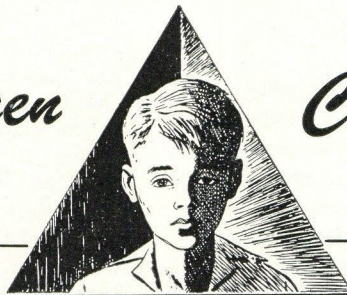


OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE

Retarded Children



Can Be Helped!

VOL. X — ISSUE No. 3

105

OCTOBER, 1958

Bd. of Ed., N. Y. City, Disobeys Education Law

1958 CAMPAIGN IN HIGH GEAR

The 1958 Annual Campaign began with a fanfare from every medium of communication including press, radio, TV, posters, car cards and — word of mouth. The decision to hold the New York drive in advance of the NARC date in November has apparently proved worthwhile. Although there are competing agencies holding their drives in October, they don't compare in number with those who take their theme from the Thanksgiving holiday.



Pablo, Poster Boy for Retarded Children's Drive, presents money he collected from neighbors to Governor Harriman.

Governor Harriman started us out by issuing a proclamation stating that September 28th to October 4th would be "New York State Week for Retarded Children." Then, despite his heavy schedule in this election year, he took time out to appear in a photograph with our poster boy, Pablo.

Pablo played patacake with the Governor, sat on his lap, and generally cooperated as thoroughly as a professional model. The Governor was enchanted with the boy and sent him home to the East Bronx with his official car, chauffeur and bodyguard.

The TV Channels repeatedly showed the photograph of Pablo and Amy that was taken by Mrs. Doris Pinney, famous cover photographer, at the Joshua School in the Bronx.

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CONTINUES TO DISMISS RETARDED AT AGE OF 17

With the beginning of the fall term in New York City, it becomes obvious that the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools are determined, willfully, to break the state education laws. Case after case of youngsters, aged 17, are coming to the attention of the Association where they are dismissed summarily from classes for educable children without explanation to the parents. A call to the CRMD Bureau elicited the information that no classes are expected to be started until February, if then. Furthermore, there seems to be no definite program for such classes other than they may take in children aged 17 and over. What will happen to these children in the interim is not explained.

The Board of Education further breaks the state education law by violating the Regulations of the State Commissioner of Education with regard to classes for children with I.Q.'s under 50 whose registers are limited to 10. All registers of the 39 classes for low I.Q. children in New York City now number approximately 18 with no attempt being made to lower these registers.

The situation has become so acute that a lawsuit has been initiated against the Board of Education to mandate them to obey the law with regard to youngsters from the age of 17 to 21. This lawsuit is now pending before the Supreme Court of New York State.

At the office of the Association for the Help of Retarded Children, New York State President Bernard M. Fineson and New York City Chapter President George G. Hirsch stated that both the State Association and the Chapter will leave no stone unturned to get New York State to implement these laws, even if it is necessary to bring a suit on behalf of each case as it comes up. Mr. Fineson also questioned the legality of state aid to the City of New York for retarded children in view of their failure to obey the law or Regulations of the Commissioner. This is a matter that will be discussed by the State Board of Governors in October.

Mr. Hirsch also pointed out that New York City is now receiving some \$5,000,000 more in state aid for classes for the handicapped, most of which are for the mentally retarded, without giving any additional service that is discernible. "As a matter of fact," said Mr. Hirsch, "in the last two years perhaps two or three new classes have been started. Where this money is going we cannot find out. Certainly, it is not going towards increasing any of the services for the mentally retarded. If the city is using this solely for its existing expenses, it is not within the spirit of the law."

(Continued on Page 4)

CAMPAIGN HELPERS NEEDED—CALL AL 4-8203

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: GEORGE HIRSCH

Executive Director and Editor: JOSEPH T. WEINGOLD

Retarded, Second Class Citizens in New York City Junior High Schools

Upon an inquiry by the AHRC, it was disclosed that the mentally retarded in junior high school special classes are being treated as second rate citizens. The rule of the Junior High School Division in the City of New York is that these children cannot participate in shop except at the will of the principal. It was further pointed out that shop must be provided for all normal children first and that the mentally retarded would take the leavings if there are any. Still further, it was brought out that the CRMD teachers in junior high school classes for the mentally retarded do not receive any free periods as do the other teachers.

The Association has taken the stand that the mentally retarded in junior high school or any other classes in the New York City public school system should be treated as all other children without discrimination. "Discrimination on the basis of mental achievement," said Mr. Hirsch, President of the City Chapter, "is as bad as discrimination on the basis of race or creed. We cannot stand for it and we will not. It is shocking to think that such a policy exists and that it takes ferreting to discover it."

NEW CATHOLIC CLASSES

Msgr. John Paul Haverty, Superintendent of Schools for the Archdiocese of New York, has announced an expanded program of training for retarded children in Catholic schools.

An experimental program was begun last fall in the schools of the Sacred Heart, St. Rose of Lima, and St. John Chrysostom. The program is now being enlarged by two additional classes, one in St. Paul the Apostle School, and the other in St. Margaret's.

In September of 1959, three more centers will be opened for the retarded making a total of eight classes in operation by 1959-60.

Children with I.Q.'s of 50 to 75 are considered capable of the type of education offered in these special classes. New applicants must be at least 7 years old and not more than 11.

Plans have also been made for individual counseling, home visitations and group discussions with parents of children in CRMD classes.

Msgr. Haverty announced that Walter A. Kelly has been appointed to head a department of special education inasmuch as the project opens a new field in the Archdiocesan school system. He also said that retarded children who have physical disabilities will be aided by the pediatrics division at St. Vincent's Hospital; and that the School of Education at Fordham University will cooperate by conducting research on various aspects of the teaching-learning problems in the special classes.

HIRSCH, PRESIDENT OF NEW YORK CITY CHAPTER

At the Annual Meeting of the N. Y. C. Chapter, George G. Hirsch, one of the founders of the AHRC, was elected President. Continuously active in the Association since its inception, Mr. Hirsch has served as Chairman of many Committees and helped make Queens one of the strongest Boros of the chapter.

The slate of officers and directors follows: Officers: Mr. George G. Hirsch, President; Mr. Seymour Rubin, 1st V. P.; Mr. Cyril Weinberg, 2nd V. P.; Mr. George Greene, 3rd V. P.; Mr. Charles Campana, 4th V. P.; Mr. Max W. Schachter, Financial Secretary; Mr. Julian Banner, Treasurer; Mrs. Ann Greenberg, Recording-Corresponding Secretary; Board Members: Minna Bober; Sen. William T. Conklin; Bernard M. Fineson; Stanley Geismar; Anne Gitter; Emil Goldstein; Teresa Harris; Lydia Hershkowitz; Augustus Jacobs; Leo Jacobs; Billie Kamen; Herbert Kottek; Irving Krakoff; Anne Kraus; Sidney Leviton; Burton Loewer; Rose Nussbaum; Alice Pearlstein; Margaret Riva; Catherine Travers.

AHRC TEACHERS AT SOUTHBURY WORKSHOP

Devinio Riondato and Sylvia Schwab, who teach AHRC classes at P.S. 72 in Queens, were awarded scholarships for last summer's workshop at Southbury, Conn. by the Hollis Chapter of the National Council of Jewish Women.

The Southbury Training School, long time pioneer in the education and training of retarded children, held an annual summer workshop for teachers of trainable mentally retarded children. This six-weeks course is coordinated by Bernice B. Baumgartner, Director of Classes for the New York City AHRC. It is sponsored jointly by the Southbury Training School and the New Haven State Teacher's College. The Workshop attracted eminent consultants from all over the country while the student body included residents of seven states and the Dominion of Canada.

As a result of the summer workshop, "Guide Lines of Communications" was compiled by Miss Baumgartner. She describes the booklet as the "beginning of a foundation for a curriculum for teachers of the trainable mentally retarded." The study is already in use by AHRC Workshops all over New York State and by the State Department of Education in New York State.

AHRC SPONSORS VOC. REHAB. WORKSHOP AT T.C.

Thirty-three students from 17 states took part in a workshop to train personnel in the vocational rehabilitation of the mentally retarded. It was held at Teacher's College, Columbia University from July 7th to 25th with Prof. Abraham Jacobs of the College's Department of Psychological Foundations and Services as Workshop Coordinator and Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of the Association For The Help of Retarded Children, Inc. as Assistant Coordinator. Last year's course drew 23 members. The difference reflects a growing awareness of the enormity of the problem of mental retardation on the part of professionally qualified personnel.

The summer Workshop course was financed through a grant of \$9,000 from the United States Office of Vocational Rehabilitation. This sum covered the financing of the course and also made 25 stipends available to qualified personnel in rehabilitation, social work, medicine, psychology, education of the handicapped, vocational training and sheltered-workshop supervision.

VOLUNTEER FOR THE CAMPAIGN!

CAMPAIGN

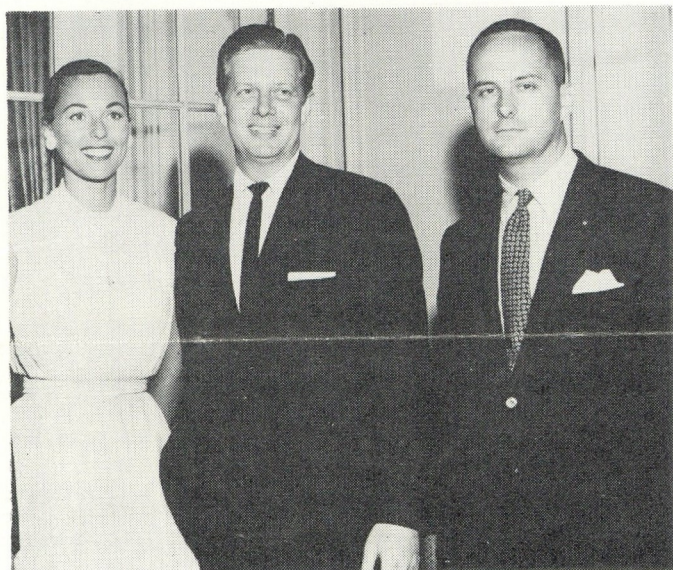
(Continued from Page 1)

The contribution of this noted photographer served as the 1958 campaign theme. Pablo's picture appeared on the large posters which were shown in windows of the 300 local A and P Stores, Bergdorf Goodman, Saks Fifth Avenue, Remington Rand, Abraham & Straus, Martin's, Saks-34th Street and Stern Brothers. Other department stores used the posters inside.

Mayor Wagner of New York City proclaimed the month of October, "Retarded Children's Month" for the City. He issued his proclamation in the presence of our President, Mr. George G. Hirsch, and the scroll was given to a little girl who attends a special AHRC class in Queens. The ceremony took place at City Hall.

Bloomington, Gimbel Brothers and B. Altman prepared special window displays using photographs contributed by leading photographers of the Sheltered Workshop, Social Groups and schools.

New York Subways and buses carried thousands of car cards featuring Pablo's picture.



Bess Myerson, Sam Cook Digges, Honorary Chairman and Lee Hastings Bristol, Jr., Chairman, at Barbizon Plaza Hotel Cocktail Party for Commerce & Industry Division Committee Chairmen.

In addition, a large group of our members and donors appeared on Channel 5's popular daytime program, Bingo-at-Home. Mrs. Rose Nussbaum, a member of the Board of Directors of AHRC and Mrs. Ann Elias, Chairman of Volunteers of the Morris Solomon Sunshine Fund were spokesmen at the October 1st telecast, while our new President, George Hirsch, shared spokesman honors with Senator William Conklin on October 15th. Senator Conklin also taped a series of appeals for radio stations and appeared as a guest on Betty Granger's program to talk about AHRC. President George Hirsch signalled the start of the campaign by taping an interview with Gene Fallon for his popular Around New York program on WNYC. Mr. Fallon broadcast the tape at 8 A.M. on September 29th to acquaint his vast audience with the news that AHRC was starting its annual drive for funds.

The metropolitan newspapers have cooperated by publishing human interest stories about the organization, its members, purposes and donors. Rachel Fowler of the World Telegram devoted her column to Mrs. Ann Elias, and the work of the AHRC Clinic at Brooklyn Jewish Hospital, a project of the Morris J. Solomon Fund.

(Continued on Next Column)

Levitt Proposes Six Point Aid Program

In an address in New York City, Arthur Levitt, Comptroller of the State of New York, called for a six point program of action to assist the over 500,000 retarded children throughout the State of New York.

The program which Levitt outlined included the following proposals:

1. The enactment of state legislation to make education of children with I.Q.'s under 50 mandatory instead of permissive.
2. Legislation to provide transportation for retarded children to match the services available to the physically handicapped.
3. Legislation to provide that a school district which has less than 10 retarded children should enter into contractual arrangements with a district which has more than 10 such potential children.

In addition, Levitt proposed for New York City:

1. A speedup of classes for all retarded children, especially training for the 17- to 21-year age group.
2. The implementation of present permissive legislation regarding training of children with I.Q.'s under 50.
3. The development of facilities within the New York City recreation program, especially designed for retarded children.

"The fulfillment of these proposals," Levitt said, "would mark a real step forward in providing adequate assistance to all retarded children. A program such as this is to be viewed not only as a responsibility of our society towards its less fortunate members, but equally important, cut down the tragic waste of human skills. Such action would be of real help to the economy of our state."

Col. Levitt has, for many years, been a distinguished champion in assistance to the mentally retarded. As a member of the New York City Board of Education, Arthur Levitt secured the adoption of a resolution which made idle school space available for the use of private groups of retarded children and was of immeasurable help to the New York City Chapter. For his work, he received a special award from the Association for the Help of Retarded Children.

CAMPAIGN

(Continued from First Column)

The Commerce and Industry Committee started its campaign with a cocktail party at the Barbizon-Plaza on September 11th. There was a good attendance from the 100 plus men who comprise the committee. Bess Meyerson lent a note of glamour to the party while our Campaign Chairman, Mr. Lee Hastings Bristol, Jr., told his group that their goal was set at \$175,000 in order to expand as well as sustain the facilities operated by AHRC.

This year our hardworking volunteer house and block captains had the backing of saturation coverage from all the local radio and TV stations. Announcers on radio have been acquainting the public day and night with information and statistics on retardation, its frequency, causes, and the AHRC facilities in the country, state and city. All seven local TV Channels carried a 20 second spot featuring AHRC Queens School with commentary by Martha Raye. She appealed to the public to send contributions to the local chapters. The chapters appearing on the screen with their names and addresses were New York, Westchester, Nassau, Suffolk, and Mahopac.

TO VOLUNTEER, CALL AL 4-8203, EXT. 11.

COSTS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS FOR RETARDED

Study Completed by NARC

A study of the Public Institutions Committee of the National Association for Retarded Children entitled, "Responsibility for Costs of Maintenance and Training in Public Institutions for the Mentally Retarded", has been completed and issued.

In the foreword to the study, the Committee states, "This study by the NARC Public Institutions Committee looks into an area where the assumptions about society's partnership role with parents are beclouded. Evidence of injustice and inequities motivated it."

"It is bitter irony to tax parents for the unavoidable misfortunes of having a retarded child. We must wonder if it is consistent with American social philosophy to require that parents of mentally retarded children pay taxes to support public education facilities which exclude their children, when there is a price tag on their attempts to obtain equal benefits for their children in public institutions."

Covering the 48 states, such items as: Charge for care, how is amount determined; is there a law to enforce payment; do unpaid charges accumulate against either estate; does chronological age of the patient have any bearing on the amount of the charge; what percentage are billed for full charges; do patients who perform tasks in institutions receive money for such, are considered in some detail. Apparently, of the 48 states operating public institutions for the mentally retarded only three of those who answered (46) have no charges.

New York State leads the country in the amount charged. According to the report, the maximum charge is \$110.00 per month, but this was raised after the report to \$122.00 and now is \$140.00 per month. Although the report states that unpaid charges, the difference between adjusted charge and a maximum, accrues as a debt to the liable relative in New York State, this has been changed by law since the report was made. The report further reveals that only 1% in New York State are billed for the full charges. A further interesting fact brought out is that in 11 states, the patients who perform tasks in the institutions receive money for such tasks. In New York State they do not.

The committee ends the report with 19 specific recommendations. Two of the more important ones, in our opinion, are: "(1) Where there is a maximum rate, it should be tied not to per capita costs of institutional program. Where it is so tied, it should be related to per capita costs of basic maintenance (food, clothing, shelter) and not to other costs ordinarily provided to children in the community at public expense, such as education, recreation, etc. (2) Any monthly charge should cease when the child reaches 21 years of age."

Copies of this report may be obtained from the National Association at 99 University Place for \$1.00.

Test for Phenylketonuria

The Ames Co., of Elkhart, Indiana, a company that manufactures a number of products in the field of urinalysis, has announced that it will soon market paper strips designed to test for phenylketonuria.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

(Continued from Page 1)

We have asked for a meeting with new Superintendent John J. Theobald but have not yet heard from him. Efforts to reach Board of Education President Charles Silver have been fruitless.

Committee Formed For Institutionalization of Children Under 5

Department of Mental Hygiene Promises Facilities

As a result of the lack of institutional facilities for mentally retarded children under five, the AHRC has taken the lead to form an "Emergency Committee for Institutionalization of Mentally Retarded Children Under Five." Since the policy of the Department of Mental Hygiene is to admit children under five years of age only on an emergency basis, a considerable and critical waiting list has developed in the state, and especially in New York City. Even in times of crisis it may be necessary for the parents to wait from eight weeks to six months or longer before a place opens up for their child. Recognizing this need, the Department of Mental Hygiene asked and received an appropriation of \$300,000 in 1957 to set up temporary facilities for such children. Unable to lease space, the appropriation was increased to \$350,000 in 1958, but still there was no action.

Taking the lead with the Community Council of New York City, all the agencies in the city were invited to a meeting by the New York City Chapter and the formation of this committee resulted. Members of the committee, in addition to the AHRC and the Community Council, are Catholic charities, Council of Protestant Agencies, Parents With a Purpose, some of the mental health societies and the medical societies of the county. Family agencies, Department of Mental Hygiene, New York City Department of Health are also represented as observers.

As a result of the efforts of this committee, work was considerably hastened on the new units for infants that are being built at Willowbrook State School in Staten Island and it has been promised that the first such unit for 200 children will be opened in October of 1958 with others to follow. In the light of this it becomes unrealistic and uneconomical to utilize the \$350,000 for temporary quarters.

The committee also set out as one of its aims a long range program to solve this problem. The temporary institutionalization, stated Mr. Weingold, Executive Director of the AHRC, is merely a palliative. It is necessary, the committee concluded, to have intensive pre-institutionalization counseling of the parents because, in many instances, the parents decide to institutionalize when such institutionalization may not be necessary, long-range program for community nurseries and a re-examination of this problem in the light of present-day knowledge.

English Journal of Mental Deficiency Research

The National Society for Mentally Handicapped Children, a parents' organization in England that corresponds to NARC, publishes a Journal of Mental Deficiency Research. It is a scientific magazine, sponsored and financed by the Society as an unconditional gift to psychiatrists and others working on behalf of its members' children.

The 70 page book sells for \$1.50 and contains eight articles including: "Tranquillizers in Mental Deficiency" by M. Craft, "Similarity of Blood Antigens in Mother and Mongol Child" by L. S. Penrose, "Dementia Infantilis Heller" by Vladimir Hudolin etc.

Subscriptions may be obtained by writing to Publishing Manager, Mr. A. Highfield, 10, Shendon Way, Sevenoaks, Kent, England.

A FEW HOURS OF YOUR TIME FOR THEIR LIVES

Pomona Center For Retarded Children Off to Happy Start

First Short-Stay Home in the U. S. Reports on Summer Program

In the pastel green dormitories of the two cottages at the Pomona Center for Retarded Children, the shadows of a deeper country green from some 300 acres of surrounding farmland steal in with a sweetened night air to bring quiet peace at bedtime to the youngsters in short-term residence there. At bedtime the normal or the retarded child reflects not only the effects of his day's activities, but his reaction to his surroundings. At Pomona Center they have had a happy and an active day of planned and supervised activities and recreation.



Exterior of Clark Cottage — Pomona Center for Retarded Children.

Pomona Center, in Pomona, New York, is frankly modeled after England's Orchard Dene. It is the first short-term residence program in the United States designed for the care of retarded children for periods up to six weeks. This substitute home for children between the ages of 5-13 is a quiet, friendly and unhurried place that opened its doors July 7 to children for whom a time-away-from-home was considered desirable for reason affecting their welfare or that of their families and parents.

George T. Ashforth, executive director of the Center reports that children enrolled in the summer session were in the 7-13 age group. Periods of residence varied from 1-6 weeks; a majority of children stayed 2 weeks. The I.Q. range of the youngsters was 30-65; diagnostic histories included: mongolism, brain damage, and phenylketonuria. Although the Center, in its first season had not worked out a scholarship program, one child was sent on a scholarship from a local AHRC chapter.

The Center, open on a year-round basis for round-the-clock care of retarded children, offers educational facilities to its young visitors during the school year at the Pomona Day School operated by the Rockland County AHRC chapter. Chartered by the New York State Department of Mental Hygiene, Pomona Center is sponsored by the Five Points House, a private foundation established in 1850.

The foundation has pioneered in the cause of children since that time at The Five Points House in New York City, and at its children's community, Happy Valley. The need for a

(Continued on Page 8)

OCCUPATION DAY CENTER REALIZED

By the time this paper reaches our readers, the Occupation Day Center planned by the Board of the New York City Chapter and announced in the last issue of OCV, will have opened its doors and the building put at the disposal of the Chapter by the Daughters of Israel on East Fifth Street, Manhattan, between Second and Third Avenues.

This new service grew out of the results that we have been attaining in the AHRC Training Center and Sheltered Workshop in New York City. Working for more than five years with the youngsters there, we found that there were a number who could not profit from a sheltered workshop experience. As a matter of fact, for some of them this experience was even harmful, if not negative. They were not necessarily so low in their intellectual functioning, but immature in their social development, so that the limited competition even in the workshop was an inhibiting force to their growth. We also realized that there were a considerable number of so-called trainable and perhaps educable youngsters who could not utilize the workshop with profit. Nevertheless, in accordance with our philosophy that there shall be a service for every youngster in the community whom the parents feel that they want to keep at home, the Board planned an Occupation Day Center where a program suited to the abilities of these young adults would be carried on. This is not just a baby-sitting service, but is a developmental program to bring these youngsters to their fullest capacity as well. It is hoped that many of them might be able to grow to the extent that they would be able to profit from a workshop. For the others, this would be a place where they could meet with their peers, engage in useful occupations of various kinds, have a recreational program and help them become contributing members of society in their own homes.

Initially, it is planned to service 40 youngsters. These will come from the four boroughs and receive transportation. Since funds are limited at this time, the program will be on a part-time basis. It is planned that a group will attend two days a week, one week, and then three days the next week. This way we hope to integrate 40 young men and women into the program. Screening has already begun on the almost 100 applicants.

The committee in charge of this service is under the chairmanship of Alice Pearlstein who did so much to help initiate the first workshop in Brooklyn.

Catholic School Facilities Tripled

A national survey reveals that Catholic school facilities for mentally retarded children in the U.S. have tripled in the past five years. The survey was conducted by the Rev. Elmer H. Behrmann for the Archdiocese of St. Louis after learning that parochial school facilities for retarded children were not included in Federal reports. According to Father Behrmann, the number of Catholic school facilities for retarded children is now 54 compared to 15 in 1952.

May Barry Fund Created

William D. Barry, vice president and a director of Mallin-krodt Chemical Works, received many honors at a dinner marking the completion of fifty years of service with the same company. But none pleased him as much as the donation of over \$11,000 to the New York Chapter of the Association for the Help of Retarded Children, Inc. May Barry Fund. The fund was inaugurated through donations in memory of the late Mrs. Barry who contributed a good deal of her time to this cause. Mr. Barry will direct the fund.

CALL AL 4-8203, ext. 11 to volunteer

STATEWIDE

UPPER HUDSON CHAPTER was the host to the Region 2 conference in June at the Grange Hall in Glens Falls . . . you should have seen the luncheon that was prepared by the women . . . of course all the Chapters were deeply involved in camps, both sleep-away and day . . . SCHENECTADY CHAPTER made plans for their Day-Camp which ran for six weeks from July 7 through August 14 . . . Also discussing the possibility of dancing classes and social evenings for the children starting in the fall . . . SUFFOLK CHAPTER conducting a catechism class Saturday afternoons at St. Anne's Roman Catholic Church, Brentwood, Long Island . . . Its Boy Scout Troop #186 was rechartered in May . . . And of course the annual Dinner Dance in September at LaGrange in West Islip . . . BROOME COUNTY committees are in full swing investigating all phases of a workshop for young adults . . . ROME STATE SCHOOL CHAPTER has been most active with a growing program of services for the youngsters at Rome State School . . . Included are Webcor record players, tape recorders, slides, television sets, movie projectors and screen, etc., etc. . . . Most important is the development of a picnic area on school grounds for visiting families . . . ERIE COUNTY CHAPTER is helping to develop a volunteer program for Newark State School . . . Carrying out an active recreation program and helping develop a presentation to the Inter-departmental Health Resources Board for pilot project . . . Dr. Charles Becker, State Department of Education, was the featured speaker at a meeting of the Hampton Auxiliary of SUFFOLK COUNTY . . . That's way out there where the wild waves call . . . Massapequa Public Schools, NASSAU COUNTY, announce an expanded program for mentally retarded youngsters over 16 . . . ULSTER COUNTY CHAPTER sponsored Camp Jay Cee Cee at Turkey Point, for retarded children between the ages of 5 and 12 . . . The Pelham, WESTCHESTER school for retarded children, 975 Split Rock Road, Pelham Manor, has received a permanent charter from the State Department of Education . . . ONEIDA-HERKIMER CHAPTER announces the appointment of a social worker at Washington Mills School by the Board of Cooperative Educational Services of the First Supervisory District . . . PUTNAM COUNTY annual picnic was again held at the lakefront place of Dora Cherey . . . Still pressing for classes for trainable in the county . . .

CHICKEN BARBECUE FOR RETARDED

More than 4500 people sat down to a chicken barbecue at the 4-H Building opposite Emerson Park for the fifth year in succession, under the sponsorship of the Cayuga Chapter of the Association for the Help of Retarded Children, Inc. Every year the event has grown and this was the biggest and best yet.

The barbecue started at 3:30 and continued until after 9 P.M. The supply of chickens ran out twice, but people waited good naturedly while the committee went out to round up more chickens. Ticket Chairman, Joseph Cuddy, said that the affair was a great success.

The barbecue included a 16 oz. one-half broiler, potato salad, cranberry sauce, pickles, radishes, green onions, celery, rolls, potato chips, ice cream and milk. The barbecue committee was led by Mr. and Mrs. Everett Hazer of Weedsport assisted by Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Riley of Sennett.

A group of 40 youngsters from the Cayuga Home for Children was taken to the party by a group of local policemen headed by Motorcycle Officer Frank Colella, President of the Auburn PBA. The PBA also helped by selling tickets to the barbecue.

Calendar of Events, N. Y. City Chapter

October

- 1 — Bingo-at-Home — Channel 5
- 2 — Queens, Sanford Hotel — Dr. Ignacy Goldberg, speaker
- 14 — Brooklyn, Flatbush Colony Caterers — Meeting
- 15 — Bingo-at-Home — Channel 5
- 15 — Manhattan, Beacon Hotel — Social Worker, Mrs. Rosalind Kriegsfeld and a teacher

November

- 6 — Queens, Sanford Hotel — Dr. Leberfeld, speaker (tentative)
- 12 — Brooklyn, Aperia Manor — Card Party and Bazaar
- 13 — Queens, Italian Charities — Card Party
- 19 — Manhattan — Dr. George Etling, Director, Wassaic State School

December

- 9 — Brooklyn, Flatbush Colony Caterers — Meeting
- 11 — Queens, Sanford Hotel — Miss Lynch, speaker (tentative)
- 17 — Manhattan, Beacon Hotel — Film "A Child is Waiting" Queens — Cunningham Women's League Christmas Party — date not set
Manhattan — Bazaar — date not set

Sunshine League, Lockport, Joins AHRC

At a meeting held in Niagara Falls in August, attended by our Executive Director, the Lockport Chapter of the Sunshine League of Western New York reached an agreement with representatives of the Niagara County Chapter of AHRC to join forces.

With this decision all chapters of the Sunshine League of Western New York, the group formed by the parents of children in Newark State School, have joined the AHRC. The first to do so was the Rochester Chapter of the Sunshine League, followed this year by the Erie County Chapter and now Lockport. Under the agreement in Niagara County, the members of the Lockport Sunshine League joined the AHRC as members. It is agreed, however, that the funds that are raised in Lockport will be earmarked for the Lockport project now being operated by the Sunshine League there and for the program in Newark State School. With all of the Sunshine League now members of AHRC, we will speak with a unified voice for the children in those communities as well as the children at Newark State School. This is another step in the development of a unified movement and organization under the banner of the AHRC in New York State.

Nassau Vocational Education Board Expands Program for Trainable

The Vocational Education and Extension Board of Nassau County has announced that they have leased a one-story 5-room building for housing of the severely mentally retarded classes, sponsored by the Board.

Beginning two years ago with the passage of the permissive law, the Vocational Board has been continually expanding, so that now 150 children are enrolled in these classes and there will be facilities for 180 in the new building.

According to Mr. Charles R. Wallendorf, Director of the Board, the plan will have many advantages, including more homogeneous grouping, better assignments of teachers, better transportation, enriched program and supplementary services, such as health, psychological, social services and speech therapy.

TO VOLUNTEER, CALL AL 4-8203, EXT. 11.

The New York League's Project

At the Ninth Annual Dinner, the New York League presented AHRC with a check sufficient to meet its obligation for the support of The Vocational Training Center and Sheltered Workshop.

The New York League for AHRC was formed in 1954 by a group of civic-minded women who realized that the most neglected group of handicapped persons was the mentally retarded, and that little or nothing was being done to evaluate and train young retardates to become semi or even wholly independent from an economic viewpoint. Help, all too often, was cut off when a retarded youngster reached his teens. The public-spirited women who comprise the New York League determined to help bridge the gap between the mentally retarded and work. They achieved their purpose by year-round planning and work for the project they have chosen.



L. to R.: Mr. Louis Silberberg, Mrs. A. W. Scheffres, Mrs. Minna Bober and Mrs. Louis Silberberg of the New York League for AHRC.

The annual luncheon given by the New York League is one of the single most respected, important events of the year. The funds that are raised perform more than the apparent direct function. The New York League supports the Workshop, while the Workshop provides a place to work without the pressures of the business world for those who can produce but who cannot compete, and a place of training for those who can go into industry.

Twenty-one retardates who were placed in industry by the AHRC Workshop in 1956-57 earned at the rate of over \$40,000 per year as against zero earnings previously. These heretofore forgotten young people, thanks to the New York League for AHRC, have become tax producers instead of tax consumers. But the League's project cannot be measured in dollars alone. The new found self-respect, companionship and confidence that retardates learn in the Workshop has no price tag. Each and every trainee is forever in the debt of the truly charitable women of the New York League who give unstintingly to provide a better way of life for retarded young people.

"For Parents of Retarded Children"

Liguorian Pamphlets, Redemptorist Fathers of Liguori, Missouri, recently published a 61 page issue under the title "For Parents of Retarded Children." The 11 chapters include poems, specific case histories of retarded children both at home and in institutions, questions and answers, and contributions from parents of retarded children.

While the book is intended primarily for Catholics, it has a great deal of excellent advice for parents of retarded children and their families regardless of creed. The questions are practical and down to earth and the answers may help many parents by suggesting specific sources of information and advice.

BOY SCOUT ACTIVITIES

By

Mrs. Evelyn Anderson, Secretary

We have an enrollment of 16 boys. At our weekly meetings, we have an average attendance of 10 boys. They range in age from 13 to 18.

The bright spot of the evening is ball playing in the beautiful gym under the direction of Mr. Elkin and Mr. Rache.

The program for the fall and winter has been Home Repairs, consisting of plumbing, carpentry etc., as much, of course, as our boys are able to comprehend.

And, of course, included in the Scouting Program are the Scout Laws, Oath and Slogan, which our boys have learned.

Good grooming was also taught to our boys.

At the beginning of April, the Boys and the Girl Scouts including their parents, were given a trip to the Circus at Madison Square Garden. On June 28th and 29th, an Over-Night Hike took place which included the Cub Scouts.

A trip to the Bronx Zoo concluded the program for the summer.

ALL DAY OUTING FOR ADULT SOCIAL GROUPS

The highlight of a most successful year for the social groups for young adults was an all day outing held Saturday, June 7th. The picnic took place at Camp Lou-Emma in Sussex, New Jersey, a beautiful woodland spot of trees, water, chairs, tables and facilities for charcoal broiling, everything necessary for a perfect outing.

Over 60 of the regular group members, accompanied by several group leaders and a small group of parents who acted as assistants, had a wonderful day. Games were played, social dancing was enjoyed and group singing was led by Mrs. Beulah Rothman who arranged for most of the program. Folk dancing was called by Mr. Hi Weiner who played the guitar. A tired but happy group returned to the city in two buses after a most enjoyable supper. Plans are already under way for a similar activity this Fall.

Summer Camp Report—New York City

Last summer was our most successful camping program—but—we were unable to place even half of those who had applied. Out of 237 applicants, we sent 33 to four day camps and 35 to nine residential camps. There were 48 boys and 20 girls. This enriching experience is a highlight in the life of a child privileged to share in the program. The grateful letters from parents of campers rate among the AHRC's most treasured documents. The gratitude of AHRC, the parents and campers goes to our generous donors, Sarah Starkman League and Juniors, Gertrude Vos Childrens Fund and the Bessie Mandelbaum League, among many others.

Elizabeth O'Daly Appointed Assistant Superintendent

Elizabeth C. O'Daly, Junior High School Principal, has been appointed Assistant Superintendent of the Board of Education and assigned to the Junior High School Division. Dr. O'Daly was the principal of Public School #84 in Brooklyn, the first one that opened its doors to the A.H.R.C. classes for the trainable retarded. It was her sympathetic understanding and broad humanity that made these classes a success in the public schools. The Association is deeply pleased at her promotion to this important post. In our opinion, it bodes well for the mentally retarded children in the junior high school program which is discussed elsewhere in this issue.

THEIR FUTURE IS IN YOUR HANDS — VOLUNTEER!

Gertrude Vos Children's Fund 10th Annual Dinner

The Gertrude Vos Children's Fund is holding its 10th Annual Dinner Dance on Sunday, December 7th, at the Old Roumanian Club Restaurant on Broadway and 52nd Street.

Gertrude Vos is a synonym for "friend of retarded children" and has been almost since the Association for the Help of Retarded Children, Inc. was formed. The Gertrude Vos Children's Fund antedates AHRC by about 2 years, having been founded in 1947 to carry on the humanitarian work of Dr. Gertrude Vos who had been affiliated with Unity Hospital in Brooklyn. At Dr. Vos' death, Mrs. Birdie Hass and Mrs. Ada Schiff called together a group of about 12 friends to commemorate the Doctor by dedicating themselves to a worthy cause. The Gertrude Vos Children's Fund was formed by the two co-founders and it was decided to work in the medical field. The New York Infirmary for Women and Children was selected as recipient through Dr. Julia Mehlman, who is director of the Fund.

But when Mrs. Rebecca Noble spoke to the members after AHRC was founded, her plea for retarded children was so eloquent and moving that AHRC became the main specific project of the Gertrude Vos Children's Fund. Mrs. Minnie Schaefer, a pioneer of the Fund, became President of AHRC.

One of the services maintained by the Fund is a special social service worker at Flower-Fifth Avenue Hospital. Another of the great benefactions of the group is its camping program. This project started by sending seven children to the Rainbow Day Camp in the Bronx. Last summer, the original number was doubled and fourteen children had a healthy happy summer at Rainbow thanks to the Gertrude Vos Children's Fund.

The President, Mrs. Stella Zatorski, is also a member of AHRC. She will preside at a luncheon on October 25th at the Rickshaw Restaurant on East Burnside Ave. in the Bronx.

POMONA

(Continued from Page 5)

country refuge for children from depressed areas was recognized by the late Mr. and Mrs. William Church Osborn who presented the institution with the 286 acres that today make up the bulk of the grounds dotted with cottages, schools, recreational and medical facilities.

In keeping with over a century of compassion for children in need, a new, pioneering venture, Pomona Center for Retarded Children, was sponsored by The Five Points House at the Happy Valley location. The short-term residence facility, long considered a vital need for the retarded child as well as his family, by authorities in the field of retardation, is the newest Five Points House project.

This project stemmed from association with the Rockland County Chapter of the New York State Association for the Help of Retarded Children. Three years ago classroom space at Happy Valley School was made available to the Rockland AHRC. In three years the facility grew from a one-room, part-time class for 3 students to an established school for 25 children with 4 teachers, a speech therapist, a music therapist and a psychologist.

In working with retarded children and their parents, the Five Points House recognized the need for the kind of child care that is now being offered to ambulatory youngsters able to participate fully in the Pomona Day School program, children in good health and capable of reasonable self-care.

Applications for short-term residence at the Center are taken throughout the year. Applications should be sent to Admissions Director, Pomona Center for Retarded Children, Pomona, New York.

MANUAL OF SHELTERED WORKSHOPS FOR RETARDED

Weingold and Jacobs Write Guide

As a result of a grant from the U.S. Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, Department of Health, Education & Welfare, a manual, "The Sheltered Workshop, A Community Rehabilitation Resource for the Mentally Retarded" has been written by our Executive Director, Joseph T. Weingold and Professor Abraham Jacobs, of the Department of Psychological Foundations and Services, Teachers College, Columbia University. The book has been published by Bureau of Publications, Teachers College, Columbia University.

The obligation to write this book was undertaken by Mr. Weingold and Dr. Jacobs in connection with the first workshop that they conducted at Teachers College for professional personnel in the vocational rehabilitation of the mentally retarded in 1957. A foreword has been written by Miss Mary E. Switzer, Director of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation.

The book contains five chapters dealing with the following matters: (1) the problems and issues in the rehabilitation of the mentally retarded, (2) vocational rehabilitation services for the mentally retarded, (3) organization of a sheltered workshop for the mentally retarded, (4) operating a sheltered workshop for the mentally retarded, and, (5) a look ahead. There is also an extensive bibliography at the end of the booklet. Contributing materially to the chapter on operating a sheltered workshop for the mentally retarded was Mr. Max Dubrow, Director of the A.H.R.C. Training Center & Sheltered Workshop in New York City. The members of the summer workshop in 1957 also divided themselves into groups for the purpose of gathering material and stating their views on various topics in this field which were of aid to the authors.

Such matters as case-finding, psychological, social and vocational evaluation, vocational counseling, personal adjustment services, work training, placement, follow-up, organizing the community, financing, legal considerations, physical plant, work procurement, shop procedures, etc., are included in the matters considered in detail by the authors.

This book should supply a long needed guide in this field which is one of the most dynamic in terms of development of services for the mentally retarded in the United States. The National Association for Retarded Children has ordered 1000 copies for sale. Copies may be obtained either from the National Association or from the A.H.R.C.

Coney Island Entertains Retarded Children

Five years ago Irving Cohen, Kings County Organization Chairman for Handicapped Boys in Boy Scouts, sparked an idea that has now grown into an annual fun-packed day for nearly 300 retarded children. Mr. Cohen, knowing how much all children enjoy a trip to Coney Island, believed that retarded children would derive great benefit from it, particularly if they could attend as a group with special attention to their requirements. He enlisted the aid of the Coney Island Chamber of Commerce which in turn interested the merchants and entrepreneurs of the resort.

Nathan's provides free hot dogs and other food, Steeplechase Park offers all its many rides, attractions and shows without charge for the entire day, while candy and favors are supplied as gifts by other charitable Coney Island members of the Chamber of Commerce.

The day begins at 11:30 A.M. when the children and their parents are greeted by the official sponsors of the project, the 60th Precinct Youth Council of Brooklyn. It ends only when the last child reluctantly boards a train for home with a promise that the performance will be repeated next year.

CAMPAIGN HELPERS NEEDED—CALL AL 4-8203

National Foundation For Infantile Paralysis Broadens Program

MENTALLY RETARDED TO PROFIT

On July 22, 1958, Mr. Basil O'Connor, President of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, announced that his organization will henceforth be known as the "National Foundation" and would:

1. Expand its program in the virus research field.
2. Conduct research in arthritis and rheumatism.
3. Investigate disorders in the central nervous system.
4. In the near future add to these activities a patient-aid program in arthritis and birth defects (congenital malformations).

"We also plan," said Mr. O'Connor, "to aid some 8,000 patients annually with birth defects of the central nervous system that are treatable. Among these conditions are Spina Bifida, Encephalocele and Hydrocephalus."

"While it is not planned initially to provide patient aid for children born each year with congenitally caused mental retardation, we believe our research program may offer new hope in prevention and treatment of this problem."

The National Foundation also intends to conduct a program of professional education, not only among physicians, but also to include the associate medical professions.

Alton F. Lund, the President of the National Association for Retarded Children, greeted the announcement of the National Foundation's research program as a move which would help substantially to reduce the incidence of mental retardation in the future.

"The National Foundation's action," Lund said, "is indicative of the vast importance of research in this field, as revealed by the recent three-year survey on the prevention of mental retardation, sponsored by the NARC..."

Evaluate Educational Achievements of Retarded

The Syracuse University Research Institute conducted a project in educational achievement of retarded children that shows there is no valid difference between brain injured children and non-brain injured so far as educational achievements are concerned.

The study indicated also that careful examination revealed marked incidence of minor signs of brain injury even in those not ordinarily considered in that class. Where no signs of injury were discovered, the two groups reacted similarly to teaching. Although a wide variety of teaching methods was used, no differences were noted and no method was considered superior.

The study was conducted by Rudolph Capobianco, Ed.D., project director, and Donald Y. Miller, Ed.D., principal investigator, from the institute's staff, under the sponsorship of the U.S. Office of Education, Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

Matching groups of brain-injured and non-brain injured mentally retarded children from the academic classes of Rome and Newark state schools were selected for the study. The groups were matched according to chronological age, mental age and I.Q. Each group consisted of 29 white males under 22 years of age.

STATE CONVENTION PROMISES TO BE BEST YET

Buffalo Prepares for Convention

What promises to be the best and largest convention yet held by the New York State A.H.R.C. is being planned in Buffalo, to be held at the Statler Hotel, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, October 31, November 1 and 2, 1958.

Once again there will be a series of workshops including one on guardianship, another on institutions, sheltered workshops, and a discussion of new programs in progress and planned. Dr. Leonard W. Rockower, well known for his work in the field of rehabilitation of the mentally retarded will head a sheltered workshop program. An interesting feature will be a play that will bring out all the facets of guardianship and the problems that parents have concerning the welfare of their children after they are gone.

The program will also include a talk by Dr. I. Jay Brightman, Executive Director of the Interdepartmental Health Resources Board, a talk by Senator Walter J. Mahoney at the luncheon on Saturday, and the major address by Comptroller Arthur Levitt Saturday night.

It is planned to hold a teachers conference for the western part of the state sponsored by the State Department of Education and the A.H.R.C. on Friday and Saturday at the Statler Hotel. Senator Earl W. Brydges, Chairman of the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental Retardation, will address the opening of the Convention at 10 a.m. on Saturday, November 1st.

All are urged to attend this Convention which may see the final unification of almost all the unit members of N.A.R.C.

New Masland Study of Retarded Children

With the cooperation of fourteen maternity centers, Dr. Richard Masland of the National Institute of Health is planning to start a new nationwide study based on a belief that the slow child's mental troubles are due to prenatal factors than can be corrected.

Dr. Masland, who is one of the leading neurologists in this country, said that it is mathematically certain that of the approximately 4,200,000 live births that are anticipated this year, 126,000 (3 per cent,) will never advance beyond the mental age of 12. About 12,000 will never reach the mental age of 7, and 4,200 will function on even lower levels.

According to Dr. Masland, "On a statistical basis, it is certain that the overwhelming majority are handicapped by reason of some pre-natal factor.

"It is certainly not known at the present time to what extent this factor is a genetic one, to what extent it is an environmental one, and in which cases one or the other predominates."

Congressional Appropriations for Children's Services Increased

Children will receive more and better services as a result of new Social Security amendments authorizing an increase of \$5,000,000 in future appropriations for each of the three grant programs administered by the Children's Bureau and also for the first time authorizing child welfare services to children in urban areas on the same basis as services for rural children.

The authorized appropriation increases are: Maternal and Child Health Services: from \$16,500,000 to \$21,500,000; Crippled Children Services: from \$15,000,000 to \$20,000,000; Child Welfare Services: from \$12,000,000 to \$17,000,000.

THEIR FUTURE IS IN YOUR HANDS—VOLUNTEER!

CHILDREN'S BUREAU PROGRAMS GROW

The number of States with programs for mentally retarded children has grown from 4 to 44 in the last three years, Mrs. Katherine B. Oettinger, Chief of the Children's Bureau, announced today.

Mrs. Oettinger described this widespread progress as "one of the most heartening recent developments in the field of child welfare."

In 1955, the four States pioneering in mental retardation were using only \$141,000 in special project money advanced by the Children's Bureau. Beginning in 1956, Congress has earmarked \$1 million annually for State mental retardation projects from maternal and child health funds administered by the Bureau. A major goal was to close the existing gap in early detection and treatment of mental retardation in pre-school children.

For the current fiscal year, 30 special State projects have been approved, totaling \$1,300,000. Fourteen other States are using \$700,000 of their own funds or regular Maternal and Child Health grants to finance similar projects. Mrs. Oettinger cited this fact as "solid evidence of State readiness to move forward rapidly into a new area when Federal leadership can assist them."

The training of future physicians in diagnosis and treatment for various forms of mental retardation is a common goal in several State programs supported with Federal funds. The clinical services are also a distinct aid to practicing physicians who can use them for evaluation of young patients. This is above and beyond the benefits being received by thousands of mentally retarded children through such services.

Most of the children seen in these projects are of pre-school age. Determination of the nature and degree of mental retardation, and the causes, is the first point of assistance. Consideration is given to physical conditions which, if improved, would lessen the handicap. The family situation affecting the child's condition is carefully studied, and resources in the community to aid the child are sifted.

Some of the State projects are located in university medical centers. Some, as in Minnesota, Maine, Georgia and Idaho, are concentrated in rural counties in an effort to determine both need for services and available resources which can be developed. In Florida, Colorado, Alaska and Massachusetts, the emphasis is on how to integrate mental retardation programs into the services of local health departments.

The New York State project is at Buffalo University.

Nassau County Grant to Adelphi

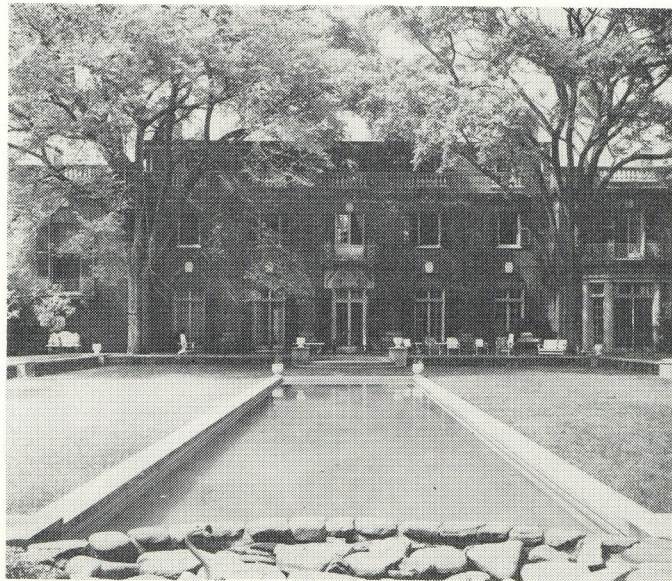
The Association for the Help of Retarded Children, Inc. and the Adelphi College Institute of Health, Education and Welfare have launched a pilot program to train specialists and coordinate research in mental retardation.

A grant of \$5000 was made initially by the Association with an additional \$2000 to follow. Students of the training classes will be used in the project which is one of a few of its kind in this country. Facilities for the joint program will be provided by the Institute's schools of social work, nursing psychology, sociology, education, and other departments. Dr. Ralph Tardera, President of the Nassau AHRC said the program is "a great forward step."

NASSAU ACQUIRES L. I. ESTATE

The Nassau Chapter of the Association for the Help of Retarded Children, Inc. took possession of the former James Norman Hill Estate in Brookville, Long Island, last August. The purchase price was \$175,000, and the chapter plans to spend an additional \$75,000 for special equipment.

Nassau now services about 300 children a year, providing them with educational, recreational and workshop programs. The new building is expected to enable the organization to handle a minimum of 600 a year, an increase of 100%.



Nassau Chapter Buys New Home in Brookville, Long Island.

The estate has a mansion with thirty-five rooms and eighteen acres surrounding it. The three-story, red brick building contains seventeen baths. Outlying improvements include a cottage, a greenhouse, a swimming pool and a wading pool. This new facility will consolidate all the activities of the chapter which are now scattered in five Nassau County communities. The house was built in 1918 by the late Mr. Hill, a former president of the Great Northern Railway.

BROOME COUNTY EXPLORES SHELTERED WORKSHOP

As a result of a survey to determine the possible subcontract potential for the sheltered workshop prior to going to the United Fund meeting for an increase in the 1959 budget, the executive Director, Mr. Fowler Wilson, made the following report. Ten industries were contacted, eight of them in person. The general answers were that no guarantee could be given of a job which would give the proposed workshop full-time employment. However, at least 50% of the industries indicated that if a workshop were already established they probably could find within their organizations jobs which would give part-time employment to the workers in the workshop.

It was felt that the general situation of the United Fund for 1959 in cutting almost all budgets and the incomplete plans for the workshop indicated that a request should not be made of the United Fund for an additional amount for the workshop at this time.

Efforts will continue to alert the community to the situation, but a great deal depends on United Fund efforts.

VOLUNTEER FOR THE CAMPAIGN!

SHIELD OF DAVID STUDIES MONGOLOIDS

The Shield of David Institute for Retarded Children in the Bronx recently completed a two-year study on the treatment of mongoloids. The officials believe that the conclusions which were reached promise new and beneficial methods for the training of mongoloid children.

The greatest gains appear to have been made in the development of proper habits and attitudes of dressing, eating, washing and other procedures of daily living. The children who entered the initial training program with no basic concept of family or community attachments, learned to work together as members of a group and developed the attitudes necessary for participation in group activities.

The study also reflected increased abilities, educationally and socially as well as in the areas for speech and language development. There was, however, no commensurate increase in the I.Q. scores of the children in the program.

The study concerned itself with mongoloid children ranging in age from four to seven years. All of them were ineligible to enter the public school system because of a low I.Q. and social maladjustment.

The Institute admitted these children into classes which provided specially trained teachers, speech therapists and psychological services. The parents were also given a professional counseling program.

The report published by the Shield of David Institute indicates that although there has long been a question about the mental capacities of most mongoloid children, it is felt that "no child remains static in terms of mental age and social age. Each of the children reflected increased abilities."

Another conclusion was that "group experiences in small structural classes is a necessary part of an education program for a mongoloid child. It creates for the child an accepting environment in which he can develop a sense of human relationships, grow in his realization and function as a member of a community."

INSTITUTION TEACHERS WORKSHOP

Teachers in the State Schools for the mentally retarded employed by the New York State Department of Mental Hygiene held a state-wide workshop on June 23-26 at the Rome State School. The theme of the Workshop was "Institution Teachers Explore Their Problems." This marked the first time that such a group has met on a state-wide basis and 167 teachers were present including teachers from Rome Public Schools.

The principal speakers were Dr. Richard V. Foster, Assistant Commissioner; Mr. Charles D. Becker, Associate in Education of the Handicapped, New York State Education Department; Mr. D. Scott Schilling, Coordinator of Special Education, Board of Cooperative Services, Southern Westchester County. The meeting was arranged by Charles I. McAllister, Director of Mental Hygiene Education Services of the State of New York.

New Mental Hygiene Booklet

"Design for Mental Health," a new booklet published by the New York State Department of Mental Hygiene, features the total approach to public mental health through the community, education, research, institutions and training. There are two pages describing the program and treatment given at the six residential schools for the mentally retarded operated by the Department of Mental Hygiene.

One section deals with the program of coordinated psychiatric research and training for personnel at all levels.

Single copies may be obtained free of charge from the Office of Mental Health, Education, and Information, Department of Mental Hygiene, 217 Lark St., Albany, N. Y.

ROCKEFELLER FUND AIDS WESTCHESTER CLINIC

The Rockefeller Brothers' Fund has given the Westchester Chapter of the Association for the Help of Retarded Children, Inc. a grant of \$15,000 in order to establish a Diagnostic and Guidance Clinic in White Plains. This sum plus gifts from other donors is expected to be sufficient to complete the budget for the first year's operation of the clinic.

The need for a clinic in Westchester County to serve retarded children has been felt for a long time. Up until now children from this vicinity could be given diagnostic and guidance service only at hospital clinics in New York City maintained by the AHRC New York City Chapter. The waiting list for these facilities was long and often a year elapsed before a child's name could be reached.

In announcing plans for the opening of the Westchester Clinic, Mark Feer, Chapter President, said, "Having one central clinic where all necessary tests and observations can be made will help to relieve the anguish of parents who are told that their child may be retarded."

"The recognition of the need for such a clinic by the Rockefeller Brothers Fund indicates the increasing interest that is developing in the problem of retardation throughout the country," continued Mr. Feer. "There are 3000 retarded children in Westchester County alone and many of them have never had a proper diagnosis. It is, indeed, gratifying that recognition of this tremendous problem is being accomplished. Locating the clinic in White Plains provides a central locality in the county where retarded children can be served."

PHYSICAL GROWTH OF MENTALLY RETARDED

According to Prof. Herbert Klausmeier, School of Education, University of Wisconsin, third-grade school children who are mentally retarded are about as tall, heavy and strong as normal children. In addition, the retardates have more permanent teeth upon reaching the third-grade than children of average or high intelligence, and their total maturity nearly equals that of children of average and high intelligence judging by X-rays of the hand and wrist.

The Professor's findings, which were based on an intensive study of 120 Wisconsin boys and girls of low, average and high intelligence, contradict conclusions drawn from some previous research.

Two further findings made by Professor Klausmeier are also significant. The groups of low I.Q. boys and girls are as variable as are those of average and high I.Q. in the achievement areas; that is, the low I.Q. boys and girls differ from one another as much as those in the average and high I.Q. groups. Also the low, average and high I.Q. children are equally variable within themselves in the achievement areas. Though at a considerably lower level of achievement, the low I.Q. child shows as much difference among his own levels in reading, arithmetic, and language achievement as does the high I.Q. child. Girls of all I.Q. levels vary more within their own levels than boys. Prof. Klausmeier pointed out, "One of the unique features of this research project is the cooperativeness of the children, their parents, teachers, child study staffs, and school administrators. Only through such cooperation can a more factual basis for the improvement of learning for children of all abilities be established."

Professor Klausmeier is planning to continue the study in order to check his current findings and to measure efficiency in learning arithmetic. His research is supported by a grant from the U.S. Office of Education and assistance from the University Graduate School.

CALL AL 4-8203, ext. 11 to volunteer

"SCOUTING WITH HANDICAPPED BOYS" ISSUED BY BSA

The Boy Scouts of America have just issued a 65-page booklet on "Scouting With Handicapped Boys". Included among the handicaps that are considered are the blind, crippled, cerebral palsied, deaf, mentally retarded, post-polio and other varying handicaps.

A complete chapter is devoted to camping for the mentally retarded, tracing its growth and indicating programs for the retarded throughout the country. The chapter also includes a photograph of scouts and leaders of Troop 322 of Queens, sponsored by the AHRC, New York City Chapter. It is evident from this booklet that the handicapped can participate in almost all the camping and other activities of the Boy Scouts of America just as normal children. Its value is also clearly demonstrated by its acceptance by the community and by the children and the parents.

The first part of the booklet is extremely interesting in tracing the development and program for scouting for the handicapped. For example, did you know that one of the first troops for the handicapped was organized for the blind in 1911 at the Kentucky School for the Blind in Louisville, Kentucky?

A most important statement in the booklet is "Every boy should be recognized for what he is able to do and not be penalized for what he is unable to do."

This is a booklet that was long needed and certainly can be of great use in the development of our programs for the retarded. Copies of the book may be obtained from the Boy Scouts of America, P.O. Box 521, New Brunswick, New Jersey at 75c each.

Catholic Charity Center for Retarded

New York Catholic Charities have bought the building at 17 East 80th Street and will open a Center for Mentally Retarded Children of pre-school age.

When renovations are completed early next year, it will be known as the Kennedy Child Study Center, since it was made possible by a gift from the Kennedy Foundation. Joseph P. Kennedy, former Ambassador to Britain, and his wife established the Foundation in memory of their son, Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr., who was killed in World War II.

The new Center will accommodate 48 children in a daytime developmental and training program.

The Director will be Sister M. Serena, former Director of the Astor Home, a residential treatment center for emotionally ill children in Rhinebeck.

Assisting her will be 18 Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent's de Paul of Emmitsburg.

First Communion For "God's Holy Innocents"

Father Thomas E. Skinner, assistant at St. John's the Evangelist in New Hartford, New York, described volunteer workers with retarded children as "prisoners of love." Certainly Father Skinner is proof that the name is a completely accurate one. Some years ago the Reverend Skinner undertook to give religious instruction to a group of retarded children in the Utica area as a volunteer. This past summer Father Skinner gave First Communion to a class of six "Holy Innocents" whom he had instructed slowly and patiently.



Retarded Receive First Communion. Left to right: Front row, Priscilla Ireland, David Holland, Joseph Schnitt, Joan Kirk. Rear: Matthew Barry, Margaret Potter, Father Skinner.

Included in the group were Priscilla Ireland, David Holland, Matthew Barry, Joseph Schnitt, Joan Kirk and Margaret Potter.

Father Skinner was assisted in preparing the class for the ceremony by the New Hartford members of the Oneida-Herkimer Chapter of the Association for the Help of Retarded Children, including Miss Dorothy Bingel, President; Miss Joanne Frank, vice president; Miss Lucretia Verilli, secretary and John Zigeler, forming the Confraternity of the Holy Innocents.

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