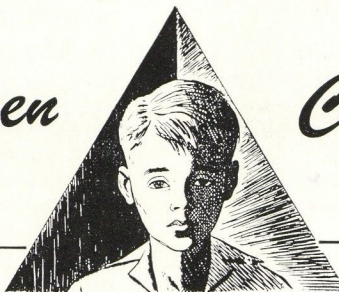


OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE

Retarded Children

Can Be Helped!



VOL. VIII. — ISSUE No. 1

106

MARCH-APRIL, 1956

LEGISLATURE VOTES \$90,000 FOR 2 PILOT CLINICS JT. LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE CONTINUED FOR ANOTHER YEAR

RAISING THE ROOF



When "Big Joe" raised \$800 on his "Happiness Exchange" program heard nightly on radio station WMGM to put a new roof on our Joshua School, he also provided for a new coat of paint. Here he is demonstrating the rudiments of the painter's art to some of our pupils.

CONGRESSMAN FOGARTY, SEN. BRYDGES TO RECEIVE AWARDS AT 7TH ANNUAL DINNER

"Big Joe" to Em'cee

Congressman John E. Fogarty of Rhode Island and State Senator Earl Brydges will receive awards at the Association's 7th Annual Dinner on Saturday, May 19, at the Hotel Sheraton-Astor.

"Big Joe" Rosenfield, conductor of the "Big Joe Happiness Exchange" radio program on WMGM, New York, will be the toastmaster.

Our capable and hard-working Dinner Committee, headed by Chairman George Greene, wishes to state that there is still time to earn additional tickets, either by selling \$25 worth of tickets (two books) or placing \$50 worth of ads for the Journal.

BOOKS AND AD BLANKS ARE OBTAINABLE FROM THE OFFICE, 200 FOURTH AVE. (entrance on 17th Street), NEW YORK 3, N. Y., tel. ALgonquin 4-8203. PLEASE HELP SELL MORE FOR OUR CHILDREN'S SAKE!

The 1956 Legislative Session saw more bills introduced for the mentally retarded than any previous session of the Legislature. Thirteen bills were introduced as the result of the five open hearings held before the Joint Legislative Committee and the meetings of this committee with its own Advisory Committee, of which our Executive Director, Joseph T. Weingold, is a member.

In addition, a bill was introduced by Senator Brydges and Assembly Bannigan implementing the Heald Commission recommendation for increasing state aid for special classes for the physically handicapped, the mentally retarded, the delinquent, and non-English speaking pupils.

At the request of the A.H.R.C., two bills were introduced by Assemblyman Samansky, one that each Board of Visitors of state schools shall have one parent of a retarded child as a member, and the other to change the requirement for a superintendent of a state school now limited to a physician only, to include other disciplines. Neither passed.

Highlighting the program is the bill to establish two demonstration clinics for the purpose of casefinding, comprehensive differential diagnosis, and counseling parents of the mentally retarded. These clinics will be under the auspices of the Interdepartmental Health Resources Board, successor to the Mental Health Commission. This bill carries an appropriation of \$90,000 and contemplates that one such clinic shall be set up in a teaching hospital in New York City and another in the central part of the state.

The bill to amend Section 4408 of the Education Law which makes classes for children with I.Q.'s under 50 permissive passed the Senate, but died in the Ways and Means Committee in the Assembly. As a result of the efforts of the various chapters of A.H.R.C. and interested community leaders, the bill was re-introduced through the Rules Committee in the Assembly, and passed in the final day of the session. The original law states that only children with a mental age of 3 may be admitted to such classes. This bill eliminates the 3 year mental age requirement, leaving the criteria for admission to the discretion of the Commissioner of Education. It also authorizes Vocational Extension Boards of counties to conduct such special classes, a great help to rural areas where there are fewer children.

Two important amendments to the Mental Hygiene Law were achieved. The first deals with the reimbursement section, which was agreed to by the Commissioner of Mental Hygiene after a conference with Mr. Weingold. Under the law, as it stood before this bill was passed, parents and other liable parties could be asked for the difference between what they had to pay for their child in a state school and the reimburse-

(cont. on p. 5)

FLASH: GOVERNOR SIGNS ALL BILLS PASSED!

OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE

issued four times a year by

THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE HELP OF RETARDED CHILDREN, INC.

200 FOURTH AVENUE — NEW YORK 3, N.Y.

ALgonquin 4-8203

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

Chartered by the State of New York
February, 1949

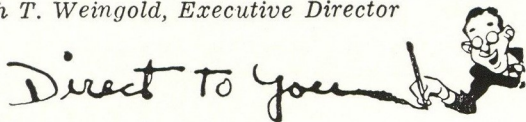
Affiliated with National Association for Retarded Children, Inc.

President: BERNARD M. FINESON

Executive Director and Editor: JOSEPH T. WEINGOLD

Associate Editor: MIRA EITINGON

Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director



A most interesting development on the last day of the training sessions for clinics for retarded children recently sponsored by New York Medical College and National Association for Retarded Children, was a discussion whether or not clinics for the mentally retarded should be special clinics, or be included in an overall clinic program for all handicapped children, under one direction. There was considerable diversity of opinion, with some of the professionals present stating that they felt that clinics for all handicapped children were better than just specialized clinics. I know that this is a trend, and perhaps illustrates the growth of the movement for the mentally retarded, because heretofore whenever there was a general clinic for the handicapped, the mentally retarded were rarely considered for inclusion. From this point of view this is a happy development, but it is doubtful indeed whether the mentally retarded can receive the most benefits in a general clinic of the type described.

After the meeting, Frank Ackerman, Chairman of the Clinic Advisory Board of the St. Louis Association for Retarded Children, who had just sponsored a clinic at the Reynard Hospital, called the Washington University Child Evaluation Clinic, gave me some very interesting views why a clinic for the mentally retarded should be a special one for them alone. I was going to write about his views as I recall them, but received, just in time, a communication from him called "Clinic Thoughts" which I think worthy of publication here.

"Sometimes in clinic discussions the question comes up as to whether the interest of the mentally retarded child would be best served in a clinic wholly oriented to his special needs or in a clinic designed to serve all types of handicapped children.

For those who will realistically think through this problem it is answered by the inevitably predominant "Human Equation".

Doctors devote a good part of their lives to becoming proficient in the particular discipline they select. Time and concentration consciously or unconsciously molds into the very fiber of their being an urge to prove that they are competent in their areas.

The only, and also the most dramatic vehicle to exploit their ability and satisfy their ego is to effect demonstrable cures through the efficacy of their therapy.

Now let us examine the operating processes of a clinic with a long waiting list, into which flow an endless stream of children with many types of handicaps.

Let us assume the clinic is fully staffed with a fine team
(cont. on p. 7)

ANNUAL TEACHERS CONFERENCE TO BE HELD JUNE 2ND

Teachers of Retarded from State to Meet in New York City

The third annual conference of AHRC and other teachers of mentally retarded children with I.Q.'s under 50 will be held on Saturday, June 2, 1956 at the Carnegie International Center, 346 East 46 Street, N. Y. C.

The theme this year is "The Trainable Child — Training Towards What". The major address will be given Saturday morning by Professor G. Orville Johnson of Syracuse University, who is in charge of the demonstration experiment of classes for such children, 5 of which are at P.S. 58 in Queens, one at Letchworth Village, another at Willowbrook, Levittown, and Garden City. The program will be divided into three parts, (1) Training towards work in the community — the child who eventually will be able to adjust to industry or sheltered employment; (2) Training towards integration in the home — the child who may be able to adjust within the home only; and finally, (3) Training towards participation in a residential school.

Arrangements for visitation to the AHRC Training Center and Workshop at 116 East 27th Street will be made for Friday, June 1st. On Sunday morning at the offices of the Association, 200 Fourth Avenue, there will be a problem clinic where individual problems will be discussed with the resource panel.

All teachers of classes for children with I. Q.'s under 50 throughout the state, as well as other interested personnel, are invited to participate in this conference.

TRAINEES FROM 22 STATES ATTEND INSTITUTE ON CLINICS

Financed by a grant of \$6,000 from the United States Public Health Service, New York Medical College (Flower and Fifth Avenue Hospital) and National Association for Retarded Children co-sponsored a training institute on the evaluation and treatment of the mentally retarded child in clinics Wednesday through Saturday, March 14th through the 17th, at the New York Medical College. Representatives from about 22 states were included among the physicians, psychologists, social workers, nurses, and educators attending. Thirty came on scholarships provided from the grant, and over 155 paid their own expenses.

It goes without saying that many of the participants of the faculty came from A.H.R.C. projects, such as the clinic at Flower and Fifth Avenue Hospital, the clinic at the Jewish Hospital in Brooklyn, and our own staff.

The first day of the session was devoted to visiting the two clinics, and in the afternoon all participants met at the training center and sheltered workshop where Mr. Weingold and members of the staff gave a conducted tour of the facility. The program was explained at great length, and there was a question and answer period which lasted until late in the afternoon.

In addition to these visits, such topics as "Problems in the Differential Diagnosis of Mental Retardation," "Teamwork in the Treatment of Mentally Retarded Children," "Family and Environment as Factors in Treatment," "Clinics in a Total Community Program for the Retarded," and "Administrative and Organization Problems in Clinics" were discussed by a distinguished faculty.

It was gratifying to see the trainees from areas in New York State who will be the spearheads for clinical services back home. It is hoped that this is but the beginning of other conferences.

7th ANNUAL DINNER, MAY 19th

CAMPING 1956

Summer camping for retarded children is turning out so successfully — with both the children and the families profiting beyond expectation — that the program is gaining more and more prominence among AHRC projects.

Last year, 48 children received camp scholarships. Since available funds allowed only that number, the recommendation was made that Day Camp Programs should be utilized to a greater degree, especially for the younger and more severely retarded child.

The following plans are afoot for the coming summer: the Brooklyn Summer Day Camp, a program operated jointly by AHRC and the Community Association of Districts 25 and 27, Board of Education, Teachers College, Columbia University participating. Thirty-six children are to be taken for a 6-week period, at a fee of \$15 per week with transportation. Rhoda M. Lipman is the director of the project, and children are being screened now from among the 115 applications received.

A Queens Summer Day Camp is a proposed joint project of AHRC with the Child Service League of Queens. To date some 93 responses have been received in reply to a questionnaire listing the following possibilities: a) a 6-week day camp program (3 two-week periods) with transportation and lunch at a cost of \$15 per week per child; b) weekend camping trips for teen-age high school students from the CRMD classes.

The Camp Poyntelle project is to be continued, and programs with other agency-operated camps, such as Camp Madison and the Herald Tribune Fresh Air Camps are being discussed.

The greatest difficulty that confronts the Camp Committee is the fact that they do not know until late in the season just how much money will be available for scholarships. And reservations, especially with agency-operated camps, must be made well in advance if any program for retarded children is to be formulated.

NEWLY INSTALLED



Posing for their picture following installation of officers: Joseph T. Weingold, Lorraine Gross, president of the Junior Group of the Sarah Starkman League for Children; Mollie Cohen, of the Senior Group, and Murray Resnik, coordinator.

AHRC SCHOOL REGISTRATION

There are a few openings for children between the ages of 8-13 in the AHRC classes in the Bronx.

There may be other openings in Brooklyn and Queens soon.

Apply to Mrs. M. Springmann, AHRC, 200 Fourth Ave., New York 3, N. Y.

RUDOLF P. HORMUTH TAKES GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENT

AHRC Assistant Director to Children's Bureau



Rudolf P. Hormuth

Rudolf P. Hormuth, who has been part of the AHRC as Assistant to the Executive Director and head of Social Service since 1952, and prior to that was a psychiatric social worker at the Morris J. Solomon Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Retarded Children at the Jewish Hospital of Brooklyn, will become Consultant in Mental Retardation for the Health Services Division of the Children's Bureau, Department of Health, Education and Welfare in Washington, D. C. Rudy assumes his new duties as of April 23rd.

These will embrace the following activities: 1.) to work with other Federal and national agencies, professional organizations and parents' groups that are concerned with mentally retarded children for the purposes of: pooling information about needs and resources; program planning and coordination; preparing publications; and formulating recommendations for services. 2.) To promote educational work with physicians, child welfare workers, and other professional personnel. 3.) To encourage State agencies to make medical and social services more generally available to these children in their own communities. 4.) To assist State agencies through grants-in-aid funds and technical consultation, to establish community projects that will demonstrate how a good program for mentally retarded children can be carried out, coordinating the pediatric, psychiatric, social, psychologic, educational and vocational rehabilitation services which are needed.

As can be seen from the preceding, the Federal Government is ascribing increasing importance to its concern for the mentally retarded, and is assigning to Rudolf P. Hormuth a job for which he is eminently qualified. As a matter of fact, it is only our pride in his selection that tempers a little the sadness we feel at losing him. His devotion has well served retarded children and the AHRC, and we only hope that his new assignment will take in the full scope of his abilities!

LABOR OF LOVE BUILDS SPECIAL SCHOOL IN CLINTON COUNTY

Within a few weeks, retarded children in an upstate district who have been excluded from public school, will be sitting behind their own desks in a school building of their own. And this will have come to pass because the people of their community cared enough to give their time, material and the labor of their hands and backs to erect the School for Retarded Children at Cumberland Head, N. Y.

But the credit for arousing the people in this northernmost chapter of our state network goes to the Clinton County AHRC and its building committee headed by Lawrence West of Plattsburg. The Chapter will also assume the cost of maintenance and the payment of salaries and equipment once classes are under way.

"The school at Cumberland Head," and we quote from the Plattsburg Press-Republican, "will be for the use of all trainable retarded children in the county, for whom there is no provision so far in the public school system. As such classes are set up by the boards of education, which will receive state aid, the children will be transferred to them. There will be a need for the AHRC's school service for an indefinite time, however."

CALL FOR MORE AD BLANKS

SHELTERED WORKSHOPS TAKE PRECEDENCE

Preliminary reports in the recent survey of member units of the N.A.R.C., conducted by the National office, reveal that the formation of sheltered workshops receives top priority in the planning of member units reporting.

Commenting on this, Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of A.H.R.C., and Chairman of the National Association Vocational Rehabilitation and Sheltered Employment Committee, said, "It is significant that sheltered workshops almost doubled the number of any other single project proposed by the units of the National Association for next year. Plans for classes for trainable children have dropped off significantly as most units have already initiated such projects, and many states are taking them over as part of the public school systems. On the other hand, 26 units plan pre-school classes, and 53 units plan sheltered workshops; that is, for the youngest and for the older retardates. This is most gratifying, as no program is complete without planning for the adult. It would be necessary, however," he continued, "to help units with uniform planning and the realization of what a sheltered workshop means. This will be the effort of my committee during this coming year."

FEDERAL HEARINGS PROMISE EXTENDED SERVICES

On March 2, 1956, the House of Representatives Subcommittee on Appropriations for Departments of Labor and Health, Education and Welfare made its report. The following special appropriations for mental retardation were recommended for the 1956-57 fiscal year:

1. Continuation of \$750,000 for research and professional training at the National Institute for Mental Health and the Institute for Neurological Diseases and Blindness.
2. \$675,000 for a specific research program in the education of the mentally retarded by the United States Office of Education.
3. \$2,000,000 for clinical services to retarded children and their parents to the state-federal maternal, and child welfare programs in the United States Children's Bureau.
4. \$80,000 to the Children's Bureau for additional staff specializing in mental retardation, and
5. The sum of \$500,000 for training of teachers for the mentally retarded would be made available if an appropriate, enabling law is enacted.

Unfortunately the House Subcommittee on Appropriations cut the request of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation for special research projects from \$2,000,000 to \$1,000,000, which means a meager continuation of existing projects and no chance for expansion.

Following up these actions, Mr. Fineson, Chairman, NARC Legal and Legislative Committee made a special trip to Washington to see Senators Hill, Thyne, and Smith of Maine. Senator Hill is Chairman of the Subcommittee on Appropriations in the Senate. Mr. Fineson reports a very encouraging reception and a possibility that the cuts in the O.V.R. requests may be restored in the Senate.

One of the first research projects now in progress in the Office of Education is that in the education of the mentally retarded. It is a continuous study that has been going on since 1952, and from which it is hoped will come two publications, one devoted to the competency needed by teachers of mentally retarded children and the other to the training of such teachers from the standpoint of college programs and construction.

FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION



Arthur Tolchin, Director of Station WMGM, receives a citation from Bernard M. Fineson, AHRC president. Station made time available to raise funds for Joshua School roof.

AHRC URGES VOCATIONAL P.S.

In a hearing before the Committee on Finance and Budget at the Board of Education, Bernard M. Fineson, President of the A.H.R.C. urged three provisions be made which were omitted from the budget.

First, was to provide for a vocational or occupational continuation school for the mentally retarded, usually dismissed at the age of 17 as not further educable. In 1955-1956, he pointed out that this item was removed from the budget and did not appear in the current tentative budget for 1956-1957. Arguing that from 25 to 40% of all the youngsters who complete their C.R.M.D. training are in need of further training to enable them to adjust to the economic life of the community, and pointing to the experience of our own sheltered workshop and training center that much can be done with them, Mr. Fineson claimed that they are entitled to this help in the place of their terminal education, public school.

In addition, Mr. Fineson pointed out another deterrent to job placement is the speech difficulties that many of the youngsters have. Yet the budget makes no provision for speech therapists or teachers of speech improvement for the mentally retarded as such. Similarly, there is no provision for remedial reading services for these youngsters, yet we have seen case after case of mentally retarded adults who have completed their C.R.M.D. training and cannot read, but who have been taught how to read by special services even as adults, with consequent raising of their job potential.

The third point was insufficient provision in the budget for increased guidance and placement people in the Bureau for C.R.M.D. The Bureau has done an outstanding job with very limited personnel, but this can only be bettered if more guidance and placement people are placed in the Bureau, under the supervision of the Bureau, and assigned to work as the director sees fit.

"In a budget of over \$310-million," Mr. Fineson concluded, "only 7 lines are devoted to the mentally retarded, and it is not unreasonable to expect a few hundred thousand dollars more to make the program for them more meaningful, resulting in more productive members of society."

SEE YOU AT THE ASTOR, MAY 19th

BORO BUZZINGS

By Arline S. Hay, Betty Mastoras, Charles Klein

BROOKLYN Borough Meetings are buzzing along on a regular schedule, thanks to Chairman Lydia Hershkowitz. In February, Katherine D. Lynch, Acting Director of the CRMD Bureau, traced the development of public school special classes from their inception in 1929 to the present. The March meeting heard Mrs. Julia Long, Director of AHRC classes, who reported some outstanding achievements of her charges. The Chinese Dinner held at Lee's on March 6th yielded enough profits for the desired gold page in the Dinner Journal.

A research study on the Young Adult Social Groups is being conducted by Rhoda Lipman. This was made possible by a grant from Alice Pearlstein in honor of her mother, the late Clara Wisch.

A continuous flow of TV and radio tickets for the use of the various Social Groups was obtained through the efforts of Arline Hay. Shows include such headliners as "Beat the Clock", "The Dorsey Show" and "What's my Line?".

Brooklyn again is publishing its own news sheet "AHRC-tivities", Evelyn and Dave Mont, editors.

Mac Herman is the chairman of a newly formed Scout Committee, with representatives from each troop serving as an advisory board.



Youngsters cotton to cottontail at party given by Cunningham Women's League in Jamaica.

The QUEENS Teen-age Group, under sponsorship of Maurice Kerbel, Richmond Hill, saw "Oklahoma" at the Rivoli Theatre on April 14th.

The West Jamaica Girl Scout Troop is planning a trip to Sagamore Hill sometime this month.

Cub Pack 285 is very fortunate in having Mrs. Helen Storm as their new Den Mother. They meet every Saturday from 10 to 11 A.M. in P.S. 20, Flushing, and hold a pack meeting once a month. Any boy aged 8-11 may be eligible to join. April 29th is their BIG DAY when they receive their Charter in the presence of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt. (Look for more news of this in the next issue).

BRONX had their big annual Bazaar February 11 and 12, their most successful to date. Net profits came to \$3,767.84. Guiding lights of the affair were Honorary Chairman Cyril Weinberg and Mrs. Weinberg, assisted by their office staff which includes Gloria Levensohn, Co-Chairman Dottie and Murray Watskin and Borough Chairman Murray and Mrs. Frankel. Charles Campana and Mr. Lees and their associates donated all jewelry and sold it, too, Mr. and Mrs. Lieberman and Peggy Holzman contributed very generously in the matter of cake and bread and Ruth Brust in the matter of meat. Yeoman work both before and during the event was turned in by the Bernard Fineson's, the Benjamin Berland's, the Louis Katz', the Nat Levensohn's, the Daniel Lusthaus', the George Pelletiere's, the Jack Raynor's, the Dietrich's, the Charles Klein's, the George Silver's, the Sam Isaacs', the Chris Lydon's, Tom Harris, and the Mesdames Lilly Lees, Flora Hirschel, Rose Giampietro and Ehrenfeld.

STATE SCHOOL CONTINUED

The Legislature has approved maintenance of the Syracuse State School, underscoring the work of Senator Hughes and Assemblyman Rulison, and further confirming the statement last month of Dr. Paul H. Hoch, State Commissioner of Mental Hygiene. The School was slated to close in 1958.

Dr. Hoch, who backed the legislation, has said the school would keep its identity and maintain its program, but at a new location. It is of the utmost importance that such a school for the educable mentally retarded boys in institutional settings, with the presence of a fine staff, practical education opportunities, and its work in connection with Syracuse University in the State College of Medicine, be continued.

LEGISLATION (cont. from p. 1)

ment rate (now \$110 per month) any time up to six years after the death of the child. This bill eliminates the liability of all but the patient himself and his estate, so that no parent can be asked for more than the original agreement to pay. This was a matter of grave concern to all parents, and removed an inequity from the law. The other amendment to the Mental Hygiene Law repealed the section that did away with Syracuse State School by 1958, the only state school for high grade mentally retarded boys in the state.

Additional bills that passed were those to preserve the financial benefits of the present formula of boards of cooperating educational services, which were in danger of losing some of this financial aid under the new state formula, a bill to permit the use of public school facilities, if available, by private organizations to conduct their classes for trainable or severely retarded children, a law requiring that a school district which is part of the board of cooperative services in an intermediate school district be obliged to file with the superintendent of such board all facts regarding mentally retarded children found in their annual census, a bill to amend Section 3241 of the Education Law to require that all information regarding a mentally retarded child be obtained, recorded and reported as already required in the case of physically handicapped children.

Thus, eight bills were passed, an outstanding record indeed. The bills that were introduced and not passed were those to include the mentally retarded in those provisions presently applying to the physically handicapped, providing services such as keeping a register, promoting further care and education in home and schools, and services under the Children's Court Act, the bill to broaden Section 4406 for the educable children to define a minor as being between the ages of 5 and 21, to provide home training, and in general broaden its provisions, the bill to amend Section 1958 to spell out specifically that the powers of the boards of cooperative services shall include those to conduct special classes for the retarded and provide for psychological services, and finally, a bill to provide reimbursement of school districts of one half the salary, up to a maximum of \$2500, for each fulltime psychologist the district provides. The purpose of this bill was to provide better casefinding methods.

This was a broad program designed to close the loopholes in the present laws which exclude almost two thirds of the educable children eligible for public schools from such services. In addition, the program began to attack the broad community aspects of the problem through its concern with the reimbursement provisions of the Mental Hygiene Law, Syracuse State School, and its provision for the two clinics. Much still remains to be done for the educable, as well as for the so-called trainable children, but this Legislative Session was one of the most constructive we have ever had for the retarded.

It is hoped indeed that even more will be done next year through the Joint Legislative Committee that will continue for another year, with appropriation of \$40,000.

YOU'VE GOT A DATE: MAY 19th

DON MCGREGOR HEADS ROCHESTER DVR

Donald A. McGregor, supervisor of the Binghamton office of the New York State's Department of Education Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, and a valued and valuable member of the Board of Directors of Broome County Chapter AHRC, was appointed supervisor of the division's Rochester District, as of February 1st, 1956.

Broome County's loss is Monroe County's gain. We have been informed by a reliable source that Mr. McGregor intends to become an active member of his new community's chapter. Perhaps he has already started his activities. In any case, we wish him good health and good fortune in his new domicile and his new and enlarged sphere of endeavor!

LIKE IT?



Ann Wollman, 1st V. P. of the Theodora League, approves the handing over of a check by president Belle Eagle to Julian Banner, V. P. of the AHRC.

MARGARET MARY SPRINGMANN NEW AHRC CASEWORKER

AHRC has been growing by such leaps and bounds that it has taken until this issue to report the appointment of Margaret Mary Springmann as Caseworker in Charge of Information and Referral Services.

Although she has been with us for some time and is thus well acquainted with many of our members and their children, this is our first opportunity to welcome her as an official member of the family via OCV.

Her background is as follows: B.A. in philosophy, University of Detroit; one year fieldwork at the University of Michigan's Graduate School of Social Work with a caseload of emotionally disturbed children, an additional year in a psychiatric setting at Wayne County General Hospital.

She worked for 12 years with the Michigan Department of Public Welfare, starting as a caseworker, and going on to intake and case work supervisor. At one period, she supervised all of the unattached women in Detroit. When Civil Service requested her to assist in setting up the Federal Transient Program for Detroit, she found herself for 4 years supervising a sheltered residence for over 4,000 homeless men, the largest in the country, with a staff of 40.

Following this, came a 2-year stint as Executive Director with the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., during which she trained city youngsters for participation in a Western Hemisphere Encampment. She was invited to direct one unit for a month of primitive camping!!!

Since last summer, 'Peg' has given her heart and soul to the AHRC. And not only her heart and soul, but her warmth and energy and enthusiasm — which is why it is pretty inadequate to say that we have welcomed her presence with open arms. Carry on, Peg!

STATEWIDE...

Suffolk County reports that a free, non-sectarian playground for pre-school retarded children has been sponsored jointly by the Huntington section of National Council of Jewish Women and the AHRC... Huntington Jewish Center has also authorized use of a room three mornings a week... a library for adult education for the benefit of parents of retarded children is being set up by **Orange County Chapter**... Saratoga Springs has finally set up a class for retarded children, to be housed in St. Peters School, under the sponsorship of **Upper Hudson Chapter**... this is the fifth such class to be set up by the chapter, two others being at Mechanicville, Hudson Falls, Granville and Whitehall... State Senator John A. Hughes and Reverend John E. Muldoon, Chaplain of the Veterans Administration Hospital, spoke at a brunch at Hotel Syracuse in February to initiate an emergency fund campaign on behalf of the **Frank C. McCarthy School for Retarded Children**... operated by **Onondaga County Chapter** in Syracuse... goal is \$110,000... **Schenectady** has authorized 4 classes under the sponsorship of the Board of Education for children with I. Q.'s under 50 at an estimated cost of \$3,500 a class... Congratulations, **Schenectady Chapter**... Hotel Schenectady in Schenectady has announced that they will sponsor a series of charity balls... proceeds of the first five charity balls will be turned over to **Schenectady County Chapter** to help the cause of retarded children... **Erie County Chapter** in Buffalo held a joint meeting with Sunshine League of Western New York, parents of children at Newark State School... **Orange County Chapter** is starting a pilot class for the social adjustment of pre-kindergarten retarded children in Middletown... **Westchester** announces that the Mental Hygiene Association of Westchester, in conjunction with the **Westchester Chapter**, has organized a workshop series of six discussions for the parents of mentally retarded children... Led by Dr. Pauline Rosenthal, noted psychiatrist of New York City, and planned by Miss Mary E. Brooks, Executive Director of the Mental Hygiene Association... At this writing, **Capitol District** is deep in the throes of preparing for the State Convention at the Ten Eyck Hotel, Albany... **Putnam County** announces a speech therapy class opened under the direction of Jerry Vallon, formerly speech therapist for three years at the Pelham Manor School, Westchester Chapter... Class will be held in the Sunday schoolroom of Red Mills Baptist Church with a most impressive staff... 14 AHRC'ers from Albany and Troy are attending the parent workshop on retarded children sponsored by Bethlehem Central Schools and taught by Charlie McAllister, Supervisor, Education, Department of Mental Hygiene... **Oneida-Herkimer Chapter** sponsored a new scout troop, meeting Thursday night at the AHRC School, Washington Mills... **Putnam County** announces the receipt of a \$600 donation given by the employees of Reader's Digest to be used as part of the fee to hire a speech therapist extending the work of their clinic in Mahopac... another example of community acceptance... news is coming in from all over the state concerning National Retarded Children's Week fund drive... results are gratifying, although much remains to be done... **Nassau County**, in their first drive, raised over \$30,000... **Westchester** in its second drive, \$46,000... though short of expectations and goals, both showed considerable improvement over last year and point to even better next year... Catholic Diocese of Buffalo plans \$4½ million construction program, part of which will provide a Buffalo school for retarded children... keep the news coming...

HAVE YOU SOLD YOUR BOOK?

including all the disciplines.

Also let us assume that each child is comprehensively diagnosed and evaluated.

Now, unavoidably and unconsciously a great wall is erected.

On one side are those who are hopeful prospects for specific disciplines, those with comprehending minds, with whom the practitioner can communicate and who have the mentality to respond.

An area where there is some prospect that men and women of skill can, through their therapy, effect cures, relieve suffering, extend lives and thus justify their training and unconsciously satisfy their ego.

In an overcrowded program this fruitful area will inevitably and justly consume the full stamina of all professional disciplines.

Nonetheless there is the other side of the wall where sit those who can offer only frustration, often uncomprehending communication and little or no dramatic reward for the most exhausting work of the most skillful disciplines.

These are basically mentally retarded children of all degrees from mild to extreme.

Here the skills of the disciplines can effect few, if any, ego-satisfying cures.

In the presence of the more fertile soil of other handicaps, will these mentally retarded children receive the maximum of service and devotion?

All that can be done for them can be generally summed up in the words "long, patient, frustrating, continuous, rearing and management".

These prosaic words are uninspiring compared to the ego satisfying criteria of "cures" effected by the personal skill of the practitioner.

Here the inexorable verdict of the human equation is, "No"; In the presence of more promising opportunity the skillful practitioner has not the power within himself to reject his destiny and give his deepest concern and devotion to relatively frustrating and non-curable cases, where the satisfactions are the less dramatic ones of rearing, family adjustment, comprehension, socialization, management and language.

Thus, it seems inevitable that the mentally retarded child and his family can receive the maximum in service and devotion only in a special clinic where his unattractive climate of small reward is the sole atmosphere of the area, and where the staff is wholly dedicated to that area."

I am sure that many of you who have thoughts on this subject would like to express them. May I add that Mr. Ackerman's view is just one of the many reasons why I think a specialized clinic is better. Another is the danger that during any budget stringencies, this clinic for the retarded may be eliminated. We have seen this happen before. Another drawback is the fact that there isn't enough public attention focused on the mentally retarded, with a great need for community services, to make a clinic for them meaningful rather than a deadend street ending in diagnosis only.

It is wonderful, however, to see this ferment, and to know that this whole subject is being considered so worthy of discussion and deep thought by so many people who can contribute to the cause.

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.

DONOR DOINGS

By Betty Mastoras, Arline S. Hay and Charles Klein



Mrs. Sid Gold, president of Ladies' Guild of the Bronx, hands check for retarded children to our own president Bernie M. Fineson.

A whopping good time was had by our children and their parents at the Holiday Party given March 14th by the CUNNINGHAM WOMEN'S LEAGUE at the American Legion Hall in Jamaica. Each child received a stuffed bunny, made by the Fresh Meadows and Hollis "Brownies." Barbara Dudden, magician, was the official entertainer . . . The CLW's pulled a switch this year. They held their 8th Annual Luncheon at the Waldorf on February 4th and are getting ready for a Dinner Dance at the Golden Slipper in Glen Cove, L. I. on Sunday, May 20th. In the interim, they are planning a Card Party at the Hollis Hills Jewish Center for April 25th. Is there no end to the energy of this Queens group? It seems not . . . and 'thank God' and 'God bless them' breathe we! P.S. It has been reliably reported to us that the doll house furniture from which our kids are profiting at P.S. 72,—8-9 pieces in all—are due to the generosity of the Lou Reiss', of Cunningham of course! . . . RICHMOND HILL-KEW FOREST KIWANIS have once again, as last year, been very generous in donating a work bench and tools (value \$400) to our Maspeth classes. Our thanks will be shown more effectively by their use than by our words . . . NORTH HILLS LEAGUE FOR RETARDED CHILDREN heard our own Ruth Oloff, Queens Borough Chairman, speak at their April meeting. They also viewed our documentary "Tuesday's Child." They are girding for a major event, a Luncheon at the Hotel Roosevelt on Saturday, May 26th. All proceeds to AHRC. If interested in books, call BA 5-2141 . . . The Queens Welfare Committee of the NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN holding a Mah Jong & Card Party, April 19 at the Fresh Meadows Inn. Tickets \$2. all proceeds to AHRC. (How we like those words . . .) . . . LADIES AUXILIARY OF THE MORRIS J. SOLOMON SUNSHINE FUND hold a gala dinner dance at Ben Maksik's Town & Country Club, Brooklyn, on April 25th. . . . FREEDOM LODGE AUXILIARY, KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS (Mrs. Kate Cohen is their new President) are planning a card party in the fall . . . We welcome to our midst the ROCKAWAY AUXILIARY OF AHRC whose officers were installed by Bernie M. Fineson on April 5th at the Washington Hotel, Neponset. The President is Muriel Laxer. They are going to sponsor a Girl Scout Troop for ages 8 to 10. At last report, they needed 2 more girls to get the Troop under way. Happy launching! Oh yes, they are also planning a Card Party sometime in May . . . LADIES' AUXILIARY OF THE LOUIS FLEISCHMAN BENEVOLENT SOCIETY

(cont. on p. 8)

7th ANNUAL DINNER, MAY 19th

NEW AHRC PUBLICATIONS



SYMPOSIUM ON MONGOLISM A SELLER

The AHRC has a best seller on its hands! The Symposium on Mongolism, out just a little over a month, has already sold nearly 500 copies. And the orders keep coming in . . . with a new flood expected with the notification of the nearly 400 member units of N.A.R.C. throughout the country.

The reprint of the proceedings of the all-day Institute at the Jewish Hospital of Brooklyn from the Quarterly Review of Pediatrics is available from the AHRC office, 200 Fourth Ave., New York 3, for \$1.

DONOR DOINGS (cont. from p. 7)

holds a rummage sale at 1439 Second Ave. on April 15. With no time out to catch their breath, they go right into their Treasure Chest Luncheon, April 24th at the Belmont Plaza. Respective chairmen are Mrs. Ben Thropp and Mrs. Edward Werner . . . DOROTHY SKIDELSKY LEAGUE had a very successful card party on March 3rd. A theatre party for "Mr. Wonderful" is planned for early May. Meanwhile, Long Island members have formed a chapter to the League with a nucleus of 20 members . . . LENA INVALID AID has just held a most successful bazaar. They continue their good work with their Annual Luncheon, May 10th at the Plaza . . . THE JUNIOR GROUP OF THE SARAH STARKMAN LEAGUE, with the cooperation of Mr. Murray Resnik, held a Dance at the Bronx Y, in February, where teenagers had a wonderful time. No parents allowed!! Not to be outdone by their youngsters, SARAH STARKMAN LEAGUE (Senior) has been

MENTAL RETARDATION CLINIC AT U. OF ROCHESTER

Sunshine League Finances First Hospital Facility in Area

A grant of \$8,367 made to the University of Rochester Medical Center by the Rochester Sunshine League for Retarded Children last fall has resulted in the opening of the first clinic for mentally retarded children in that portion of the state.

The clinic, run by the University's Department of Pediatrics, offers diagnostic and consultative services to children under the age of six. The number of children to be studied during the clinic's first year of operation will be limited to 80.

One goal of the clinic, according to Dr. Donald G. Anderson, dean of the UR School of Medicine and Dentistry and Director of the Medical Center, will be "to give physicians, through both direct patient contact and planned research projects, the opportunity to learn more about the causes of mental retardation".

The Clinic will accept children upon referral by a physician, clinic or health agency which has a physician on its staff.

Inquiries concerning the Clinic's program may be addressed directly to the Mental Retardation Clinic, University of Rochester Medical Center.

active in promoting its Dance at the New Rochelle Yacht Club to be held in May. This looks like the biggest year in their history . . . LADIES' GUILD OF THE BRONX held its Annual Luncheon, April 7th at the Plaza . . . THE MINNIE SCHAEFFER CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND received the proceeds of a Card Party sponsored by the GERTRUDE VOS CHILDREN'S FUND. Activities for the Fund include a Luncheon and Card Party, April 11th at the Sachs Auditorium in the Bronx, a rummage sale in mid-April, a "Mr. Wonderful" theatre party May 1st, followed by a well deserved vacation for all . . . THEODORA LEAGUE had their Annual Spring Luncheon-Fashion Show at the Plaza, March 17. Plans are afoot for a Supper and/or Card Party in May . . . N.Y. LEAGUE FOR AHRC: mammoth 3-day bazaar at the Manhattan Towers scheduled for March 19-21, postponed to April—remember our spring weather? . . . And JOSHUA ORPHAN AID really hit the jackpot with their theatre party this year. They reserved "My Fair Lady" for April 18. With the box office sold out 'till September, what we want to know is: "what's their system?" They also have another date on their calendar: May 1st is their annual Pledge Luncheon at the Waldorf-Astoria . . . Thassall.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE HELP OF RETARDED CHILDREN, INC.

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