, Div. of Ed. for Handicapped Children, N. Y. State Teachers College, Buffalo, N. Y., and now Head, Department of Special Education, Teachers College, Columbia University.

Author of important papers on the education of the cerebral palsied children, his last article, significantly, is the "Education of Children with Mental Retardation Accompanying Cerebral Palsy."

His professional memberships reflect his concentrated interest in handicapped children, Fellow, American Association on Mental Deficiency, Diplomate, American Board of Examiners in Professional Psychology, Counseling and Guidance, Past President ICEC of Western New York, and Chairman, United Cerebral Palsy Association, Educational Advisory Board. Modestly, he omits the fact that a team at Teachers College, under his direction, did a study of the educational facilities in N. Y. State for mentally retarded children for the Mental Health Commission. He also omits to say that his department at T. C. will have a workshop in the education of the severely retarded, the first University in New York to make this available.

The AHRC light shines on Maurice Fouracre for his abiding concern with the education of all handicapped children; for his interest and awareness of the problems of all mentally retarded children, including those with dual handicaps; for his forthright approach in **doing something now** even for the least of these.

I can't resist this: Were you born in Michigan, Maury?

Unique Facility Planned For Retarded Children

The Shield of David Home for Girls, in cooperation with the AHRC, is planning a rehabilitation program for mentally retarded children which will be the first of its kind in the East, and perhaps in the country.

Present plans call for the Shield to assign two complete floors of their magnificent building at 1800 Andrews Avenue, Bronx, for an evaluation, guidance and rehabilitation center for mentally retarded children. If plans reach fruition, services, under a medical director, will include social service, psychology, psychiatry, speech therapy and teaching for group experiences.

The Board of the Shield Home, serving orphaned Jewish girls for many years, have for some time felt that the needs that gave them a beginning are decreasing materially and that they might better serve other unmet needs in the community. Their explorations led them to the conclusion that one of the great unmet needs is that of mentally retarded children.

As a result of initial conversations between Joseph V. Shostak, their Executive Director, and Jerry Weingold, a program was presented to and approved by a committee of the Shield consisting of Joseph L. Greenberg, President, Max A. Okin, Vice-President, Samuel Eliscu, Asst. Treasurer, Abe Leff, Treasurer, Isidore Lazare, Vice President, Dr. Harry D. Pasachoff, Medical Director, and Isidor Rosen, Board Member.

The services will be nonsectarian and the name proposed is the Shield of David Institute for Mentally Retarded Children.

Announcement will be made in more detail as soon as preliminaries have been completed.

Publication of Mongolism Institute Completed

With the publication of the section on the "Rehabilitation of the Mongoloid Child" in the November issue of the Quarterly Review of Pediatrics, the full proceedings now have been published in three parts. The first part appeared in the May issue and the second in the August issue.

The Rehabilitation section contains articles by Joseph T. Weingold (Introduction), Wilfred Quaytman (Psychological Capacities), Millicent Strazzulla (Speech Problems), Rudolf Hormuth (Home Problems), Louis E. Rosenzweig (School Training) and Dr. Arthur M. Meisel (Concluding Remarks).

New Pamphlet Available

A handsome 16 page Special Gifts Pamphlet, describing AHRC activities, is now available. It is designed to aid in soliciting special gifts and donations.

Reprints are also available of the Murray Illson article on the AHRC Brooklyn Workshop that appeared in the New York Times and the Dorothy Barclay full page article in the Sunday Times. Write to the AHRC for copies.

DAY CAMP IN BRONX

Bronx parents interested in a day camp at reasonable rates should communicate with Jack Raynor at 1455 Townsend Avenue, New York 52, N. Y. or call him at CYpress 3-1408 for further details.

MAY 22---HOTEL ASTOR---5TH ANNUAL DINNER!

Chapter News

(Editor's Note: Chapters are becoming so numerous and space in OCV. being limited (finances) we have to be a little selective in our news. We are choosing items we think of special significance. If a chapter's activities are not mentioned, we hereby admit that we were wrong in our choice.)

SUFFOLK COUNTY PLANS SHELTERED WORKSHO

An interesting approach towards the planning of a vocational training center and sheltered workshop was recently made in Suffolk County. A Planning Committee was set up by the Suffolk Community Council. The agencies participating in the planning are Suffolk County Cancer Society, Cerebral Palsy Association, Tuberculosis and Public Health Assn., Heart Committee, Suffolk County AHRC., Catholic Charities, Mental Health Association, Multiple Sclerosis Society and New York State Society for Crippled Children.

This is a total community approach, combining the effort of all who are dealing with handicaps and disabilities. We await the outcome with a great deal of interest.

ONONDAGA HONORS FRANK McCARTHY

More than 200 guests paid tribute to Frank McCarthy at a surprise testimonial dinner at Syracuse in February. Frank has guided the chapter from its inception two years ago to its present position of eminence in the community. Even further, he has been instrumental in starting a number of other chapters in that part of the state. Both parents and prominent members of the community were present.



Left to right: Mrs. H. K. Kerr, Miss Alice Hueber, president, AHRC Women's Auxiliary, Onondaga County, J. T. Weingold, Frank C. McCarthy.

We must add another item to Onondaga news . . . On Sunday, January 4th, Dr. Grace Kaczynski, Director of the Syracuse AHRC school, was named "Educational Woman of 1953" in Syracuse. A silver achievement bowl was presented to her by the Federation of Womens Clubs and the Post Standard.

VISITING NURSES SERVICE FOR WESTCHESTER SCHOOL

The Visiting Nurse of Pelham Community Service is giving an hour of service each week to the school. The service includes a regular check-up of each pupil, instructions in personal hygiene, and educational talks with poster displays for better health and grooming.

Bernie Schneider, Director of the Westchester School, is giving a course, "Understanding the Slow Learner", through the Adult Education Division of the Mt. Vernon Board of Education. There are two evening classes, one for teachers who receive in-service credits and the other for parents and friends of the retardates. The course was initiated by the Westchester A.H.R.C.

CHURCH SCHOOL IN SCHENECTADY

The Schenectady Council of Churches is giving advice and helping plan programs for the non-denominational church school which is held every Saturday afternoon for all retarded children.

The Campaign Control Council has approved the dates of June 1th through July 10th for the annual campaign with a goal of \$20,000.

GIRL SCOUTS AID MONROE COUNTY SCHOOL

Six troops of Girl Scouts are helping the children in the Day Care Center for Handicapped Children with finger paints, tools, materials and other items.

The most recent service is that of baby sitting while the mothers attend an Institute for Mothers at 3:30 P.M. This eight week institute covers problems of the Retarded and Cerebral Palsied child. The girls are really proud of their work and are competing for the privilege of being chosen.

ERIE NIAGARA RECOGNIZED BY COUNCIL OF SOCIAL AGENCIES.

At a regular meeting of the Executive Board of the Erie County Council of Social Agencies the recommendation of their Health Committee was accepted that AHRC, Erie-Niagara Chapter, be asked to accept the responsibility for developing a broad community program for the mentally retarded in Western New York. The organizational structure of the chapter will be revised to include lay and professional members of the Board.

This action is the result of months of investigating various groups working for retarded children in Buffalo. It speaks worlds for the integrity and purposefulness of our program.

NASSAU NAMES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jim C. King of Roosevelt has been named Executive Director of Nassau Chapter. Jim worked with the chapter last year, setting up branches throughout the county and re-organizing the chapter in preparation for this years' program. The necessity for engaging executives in some of the chapters is a healthy indication of growth and mature thinking.

Jim comes to the chapter with a long experience in public relations, newspaper work and campaign guidance.

Summer Course On Teaching "Trainable" Children

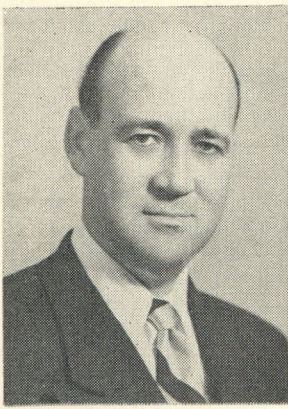
Syracuse University is offering a summer course to help train personnel, teachers and volunteers, working with children now ineligible for special classes in public school.

The course will include some problems of diagnosis, use of diagnosis in program planning, curricular development, and teaching methods and techniques. The course will be limited to twenty and a great deal of supervised time will be spent in the AHRC classes in Syracuse.

The summer session starts June 28 and continues through August 6. For additional information write to Professor G. Orville Johnson, Syracuse U. School of Ed., Education of Exceptional Children, 805 South Crouse Avenue, Syracuse, N. Y.

This course should be of particular interest to all AHRC teachers, as should the Workshop at Teachers College, Columbia University.

MAY 22 DINNER SUCCESS DEPENDS ON YOU



BERNARD ROSENBERG

Another of that rare species, a person born right in Manhattan, Yorkville, October 24, 1910. President of his Freshman Class ('31) at C. C. N. Y., followed by 7 years of night school at the College to get his B.S.S. in Education.

He planned to teach physics, specializing in astronomy; also acted semi-professionally and thought of acting as a career. Depression, he says, however, switched all these plans to business (a peculiar switch during a depression) and now is President of Cameo Curtains, Inc. (Is there a moral to be drawn from this, Bernie?)

He was president at the first general meeting of the AHRC at the National Institute for Speech Disorders in 1949 and organized the Westchester Chapter with others soon after. Served the first two terms as President and is now on the Board of Directors. This, of course, doesn't begin to tell the work he put in building the Chapter and steering it through the shoals and reefs that endanger any new organization. Nor would this profile be complete without mention of his wife, Emma, who did such an important job on the local Superintendents of Schools in Westchester and stimulated the formation of many special classes.

Bernie still has time for hobbies. Significantly, the first mentioned is AHRC, and then tennis, painting (water colors) and gardening.

As you guessed, he is married to Emma (for 16 years) and has three beautiful daughters, Naomi, 11; Judith, 9; and Deborah, 5. Judith is retarded due to brain injury as a result of encephalitis and is in a private school.

His ambition is to find more time to devote to AHRC. Would positively (he states) like to help develop a strong national organization which he believes is requisite to stronger State and Local Chapters.

MASONS AID AHRC



Max Kane, 399 Eastwood Rd., Woodmere, Master of Council Lodge 979 F & A M, a Queens Lodge, presents check from the Council Lodge Foundation to Bernard M. Fineson, president of AHRC, as Arlyne Bernstein, chairman of Queens division, looks on.

Donor Doings

CUNNINGHAM WOMENS LEAGUE FOR HANDICAPPED CHILDREN is really buzzing with activity and could take up this whole column. Giant Carnival of Values Bazaar on March 21, Sweepstakes, Capers and, of course, their gala Luncheon on May 16th at the Waldorf. And all this besides their parties for the C. P. and mentally retarded children and their educational membership meetings.

LADIES AUXILIARY, MORRIS J. SOLOMON SUNSHINE LEAGUE had a theatre party, Caine Mutiny, on Feb. 10; Luncheon and Card Party at the Elite Club, Feb. 28th; Theatre Party, Lady in Pink Tights, March 10; Lox and Bagel Party at the Club March 27th; Theatre Party, By the Beautiful Sea, April 21st; and a Latin Quarter Dinner Party for May 19th. Phew!

THEODORA LEAGUE'S big event was the Luncheon and Fashion Show at the Plaza on March 20th. Most successful.

On April 8th, LENA INVALID AID SOCIETY, held their charming Luncheon and Fashion Show in the Persian Room at the Plaza. Their big event is their 60th, yes, their 60th Anniversary Dinner Dance on November 13th, a testimonial to their Executive President, Lillian Segall.

GERTRUDE VOS CHILDRENS FUND had a grand party in honor of Birdie Hass; a Bingo Party on March 25th; a Mothers Day Luncheon planned for May 5th; and a Supper & Card Party on June 12 in honor of Fathers' Day. And with all that, visits to the Clinic at Flower Fifth. There are more, many more, to write about as we grow, and we hope we'll be forgiven for not mentioning all of you now. We really will have more issues of OCV.

NEW DONOR GROUP

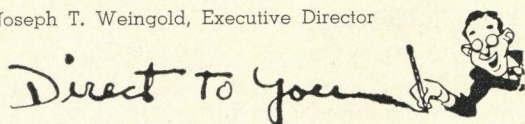


Mrs. Mabel Lasker, 711 Walton Ave., Bronx, president of the Ladies Guild, presents check for \$1000 to Bernard M. Fineson, 2290 Davidson Ave., Bronx, president, AHRC, looking on at left. Mrs. Peggy Holzman, 751 Walton Ave., Bronx, chairman of the AHRC Bronx Donor Committee, and on the right, Mrs. Ruth Port, 975 Walton Ave., co-chairman.

Foster Home Sought For Retarded Boy

The Jewish Child Care Association of New York, 329 East 62nd Street, New York 2, N. Y. wants to find a Jewish foster home in or near the city for Allen, an appealing little boy not quite 5 years old. The agency will pay \$61. a month for his board, and will provide clothing, as well as medical and dental care. Allen has no family ties and needs to grow up in a home which he can feel will be his own. Although he is a slow child, he is lovable, friendly, healthy and attractive, with a sweet smile. If you can provide this home, write to Jewish Child Care Association.

DANCING AT 5TH ANNUAL DINNER...



"What's in a Name?"

We are all aware that the language we use, the attractive phrase, is an important part of our armament in trying to create a climate of acceptance for our children and our program. The following correspondence between Dr. J. E. W. Wallin and myself may shed some light on this topic. It certainly demonstrates the thinking of many professionals. Dr. Wallon, author of *Education of Handicapped Children*, and pioneer in the field of mental retardation, needs no introduction, I am sure.

Jan. 9, 1954.

Dear Mr. Weingold:

Great terminology confusion still reigns with respect to the minus deviates. This applies particularly to the term retarded or mentally retarded. On the one hand it is used as a sonorous, euphemistic substitute for mental deficiency (see, e.g. Christine Ingram), while many others restrict the term to the slighter degrees of mental deviation, largely synonymous with the restorable. I am one of these: see my *Children with Mental and Physical Handicaps*.

These semantic differences might be of purely academic interest were it not for the misleading implications that attach to certain words, such as mental retardation. This word is often used as a subterfuge, an escape mechanism, a refusal to face the facts, an adroit maneuver to protect or deceive the parents. I have faced thousands of parents in the 7 or 8 clinics I have conducted since 1911 and the talks I have given to hundreds of groups since those days, and I have proceeded on the conviction that my duty as a specialist is to tell the parents the truth as I saw it, and not to conceal the truth from them, as had been done by physicians and many others in hundreds of cases. The pain that an attitude of frankness and truthfulness may cause is nothing like the bitterness they feel once they learn to know the truth from bitter experience. To be specific: I conducted a clinic two summers at Upsala College, East Orange. Most of the children examined had already been examined by psychologists or psychiatrists in N. Y. C. and N. J. I told one mother frankly that her child was mentally deficient, that he could be improved to same extent, but there was no means of cure known at present. A N. Y. psychiatrist had classified her child as mentally retarded and she had been given to understand that he did not differ much from the rest of us. She was most bitter in her denunciation of the experts who had misled her. I had two exactly similar cases in those two groups.

Our duty is to tell the parents the true facts and not to mislead them by semantic juggling. That, of course, must be done in a sympathetic, diplomatic way.

I prefer the term mentally handicapped children which I use in a generic sense. That is the term I apply to my new book.

But I do not hesitate to use the term mental deficiency when what I have to say applies to that concept, and mentally retarded when what I have to say is applicable to that concept as I use it. The concept of mental deficiency is still valid in spite of what has been said and done, but as I emphasized in my *Education of Handicapped Children* and in articles many years before, mental deficiency or mental defectiveness or feeble-mindedness is not a unitary concept. That is not a recent discovery . . .

Mental deficiency and mental retardation are not synonymous either etiologically, or therapeutically, or prognostically.

One of the first rules of logic is that you must define the propositions. Too often in the field in which we are mutually interested terms are used without any definition at all. That does not lead to clarity of thought and comprehension of problems and factual evaluations. I don't care what terms are used if the concepts are defined.

Cordially yours,

J. E. W. WALLIN

Jan. 22, 1954.

Dear Dr. Wallin:

Of course I know that parents must be told the truth and that words should not be used to mislead either the parents or the public. It seems to me, however, even if we accept your terms—mental retardation and mental deficiency, except for professionals, these terms still need explanation—vis-a-vis the parents and the public. I am particularly interested, at this point, in our relationship to the general population to whom we are trying to sell an idea. It seems quite evident that no matter what terms you use, there must be explanation accompanying them, a definition of those terms. So, if you say mental deficiency you must describe what you mean by that. Similarly for mental retardation, when you feel the two are not synonymous. Now, as you say in your letter, mental retardation is "sonorous" and "euphemistic." For that reason, it is more attractive to the general public. It still needs interpretation and I see no reason why, when we use the term "mental retardation" (the attractive term) we cannot say that mental retardation consists of low-grade, middle-grade and high-grade children, and what that means. We would have to do so if we used the terms mental deficiency and mental retardation. Wouldn't we have to explain to the public what we mean by "mental deficiency" and by "mental retardation" when we use them as terms of art?

The term "mentally handicapped" is a very good one, but unfortunately it has been used in many instances to include the psychotic and mentally ill. How can we overcome this confusion when we use the term, "mentally handicapped?"

There is no such thing as black or white; each of us uses language for our own purpose. I am equally aware and feel very strongly that the truth must be told, but truth speaks with many tongues and I am sure that you, with your strong sense of historicity, know that values, meanings change.

We must find the words to attract the world; finely drawn definitions will not do so.

Sincerely yours,

JOSEPH T. WEINGOLD.

(Anyone want to get into this? Ed.)

Terms "Mental Deficiency" A Misnomer

Dr. George A. Jarvis, clinical director of clinical laboratories at Letchworth Village, recently told a regional meeting of the AAMD that the disability "is only an external manifestation of something else which has happened to the individual." Dr. Jarvis also declared that as compared to mental retardation based on environmental factors, the number of persons whose mental deficiency is traceable to dominant and recessive characters in ancestry is very small. He cautioned delay, however, in reaching conclusions about heredity, since a large group of mentally deficient persons known as "undifferentiated type" still remains to be accurately classified.

HAVE YOU EARNED YOUR TICKET FOR THE DINNER?

Special Project For Retarded Children At Camp Poyntelle

Twelve mentally retarded children will attend Camp Poyntelle this summer as participants in a study to be jointly sponsored by Camp Poyntelle and the Association for the Help of Retarded Children, it was announced by Sidney O. Hershman, President of the Camp, and Bernard M. Fineson, President of the Association. The study will be financed by a grant to the Association from the Sarah Starkman League who have supported so much of our camp program.

The children selected will be from age 8 to 12 and all of them will be pupils in the special classes in public school (CRMD). They will be referred from the Theodora Clinic and the Morris J. Solomon Clinic. Eight of the children will live in a cabin group of their own but will join in all regular camp activities. The other four children will live in groups of children of normal intelligence. It is hoped that the study will provide partial answers to the questions: Can mentally retarded children participate successfully in regular camp programs? Is the adjustment better if they live in their own group or if they are integrated on an individual basis? What is the effect of the retarded children on the camp program and the other children?

Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of the AHRC, expressed the hope that this pilot study will help open the gates to other camps to some of the 80,000 retarded children in New York City and to the estimated 1,500,00 such children in the country at large.

Camp Poyntelle of The Infants Welfare League Camps, had its first season in 1949. In the summer of 1953, thirty five public and private social agencies selected 394 campers to attend the camp. 49 of these were physically handicapped boys and girls. The camp is a member agency of the Welfare and Health Council.

The study will be conducted under the direction of George New, Director of Camp Poyntelle.

Boro Buzzings

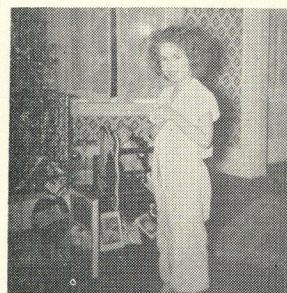
Not content with its successful Bazaar, QUEENS ran a card party on January 20th and raised \$608. Chairman was the charming Mildred Rudes. Never saw such an eager bunch. They have their schedule of activities set into 1955. Picnic, June 1954; Card Party, October 1954; Bazaar, December 1954; and Barn Dance, February, 1955. Hey, did the Fund Raising Committee clear these dates?



Front row, left to right: Sy Chicquor, Sylvia Schachter, Dorothy Watskin, Jean Katz.
Rear row: Nat Kuris, Charles Campana, Mrs. Cyril Weinberg, Murray Watskin.



Lois Goldstein



Claire Elizabeth Canedy



Dennis Earl (Pip) Canedy

We just couldn't make a choice this time and print the pictures of three charming youngsters. Reading from left to right, they are Lois Goldstein, aged 7, of Allentown, Pa., (with her older brother), Claire Elizabeth Canedy, 7, and her brother Dennis Earl (Pip) Canedy, 4, mentally retarded and cerebral palsied. Claire Elizabeth and Dennis are from Greenfield, Mass. Aren't they all lovely? You see why we had to show all three of them.

May we have pictures of your youngsters? All of us want to say hello to them.

CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED

WRITE TO AHRC, CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

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

The BRONX is now resting on its laurels after its February 27th, 28th Bazaar held at Pilgrim Hall. Over \$2500 was raised, announced Chairman Sy Chicquor. Co-chairmen were Sylvia Schachter, Murray Watskin and Cy Weinberg.

BROOKLYN has had one function after another and in between them has come up with a news sheet, "Brooklyn AHRctivities" to rival the Queens newspaper. Editor is hard working Lydia Hershkowitz (Take it easy, kids, I know you all work hard).

On January 18th they had a theatre party, Mlle Colombe, Mrs. Francis Goldstein, chairman, and raised over \$200. On February 8th a rummage sale under the chairmanship of Mrs. Isaacson and Mrs. Safier. Raised \$465. A father and son luncheon, Sunday, February 14th, of the Brooklyn Cub Scout Pack. And a Chinese Dinner and card party on March 3rd to raise money for the Brooklyn Committee's gold page in the Dinner Journal. Chairman was Mrs. Evelyn Mont. And here I catch my breath.

SEE YOU AT THE ASTOR, SATURDAY, MAY 22!

Letters To the Editor

Dear Sir or Madam:

I wonder if there is a branch of your Association near my home? My third baby was born with a condition now diagnosed as cortical agenesis. She is severely retarded both physically and mentally and is not expected to live long. Since we are British nationals over here with the U. N., we are taking her home with us next spring to be cared for in England.

However, her story has—needless to say—compelled me to take an interest in what can be done, and what is or is not done, for all types of retarded children. We will be living in the States some years yet and I would like to explore this situation in order to see if I can help in any way. For our child, nothing can be done and time will resolve our problem, but I feel I owe it to her not to let her birth and her little life have no value and meaning, and it would not have either of these qualities if we let it make no difference to what we, her parents, do with our lives.

Sincerely yours,

MRS. F. A. BRAND,
150-76 Village Road, Jamaica, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Weingold:

At the State meeting of the Junior Chamber of Commerce held at Gatlinburg, Tennessee, they decided to make their main project for 1954 the work for retarded children.

This information should be of particular interest to you, for it was on the strength of the talk you gave here in Clarksville, which was attended by some of the officials of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, that they decided to take up this project in such a big way. Had it not been for your visit down here, I am certain that it would never have occurred to this organization to undertake this type of work.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

SIDNEY COHN
Acme Boot Mfg. Co., Clarksville, Tenn.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES?

The regular payment of dues by members is necessary to help finance the projects of the Association. Don't forget, 50 cents of your dues goes to the National Association.

**Dues Are \$5.00 Per Year Per Family.
Be In Good Standing.**

ASSOCIATION FOR THE HELP OF RETARDED CHILDREN, INC.

323 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 10, N. Y.
(RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED)

To the Editor:

Thanks for sending me "Our Children's Voice". "Retarded Children Can Be Helped"—this I know very well, because I taught them.

Something should be done in our system to create a different attitude toward the CRMD classes. The children refer to them as the "crazy class". Conversation on the street: "Who is she?" "She is a teacher of a crazy class." "Oh! If she was any kind of a teacher she wouldn't have that class . . ."

My motto was "Faith, hope, charity." I liked my work.

You are doing a wonderful thing for the "least of these".
God bless you all!

Yours truly,

LUCCA E. HOLLER
1410 East Ave., Bronx 62, N. Y.

Dear Sirs:

We are two girls 11 and 12 years of age. We take care of younger children who cannot take care of themselves. We charge each child 5c a day which we are putting aside so that we can send the money to you so that you can continue the wonderful work which you are doing. I think that it would be a good idea if other children would do the same to help those children who are less fortunate than ourselves.

Sincerely yours,

SUSAN KATZ (age 12)
ELLEN ZLOCKOWER (age 11)
2445 Williamsbridge Road, Bronx 69, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Weingold:

This is to express my thanks for permission to attend the very interesting State Conference of the staffs of the pilot classes.

For me it was a learning experience which I would not have missed for anything. I came away with a profound respect for the sincere, hard-working teachers of the children and with a desire to be of service to them and the children.

Much ground was covered in those two days, and you had a good group of discussion leaders assembled around you.

I will be very interested to learn of the results and progress in consequence of this meeting.

Sincerely yours,

E. HAEUSEMAN
325 East 54th St., New York 22, N. Y.

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