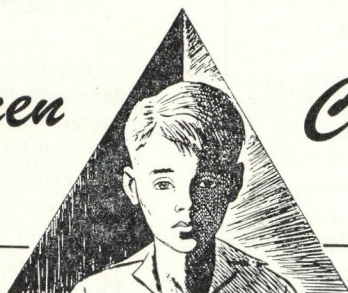


OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE

Retarded Children



Can Be Helped!

VOL. XI — ISSUE No. 1

106

JANUARY, 1959

Martha Raye Heads Second Annual Telethon

Tri-State Appeal February 7th and 8th

Circle February 7-8th on your calendar! We're staging our second annual Telethon over Channel 5, on these dates and our Martha Raye will be starring all during the scheduled 19 hours. The Telethon Committee, headed once more by Cyril Weinberg, is working day and night to make it a huge success.

Joining A.H.R.C., New York City Chapter, as they did last year, are Westchester, Nassau, Suffolk, Orange, Rockland, Putnam and Sullivan Counties. Bergen-Passaic Unit of the New Jersey Association for Retarded Children will be the beneficiary in New Jersey. This year, the Connecticut Association for Retarded Children is coming in on a state-wide basis. We are working on a pick-up in Hartford to bring the message to all in Connecticut.

Sponsors for the telethon read like a Who's Who of the entertainment World. They include: Dana Andrews, Harry Belafonte, Jack E. Leonard, Henny Youngman, Hermione Gingold, Steve Allen, Don Ameche, Morey Amsterdam, Toni Arden, Louis Armstrong, Jack Barry, Ed Begley, Ralph Bellamy, Tony Bennett, Gertrude Berg, Polly Bergen, Leonard Bernstein, Pat Boone, Charles Boyer, Sid Caesar, Paddy Chayevsky, Imogene Coca, Myron Cohen, Katherine Cornell, Xavier Cugat, Alfred Drake, Faye Emerson, Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., Henry Fonda, Dave Garroway, Ben Gazzara, Jackie Gleason, Benny Goodman, Lionel Hampton, June Havoc, Skitch Henderson, Judy Holliday, Celeste Holm, Lena Horne, Shirley Jones, Murray Kaufman, Al Kelly, Alan King, Abby Lane, Julius La Rosa, Karl Malden, Elsa Maxwell, Maggi McNellis, Sal Mineo, Garry Moore, Edward R. Murrow, Cole Porter, Johnny Ray, Victor Riesel, Jackie Robinson, Sugar Ray Robinson, Cornelia Otis Skinner, Kate Smith, Harvey Stone, Kay Thompson, Richard Tucker, Charles Van Doran, Monique Van Vooren, Betty Von Furstenberg, Mike Wallace, John Wingate, Shelley Winters, and the list grows daily.

No member of AHRC needs to be told how vital it is for the Telethon to be successful financially. Hundreds of thousands of local retarded people from infants to adults must have the services and training that they need in order to reach their ultimate potential. And it requires more than dollars or hundreds of dollars, or even hundreds of thousands of dollars, if we are to offer them a better, fuller life instead of mere existence. **WE MUST MAKE THIS A MILLION DOLLAR TELETHON AND WE CAN!**

If you start right now, by the time the Telethon with all its wonderful excitement, drama and entertainment is ready to brighten the screen, the AHRC, your organization, can start

out with a substantial sum. You see we know from past experience that the bigger the amount pledged right at the start the bigger the total at the end. "Nothing succeeds like success" was valid when it was first said and it might have been coined for Telethons. Because in every instance when a marathon program started out with a large sum it ended high in the upper brackets. Last year we had nothing to start us off and it took hours of pleading to get the ball rolling. This time let's give ourselves every possible chance. By seeking pledges well in advance and advising us that you have such a sum, we can start the tote board with a figure that will encourage contributions from the very first hour of the program.



MARTHA RAYE

To quote a famous comic — "You ain't heard nothing yet!" Writers are preparing special skits and appeals for the stars to perform during the most important 19 hours in the year so far as the welfare of our retarded children is concerned. The educational value of the Telethon is the most valuable factor even including the funds so urgently needed by the AHRC chapters who are participating. The viewers will learn about the services and facilities provided by AHRC and they will see for themselves that Retarded Children Can Be Helped.

Remind your friends that by giving you a pledge beforehand they can sit in comfort at their TV sets without heeding the request to **make** that call and **give** that pledge. With a clear conscience they can enjoy every minute of the magnificent 19 hours that have been planned.

WHEN: FEB. 7-8

STATION: WABD (5)

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

TWO STEPS BACKWARD

(Editorial)

The recent decision of Justice Aaron Steuer that New York City is not necessarily bound by the legislation which provides for mandatory classes for retarded youngsters between the ages of 5 and 21, with I.Q.'s between 50 and 75, will throw back special education almost fifty years.

What is even more frightening about this decision is the dictum of Justice Steuer, "the Board is not required to stultify itself by setting up so-called classes where, in fact, the only result can be custodial care." This is flying in the face of all experimentation that has been going on in the country for the past fifty years which has proved over and over again that the mentally retarded with I.Q.'s over 50 are educable and that under no circumstances can a meaningful program for them be called "custodial care."

Equally shocking and appalling is the position of the Board of Education of the City of New York. It is quite evident that they are speaking out of both sides of their mouths at once, on the one hand, promising the Association and the parents a meaningful program, "suitable to the mental attainments" of these children from 17 to 21 and on the other hand stating that such a program is unnecessary because it will result in custodial care. How they can reconcile these two positions is beyond us. Strange indeed that a youngster, educable until 17, suddenly becomes "custodial" on reaching that age!

This we do know, that it was the intent of the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental Retardation to provide a meaningful program, "suitable to the mental attainments" of these youngsters from the ages of 17 to 21, beyond what was then being provided.

The criteria of the Board of Education of New York City for the education of the mentally retarded beyond the age of 17 has resulted in the large majority of these youngsters being deprived of education from which they can profit, as we have seen in A.H.R.C. Training Center and Workshop as well as other experiments throughout the country.

Although amazed by this decision and the stand of the Board of Education, on sober reconsideration we should have known that we must fight for every step forward. When the lines are drawn, we should have known every device will be used to prevent this progress. It would certainly seem that although the parents have taken the problem out of the closet, the Board of Education would still like to stow it away somewhere in a corner out of sight and out of mind.

This is not the first time the lower courts have ruled against progress in the field of mental retardation. We had a similar experience with the A.H.R.C. Pelham School. Fortunately, however, we are a nation, as has been said over and over again, ruled by laws, not men. There are still appeal courts. And if the courts continue to take a narrow and prejudiced point of view, we can still thank God that there is a legislature.

We will not be stopped!

NEW YORK CITY SCHOOL BOARD WINS SUIT

COURT RESTRICTS STUDY RIGHTS OF 17 to 21 YEAR OLD RETARDED

In organizing classes for young adults of retarded mental development, the Board of Education in New York City need not provide for those between the ages of 17 to 21 unless they can profit from the C.R.M.D. program in existence.

Supreme Court Justice Aaron Steuer enunciated this interpretation of the Education Law in upholding the Board of Education in a suit brought against it by the parent of one of these youngsters, Allan Elgin. The suit was joined in by the Parents Association for C.R.M.D. Inc.

Before 1957, the Education Law had stated that local school districts must set up classes for children of retarded mental development when there are ten or more such children in a school district. This was further limited by regulations of the Commissioner to children with I.Q.'s between 50 and 75. In 1957, an amendment to this law was introduced by the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental Retardation, because it was found that most of the youngsters in special classes in the state were not receiving education beyond the age of 17. The amendment then read that such special classes must be set up from the ages of 5 to the end of the term in which the retarded reaches his 21st birthday.

The Board of Education maintained that after the age of 17 was reached, it was obligated to maintain such classes only for the retarded "who may be expected to profit from special educational facilities." In upholding this contention the court pointed out that a child of retarded mental development is defined as one who "is incapable of benefiting from ordinary classroom instruction but who may be expected to profit from special educational facilities."

Justice Steuer ruled: "The Board takes the position that it is, by virtue of this last statute, (the definition) only required to maintain classes for those retarded children 'who may be expected to profit' therefrom. The question presented is solely one of legislative mandate.

"Barring that, it is not for the courts to direct how the board shall perform its functions. The provisions as to age and intelligence quotient do not surplant the discretion of the Board to limit the providing facilities to those who can benefit from them. . . .

"The Board is not required to stultify itself by setting up so-called classes where, in fact, the only result can be custodial care. The application is denied."

Mr. Elgin as a spokesman for the P.A. - C.R.M.D., in commenting on this decision, said that the Board of Education has completely reversed its position in affidavits submitted in this action. He said that they had been misled by the board into an expectation that a special school will be set up as soon as a building was found and that a building would be found as expeditiously as possible.

At the office of the Association, Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director stated that the experience of the A.H.R.C. in its Training Center and Workshop for young adults definitely proves that these youngsters are educable beyond the age of 17 and that if that they were not educable in public schools it is because the public schools do not have a program fitted to the mental attainments of these youngsters. He continued that the matter has been presented to the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental Retardation to plan further legislation to overcome the affects of this decision.

It is also planned by Elgin and P.A. - C.R.M.D. that the decision be appealed.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED — CALL ALgon. 4-8203 — Extension 11

JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE HOLDS PUBLIC HEARINGS

Parents Bid for Mandated Education for all Retarded

The Joint Legislative Committee on Mental Retardation held two meetings last month in preparation for the 1959 legislative session, one in New York City at the Statler Hilton Hotel and the other in Syracuse at the Syracuse Hotel.

The emphasis this year, once more, was on mandatory legislation for the education of mentally retarded children with I.Q.'s under 50 in special classes. The broad program presented by President Bernard Fineson in New York City was supported by all chapters and many other organizations throughout the state.



From left to right: Assemblyman Stanley Steingut, Vice Chairman, Senator Earl W. Brydges, Chairman, and Hon. Warner F. Thompson, Counsel to the Joint Legislative Committee looking over the 1959 program.

One of the highlights of the meeting in New York City was a discussion of the refusal of the Board of Education in New York City to obey the law with regard to the education of mentally retarded children I.Q.'s 50 to 75 over the age of 17. Legislative remedies were suggested to overcome the effects of Justice Steuer's decision and were taken under advisement by the Joint Legislative Committee.

Another matter of grave concern to the parents, fees in state institutions for the mentally retarded, was presented by Mr. David Groberg, Welfare League — Letchworth Village Chapter, A.H.R.C., and also taken under advisement by the Joint Legislative Committee.

In this connection it was pointed out that we are living in an Alice in Wonderland situation with regard to fees for the handicapped in this state. For example, the blind child committed to Batavia State School for the Blind does not have to pay a fee. When, however, that child is found to be retarded after being committed to Batavia and then transferred to Newark State School for the Mentally Retarded, a fee must be paid. If a youngster commits an anti-social act, and is sentenced to an institution for correction for defective delinquents such as Naponoch or Albion, there is no fee, but if that same youngster is a good boy or girl, commits no anti-social act, but has to be sent to a state institution for other reasons, then there is a fee. It was pointed out that the tubercular have had no fees charged to them for services rendered by the state since 1947. Nor are there fees when a youngster has to go to a special school for the blind or the deaf. These inequities were forcibly called to the attention of the Joint Legislative Committee who took them under advisement.

It is expected that a very broad legislative program will again be introduced by the Joint Legislative Committee.

MANDATORY LEGISLATION FOR CHILDREN WITH I.Q.'s UNDER 50 HIGHLIGHTS A.H.R.C. PROGRAM

In a sweeping report, the A.H.R.C. Legal and Legislative Committee presented the A.H.R.C. Legislative program to the State Convention which was adopted by the Board of Governors and the Convention. This report follows.

- I. That A.H.R.C. again supports the following bills to amend the Education Law which were introduced in the last Legislature by the Joint Legislative Committee but were defeated.
 - A. To make mandatory the present permissive provisions for education of children having I.Q.'s under 50 (trainable).
 - B. To provide for mandatory education for mentally retarded children even in districts in which fewer than 10 such children are found.
 - C. To provide for mandatory transportation for pupils of special classes.
- II. That A.H.R.C. again presents the following bills, which the J.L.C. did not sponsor, but which were introduced in the last Legislature at our instance and failed to pass:
 - A. To amend the Mental Hygiene Law by adding education and training to the functions of state schools.
 - B. To amend the same by making mandatory the education of children in state schools.
 - C. To amend the same by broadening the qualifications for the position of director of state schools.
 - D. To amend the same by providing that at least one member of the board of visitors of each state school be a parent of a retarded child.
 - E. To amend the Education Law by providing for a differential in salary in favor of teachers of the handicapped.
- III. That A.H.R.C. again opposes, if they be introduced again, the following bills which we successfully opposed in the last Legislature:
 - A. To amend the Mental Hygiene Law by changing the title of state schools to state schools and hospitals.
 - B. To amend the same by setting up a mental health research fund in which would be deposited one-half of any increase in patients' fees.
- IV. That A.H.R.C. again urges on the J.L.C. the following measures which we have previously presented to them, but which they have not yet sponsored:
 - A. Amendment of the Mental Hygiene Law to eliminate all charges on involuntary commitments of mentally retarded persons.
 - B. Amendment of the same to provide for the establishment of "halfway houses" (supervised residences for mentally retarded persons employed in the community).
 - C. Creation of separate divisions for mental retardation, headed by assistant commissioners, in the Departments of Mental Hygiene and Education.
 - D. Expansion of the state budget for aid to teachers in training for special education.
- V. That A.H.R.C. urges on the J.L.C. the following measures not previously presented to them:
 - A. An amendment to the Mental Hygiene Law, sec. 124, subd. 3, to provide that if the petition for the commitment of a mental retardate be made by his father, mother or other relative, notice be given to the other parent or other relatives in the same or a nearer degree; if the petition be made by his spouse, notice be given to his parents, adult children or brothers and sisters; if the petition be made by a stranger, notice

(Continued on page 9)

HELP THE MARTHA RAYE SHOW HELP AHRC!

STATE WIDE

ONONDAGA COUNTY CHAPTER... showed its vitality in the December issue of its newsletter through a message from President Marvin W. Paxson... he calls on all members of the chapter to work together, taking up problems in great detail... we suggest that all chapters ask for a copy of this bulletin... NIAGARA COUNTY CHAPTER also has a most interesting series of bulletins with covers that are different... suggest, too, that you obtain copies of these, if you haven't got them... PUTNAM COUNTY CHAPTER reports a census of all retardates from birth to 21 in the community and the institutions being taken in Putnam County... they hope to have a roster for the first class of trainables from this census... the big news in WESTCHESTER, of course, is the opening of the clinic at the Burke Foundation... Clinic Advisory Committee of SUFFOLK COUNTY CHAPTER visited the Morris J. Solomon Clinic at the Jewish Hospital to see it in session... found it very inspiring and gave food for thought for future developments in Suffolk County... the County is to be congratulated on its development of areas and auxiliaries taking the lead from Nassau... We were glad to greet visitors at the Convention from ONTARIO COUNTY CHAPTER, out in the country, but always close to us... MONROE COUNTY CHAPTER calls for an editor for their bulletin... any takers?... NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN, ROCHESTER SECTION, Has agreed to sponsor an evening social and recreational program for teenage retarded children... Also report that swimming and bowling are under way early this fall... ONONDAGA COUNTY CHAPTER is sponsoring a Boy Scout Troop... wish we had a fuller report from Onondaga on the A.H.R.C. Booth at the State Fair early this fall... this was the first time A.H.R.C. has been an exhibitor... the booth in the womens building was organized, decorated and staffed by Mrs. Horace Greene, Chairman, Mrs. Ina Sagar, Assistant, and Mrs. William Donovan... State Headquarters sent material and literature for display and distribution... looking forward to a bigger and better booth in 1959... Glad to see the lively and interesting newsletter from CAPITAL DISTRICT CHAPTER... held their 7th, yes 7th, annual card party at the Sheraton Ten-Eyck, Monday, November 24th... I wonder, says Executive Director Weingold, why I can't get a room at the Ten-Eyck during the legislative session... Maybe we should take our business elsewhere... ROME STATE SCHOOL purchased a Bell and Howell projector, 2 record players and 6 picnic tables during the summer months... Costs \$662 and very well spent... January is membership month in BROOME COUNTY (Binghamton) Hope United Fund makes all the money they need to support the project... Lest I forget, I better put this in right now... NASSAU is comfortably esconced — they've moved in anyhow, in the new mansion recently purchased... planning many programs... think it should be used as a retirement home for old Officers and Executive Directors of A.H.R.C. among its other uses... UPPER HUDSON CHAPTER reports five youngsters now attending class for trainable retarded sponsored by the chapter in a classroom in the Margaret Murphy School in Hudson Falls... Thanks to Hudson Falls Board of Education for making class space available... nearly 3,000 letters appealing for funds were mailed by Upper Hudson Chapter in Warren and Washington Counties in South Glens Falls... too early for return... and, of course, Christmas Parties, Christmas Parties everywhere, too numerous to report... Do you remember, just a few short years ago, when we were looking for some companions for our children, some party, some place to go in this gala holiday season.

Institutions Groups Join Association

UNIFICATION ACHIEVED IN NEW YORK STATE

After the acceptance of the A.H.R.C. as a state member unit of the National Association for Retarded Children, a series of meetings were held with the various institutional groups in New York State for the purpose of achieving unity. This resulted in applications from these groups to the Board of Governors for admission as chapters.

These applications were acted on by the Board of Governors at their meeting in Buffalo, Friday, October 31st with the result that as of January 1st there are three new chapters in the Association. The Community League, representing the parents of children at Wassaic, has become a member as Community League — Wassaic Chapter, A.H.R.C.; the Welfare League, parents of children at Letchworth Village, becomes Welfare League—Letchworth Village Chapter, A.H.R.C. and Benevolent Society, parents of children at Willowbrook State School, becomes Benevolent Society—Willowbrook Chapter, A.H.R.C.

Previous to this, the three chapters of the Sunshine League of Western New York, representing the parents of children in Newark State School, had joined the various chapters of A.H.R.C. as individual members in the areas in which they live, Monroe County (Rochester), Lockport (Niagara) and Erie County Chapter (Buffalo). Thus all representatives of parents of children in institutions are now members of the Association whose name will shortly be changed, hopefully, to New York State Association for Retarded Children.

This achieves virtual unification throughout the state, with the exception of two groups who have not yet applied for membership in A.H.R.C., the Poughkeepsie and Staten Island Associations.

President Fineson welcomed the new members of the growing family of A.H.R.C., marking this as an important milestone in the development of our program and unified voice speaking for all retarded children.

GOVERNOR APPOINTS WEINGOLD TO BOARD OF VISITORS

TO SERVE ON WASSAIC STATE SCHOOL BOARD

As one of his last official acts, Governor Averell Harriman appointed Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of the State Association for the Help of Retarded Children, Inc. a member of the Board of Visitors of the Wassaic State School. This is in line with the Governor's policy of continuing to appoint a parent of a retarded child to the Board of Visitors of each state school.

We also would like to think that this is an especial award to Jerry Weingold for his services to the cause of mental retardation over the past ten years. Beginning with the sub-committee on Mental Retardation of the Citizens Committee of 100 for the Mid Century Conference of Children and Youth in 1950, Mr. Weingold has served as a member of the Advisory Committee to the Mental Health Commission, the Interdepartmental Health Resources Board, its successor, and the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental Retardation. In addition, he has served as a member of the Board of the National Association for Retarded Children as well as Chairman of its Legal & Vocational Rehabilitation Committees.

In appointing Mr. Weingold, the Governor wrote, "Our State is fortunate to be able to call upon public spirited people like yourself to undertake this kind of responsibility. I hope that your new appointment will prove of real interest to you, and I have every confidence that your service will be of benefit to the people of our State."

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED — CALL ALgon. 4-8203 — Extension 11

Ground Broken For West Seneca State School

Governor Averell Harriman dug the first spadeful of earth for a school for the mentally retarded at West Seneca in Erie County. The Governor declared that construction of the new state school may well mark the beginning of a new life for our mentally retarded children.

"We are moving forward," the Governor continued, "in the education of mentally retarded children who each year come to us in ever greater numbers. The number of these children cared for by the state has been growing every year. There are now almost 22,000. Our state schools have become grievously overcrowded and just as important, are located at great distances from the growing centers of population in Western New York and on Long Island."

The new school at West Seneca will provide for 1,776 children in the first stage of development. And we hope it never grows larger!



Governor Breaks Ground for New State School.

Front row, left to right—Dr. Arthur W. Pense, deputy commissioner of mental hygiene; Chester G. Germaine, supervisor of the town of West Seneca; Governor Harriman, and Dr. Clayton W. Greene, chairman of the mental hygiene council.

STATE GRANTS FOR TRAINING TEACHERS OF RETARDED \$75,000 QUICKLY USED UP

In order to offer teachers of children with retarded mental development opportunities for professional growth that will lead to a better understanding of the education and training processes suitable to meet the needs of these children, and also to encourage new personnel to enter this field, the State Department of Education set aside funds in 1957 up to \$50,000 for training grants worth up to \$300 each. This program was so successful that in 1958 \$75,000 was set aside, which was completely exhausted.

Eligibility rules for receipt of these grants have been set up by the State Department of Education and copies of this may be obtained by writing to Dr. Frances J. Daly, Director of Pupil Personnel, State Department of Education, 42 North Pearl Street, Albany, New York.

GRANT TO MONROE COUNTY FOR A DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

A.H.R.C. Chapter to Apply for Contract

Monroe County was designated today as the recipient of a grant of \$150,000 for the establishment of a demonstration community program for the mentally retarded. The announcement was made by Dr. James E. Allen, Jr., chairman of the New York State Interdepartmental Health Resources Board, after the Board made the decision at its monthly meeting this morning.

The funds became available as a result of legislation introduced during the 1958 session under the sponsorship of the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental Retardation, of which Senator Earl W. Brydges of Niagara County is chairman. Signed by Governor Harriman on April 22, 1958, the law provides that the project be administered locally by a community mental health board in the northwestern part of the state.

The objective of the program is to provide suitable services for mentally retarded children in the community who are of pre-school age or ineligible for public school classes and mentally retarded adults in the community who are unable to maintain employment. The project will attempt to coordinate current services, fill existing gaps to the extent possible within the framework of established state programs, develop additional services as needed, and effect a continuity of service. Pre-school, day care, recreation, sheltered workshop, half-way house and counseling services are specified.

The purpose of the demonstration is to determine the effectiveness of such services in developing the full potentialities of the retarded in social adjustment and economic usefulness. It will also aim to determine the role and responsibilities of the state, local government, and private organizations in providing such services as prove effective.

"The Health Resources Board had two excellent applications for the grant, one from Monroe County and the other from Erie County," said Dr. Allen. "Each application revealed a considerable amount of basic work in the evaluation of the existing resources, the determination of unmet needs and the development of methods."

"In making the grant to Monroe County," continued Dr. Allen, "the Board wishes at the same time to extend its congratulations to Erie County for the fine plan that it developed. We do not doubt that Erie County could do the job capably. However, we believe that Monroe County, because of its earlier entrance into the field of community mental retardation services, will be able to implement the demonstration more rapidly and thus give us the answers to our many questions in a significantly shorter time."

Monroe County Chapter, A.H.R.C., has about completed its plans to apply for the operation of a number of these services, including recreation, sheltered workshops, half-way house, and counseling.

AHRC — 200 Fourth Ave., New York 3, N. Y.

- ☐ You may count on me to help during the 19-hour Martha Raye Show for AHRC. I know you will send me all the details but meanwhile, put me down for February 7-8 at my nearest telephone center.
- ☐ I will tell as many people as possible to tune in to the show and urge them to make their pledges.
- ☐ To help Martha Raye start the ball rolling on Saturday night, February 7, I hereby pledge \$

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

PLEASE FILL-IN THIS COUPON AND MAIL IT NOW

Delegates From 29 Chapters Attend State Convention

Program Attracts Hundreds of Visitors

As is only fitting, the State Convention of the A.H.R.C. in Buffalo was the biggest and probably the best yet held.

A full program took up all of Friday, October 31st, Saturday, November 1st and Sunday, November 2nd through lunch. Under the Chairmanship of Wilfred G. Keaton and Co-Chairman Pearl De Wein, a smooth flowing series of events took up the interest of the delegates and visitors. Concurrent workshops were held in Guardianship, the problems confronting parents in trying to make lifetime provisions for their children, under the Chairmanship of Julian Banner; Institutions, which concerned itself principally with the fees charged patients in state schools and consideration of the fees structure, under the Chairmanship of Emil Goldstein; Sheltered Workshops, that considered the role of the sheltered workshop as a community resource for vocational training and work, under the Chairmanship of Dr. Leonard W. Rockower, and New Programs in Progress and Plans, that considered nurseries, day care centers, occupational day centers for adults, under the Chairmanship of Mrs. Helen Kaplan, Nassau County Chapter, and David S. Baumstein, Assistant Executive Director, New York City Chapter.

Two highlights of the first day were a report of the Inter-departmental Health Resources Board in the field of mental retardation by Dr. I. Jay Brightman, Executive Director, and a panel on progress in mental retardation: Research, Diagnosis and Treatment. The moderator for this program was Dr. Robert Guthrie, Director of Dept. of Bio-Chemical genetics, Children's Hospital in Buffalo. Participants were Dr. George Jervis, Director of Laboratories, Letchworth Village, Dr. Heinz Berendes, Department of Pediatrics, University of Minnesota, Medical School, Dr. Robert Warner, Director of Rehabilitation, Children's Hospital, Buffalo and Dr. Albert Potter, Director of the Guidance Center in Buffalo.

The key note address of the Convention was given by our friend, Senator Earl W. Brydges, Chairman of the Joint Legislative Committee on Mental Retardation, whose topic was "A Little Heaven." An overheard remark was it could have been entitled, "A Little Heaven." The luncheon was greeted by Frank A. Sedita, Mayor of Buffalo and the principal address was given by Senator Walter J. Mahoney, Majority Leader of the Senate. Entertainment was furnished by the Choral Group of Newark State School under the direction of Mr. William Verbridge.

As has become the custom, there was a Banquet Saturday evening and dancing thereafter. The principal address at the Banquet was given by State Comptroller Arthur Levitt, an old time friend of the Association and the retarded. The toastmaster was Wilfred G. Keaton, Public Relations Consultant of the Erie County Chapter.

All through this the Board of Governors was meeting to conduct the business of the Convention and every once in a while showed up out of the meeting room so that delegates will know that they were present.

Thanks are due to all the hard working members of the Erie County Chapter. Chairman of Credentials was John Ciolino; Reservations and Arrangements, Mrs. Donald Smythe and Mrs. Ceil Moore. Registration was taken care of by the Council of Jewish Women and the W.A.A.B.I.E.S. Exhibits were under the charge of Mrs. Frances Thompson and the program was arranged by Dr. Robert Guthrie, Ernest R. Wood and Orpha O'Donnell.

Bernard M. Fineson was reelected President for another year. The other officers and directors elected were: 1st Vice

(Continued on page 8)

Guardian Committee Reports in Play Form

COPIES AVAILABLE

At the suggestion of Mr. Julian Banner, Chairman of the New York State Guardianship Committee, the committee report took the form of a dramatic play the better to alert parents of retarded children to the necessity of legal protection for their offspring.

The play was called "If I Should Die" and the cast was made up of delegates to the convention. Mr. Banner acted as moderator. The rest of the cast was as follows: Mrs. Anne Gitter — Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Anne Kraus — Mrs. Jones, Mr. Charles Campana — Mr. White, Mr. Joseph Gitter — Mr. Green, Mr. Max Schachter — Mr. Jones, Mr. George Green — Mr. Smith. Committee Members: Mr. Ewald Gasstrom, Mr. Emil Goldstein, Mr. Augustus Jacobs, Mr. Henry Meyers, Mr. Seymour Rubin.



Julian Banner, Chairman, Guardianship Committee conducting workshop play. From left to right: Anne Gitter, Joe Gitter, Mildred Stagg, Henry Meyers and Ewald Gasstrom.

Several chapters have expressed an interest in putting on the play at local meetings. The 250 copies that had been prepared were exhausted at the convention. A new supply is now ready and any chapter or individual may have a copy or copies by writing to the author, Mildred Stagg, Director of Public Relations, AHRC, 200 Fourth Avenue, New York 3, N. Y.

Executive Director Meets With Selective Placement Counsellors

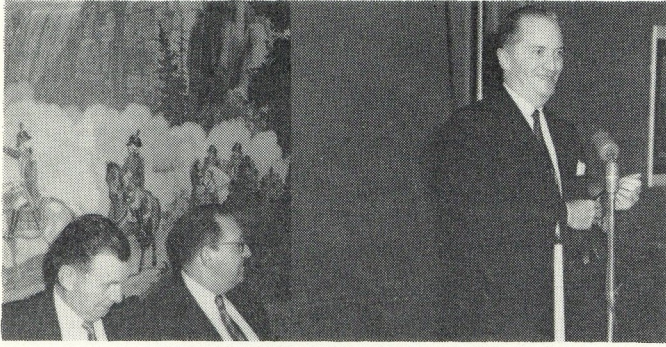
On Thursday, October 23rd, our Executive Director journeyed to Syracuse to meet with Selective Placement Staff of the New York State Employment Service.

This was a meeting arranged by Miss Janet I. Pinner, Director of Selective Placement, at the request of her staff who felt that the problem of placing the mentally retarded was one of considerable importance they wished to discuss at this year's annual meeting.

One of the highlights of the discussion was the fact that everyone of the counsellors felt the need of vocational training services for the mentally retarded as an aid to them in placement. This was of special significance, because the counsellors came not only from large cities but from small towns and rural areas as well. It pointed out the great need for more sheltered workshops throughout the state in order to bring the mentally retarded up to the level where they could work either in competitive industry or in a sheltered workshop for remuneration.

HELP THE MARTHA RAYE SHOW HELP AHRC!

SEEN AT THE CONVENTION



Senator Walter J. Mahoney addressing Convention. Looking on are Senator Earl W. Brydges and Bernie Fineson.



Left to right—Charles Becker, State Dep't. of Education, Bernard M. Fineson, President of New York State AHRC, Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of AHRC, Charles MacAllister, State Dep't. of Mental Hygiene and Arthur W. Pense, Deputy Commissioner of Mental Hygiene.



Just a gaping group from Nassau: Ruth Gross, Bud Lazarus, Helen Kaplan and Phoebe Lazarus.



Senator Earl W. Brydges delivering key note address to Convention. From left to right: Bud Lazarus, Secretary, Bernie Fineson, Ernie Wood and in deep attention Jerry Weingold.



The choir from Newark State School entertaining the convention delegates.



Hon. Arthur Levitt, Comptroller, addressing the Convention Banquet.



Bernie Fineson receiving keys to the city from Mayor Sedita.



The brass: from left to right: Paul Edwards, Executive Director, Erie County Chapter, Bernie Fineson, Jerry Weingold and Gus Jacobs (counting the loof?)



Burton Hartman holding forth to Bill Heisler and George Hirsch, President, New York City Chapter.

SEND YOUR TELETHON CONTRIBUTIONS IN NOW

Facts And Figures

The figures on the incidence of retardation are among the greatest weapons we possess in our battle to gain recognition for the cause of retarded children — yet — it appears that even experts frequently quote incorrect figures which give an inaccurate and misleading picture of the problem of mental retardation. It is up to us, members of the AHRC, to correct these mistakes and substitute Fact for Fiction.

The Fact Sheet which follows was compiled from figures published by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Children's Bureau, on May 1, 1957. Even these figures, startling as they are, probably could be raised considerably in the light of the increase in population since that date.

Fact Sheet

3% of the Population of the U.S.A. is mentally retarded:

340 more are born every day in this country

5,000,000 retardates in the U.S.A.

480,000 in New York State

240,000 in New York City

OF EACH 100,000 POPULATION

Rheumatic Heart 700

Cerebral Palsy 350

Permanent Crippling Polio 300

(before Salk Vaccine)

Blindness 200

MENTAL RETARDATION...3,000

Approx. 20,000,000 normal persons are directly affected due to mental retardation in the immediate family.

IN NEW YORK STATE

\$29,000,000 per year is spent to maintain 25,000 patients in 6 institutions for the mentally retarded. \$1700.00 approx. is needed for each individual patient in an institution per year.

Cost for maintaining a retarded person in the community is less than half.

According to former Surgeon General Scheele, more than 75% can, with proper facilities, become contributing members of society.

In the fiscal year 1955, 756 mentally retarded persons were fully rehabilitated according to the office of Vocational Rehabilitation, Washington, D. C. 95.7% had never worked. The group earned \$1,265,200 for the first year as against \$32,100 before rehabilitation.

IN NEW YORK CITY

21 retardates placed in industry by the AHRC Workshop in 1956-7, earned at the rate of over \$40,000 per year as against zero earnings previously.

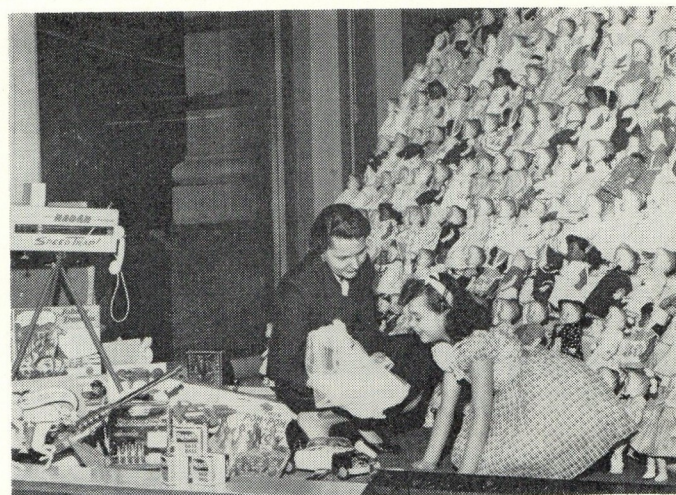
STATE CONVENTION

(Continued from page 6)

President, Mr. Augustus M. Jacobs; 2nd Vice President, Mr. Robert H. Wagner; 3rd Vice President, Mr. Burage E. Stiles; 4th Vice President, Mrs. Mary D. McCarthy; Treasurer, Mr. Max W. Schachter; Secretary, Mr. Norman Lazarus; Members of the Board of Governors: Mr. Victor Teich; Mr. Seymour Bieber; Mr. George G. Hirsch; Mrs. Deborah C. Cherey; Mr. James Maroon; Mrs. Walter Furman; Mr. Bernard Rosenberg; Mr. Joseph P. Tholl; Mr. Lawrence West; Mr. Paul Hermon; Mr. Theodore A. Cocca; Mr. Joseph A. Stuckart; Mr. Fred N. Carr; Mr. Peter C. Keischgens; Mrs. Louis G. Cooke; Miss Alice R. Hueber; Mrs. Robert Campbell; Dr. Freeman L. McEwen; Mrs. Ona C. Derox; Mrs. Lycey Murdock; Mr. Donald H. Cohen; Mr. Eugene Lunken; Miss Dorothy C. Bingel; Mr. Henry Cox; Mr. Thomas Lotz; Mr. August Bischoff; Mr. Paul Cahalan; Mr. Sidney Van Dusen; Mr. Evald Gasstrom; Mr. Julian Banner; Mrs. Anne Gitter; Mr. Sidney Leviton.

The Convention in 1959 will be held in Rockland County and in 1960 in Rochester.

Remington-Rand Dresses Dolls For Bronx-Brooklyn Parties



Miss Harriet Gasarek, Remington-Rand Club, offers a doll to a student at one of AHRC Brooklyn classes.

CREDO FOR CRMD CLASSES

BY: MARION CLARK — ASST. SUPERINTENDENT DISTRICTS 10-11

C. R. M. D. classes are an integral part of the school, and teachers, as well as children, should take part in all school activities.

Specifically, C. R. M. D. teachers should participate in all general conferences and enter into planning for them, and discussion in them.

C. R. M. D. teachers should receive all curriculum bulletins and other printed matter distributed to the staff and be expected to implement them within the limits of the abilities of their children and the regulations of Bureau of C. R. M. D.

C. R. M. D. teachers attend special conferences of their Bureau several times a year. These may take the place of some grade conferences. You will want them to be present, however, at certain others — particularly when new courses of study are being discussed, when district coordinators are giving in-service training, etc.

C. R. M. D. teachers' plans should be read with care by the supervisor. The supervisor should inform himself of the special directions given to C. R. M. D. teachers by their Bureau on this subject.

C. R. M. D. teachers, especially the inexperienced or weak, should receive their full share of on-the-job supervision by the principal and his assistants.

The principal or assistant charged with supervision of C. R. M. D. classes should confer fully with the Bureau supervisor when she calls.

C. R. M. D. teachers should have an opportunity to visit other C. R. M. D. classes, in the district and elsewhere.

C. R. M. D. classes should have full use of the resources of the school, visual and auditory aids, library, etc.

C. R. M. D. teachers should be aided by the principal in obtaining retesting for their pupils at regular intervals.

C. R. M. D. teachers should be encouraged to extract from each child all the effort of which he is capable in order to develop each retarded child to his fullest capacity.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED — CALL ALgon. 4-8203 — Extension 11

Christmas Bazaars Break All Records

Christmas Bazaars have been among our most successful fund raising events almost since the founding of AHRC, and 1958 marked the greatest bargains and biggest totals so far. The excitement of opening the beautiful merchandise, ticketing it, marvelling at the unbelievably low price tags, and then displaying it all to its best advantage, made the night before Bazaar almost as exciting as "The Night Before Christmas."

The night before we dream of huge crowds with lavish purses awaiting a chance to rush in and start buying — but — we needed policemen to keep the crowds in order only in our dreams. At the Bronx-Manhattan Bazaar this year that dream finally became a reality. The police were called to control the crowds who wanted to storm the Grand Ballroom of the Hotel Greystone on this, the first joint Bronx-Manhattan Bazaar held on Manhattan's West Side. About \$7000 for retarded children was rolled up in two hectic days and nights.



Bronx-Manhattan Bazaar—Mr. George G. Hirsch, President AHRC New York City with Mr. Cyril Weinberg, Fund Raising Chairman, AHRC New York, looking over merchandise donated for the event.

The Queens Borough Division held its annual card party and Bazaarette, on Nov. 13th, at the Italian Charities Building. It also set records for 1959 to aim at. In just two hours Queens sold \$1000 worth of merchandise. The sale that took only two short hours, however, had been several months in the making. Beautiful merchandise including sterling silver, glassware and other giftwares suitable for Christmas presents, made this an event that Queens residents look forward to and support generously. The card party accounted for the rest of the total and it was agreed that Queens had done it again.

"Looking Backward" once more we salute the Brooklyn Division for its Ninth Annual smash Pre-Christmas Bazaar, card and Mah Jong Party at Aperia Manor. The entire building was devoted to the event. The sale merchandise included clothing for men, women and children, groceries and household appliances in such quantity and of such quality that a large sum was raised in a single evening. Refreshments were served to the customers and game players, and the happy evening made the cash registers sing to the tune of over \$2500.00.

It would be impossible to thank every contributor and worker individually for the magnificent work that was responsible for the success of our Borough Bazaars. The Borough Chairmen — Mrs. Anne Kraus, Mrs. Teresa Harris and Mrs. Jean Katz, Mr. Joseph Gitter and Mr. Irwin Kamen offer their heartfelt gratitude to all who participated.

Pump Gas For Retarded

Mrs. Helen Shapiro and Mrs. Joan Pine, members of AHRC, pumped gas for motorists in Flushing on November 28th, encouraged by Mr. George G. Hirsch, President of the New York City Chapter. The event was arranged by the Flushing Committee for the Retarded through the generosity of Mr. Lou Miller, owner of Foxsons Friendly Service Station, in Flushing, L. I.

Mrs. Sarah Adler, chairman of the event, and Mrs. Esther Melnick, President of the Flushing Committee, were both present in spite of the fact that the weather was uncooperative.

Neither wind nor drenching rain stopped these determined friends of retarded children from their appointed task of raising money to provide necessary services and facilities.



Left to right—Mrs. Helen Shapiro, Mrs. Joan Pine, Mr. George Hirsch, AHRC New York City Chapter President, Mrs. Sarah Adler, Event Chairman, Mrs. Esther Melnick, President of Flushing Committee for the Retarded and Mr. Lou Miller, owner of Foxsons Friendly Service Station, 75th Ave. and Parsons Blvd., Flushing, L. I.

LEGISLATION

(Continued from page 3)

be given to both his parents and his spouse or nearest relative, and that such notice may not be dispensed with because of the non-residence of the person to whom it is required to be given.

B. Amendments to the Domestic Relations Court Act, sec. 85, and the Children's Court Act, sec. 24, to give explicitly to judges of these courts the same powers to order aid and treatment for the mentally retarded as they clearly have for the physically handicapped. The present wording appears to give only the power of commitment. (Introduced last year by Joint Legislative Committee).

C. A complete review of the basis of the charges in the state schools. It appears to your Committee that the portion of such basis which represents the cost of education should be stricken out because it is in conflict with the State Constitution's guarantee of free education. A comparison with the free aid given to persons with other handicaps would point to the elimination of all fees.

VI. That A.H.R.C. presses the Department of Mental Hygiene for a report on its studies of plans for a state research institute for mental retardation. This institute has been authorized by law, but no appropriation has been made pending such study.

In addition, the Legal & Legislative Committee has been in correspondence with the Governor's Committee on the Definition of Insanity in order to set up different standards for the mentally retarded to crimes. The committee is going further into this important problem and will come up with recommendations in the very near future for legislative and other action.

HELP THE MARTHA RAYE SHOW HELP AHRC!

REGIONAL WORKSHOPS FOR TEACHERS OF TRAINABLE

At the State Convention in Buffalo on Nov. 21st-22nd, the first of three regional workshops for teachers of the trainable retarded was sponsored jointly by AHRC and the State Department of Education. The meetings were organized by Miss Bernice Baumgartner, director of classes for AHRC.

About 60 teachers attended the workshop which was drawn from AHRC classes, public schools, and state institutions.

The purpose of these regional meetings, the second of which took place in Albany, with the third scheduled for Westbury, L. I., on Jan. 16-17, is to develop activities and units for classes made up of the trainable retarded. The programs are built around objectives that grow out of communication.

The teachers, who speak with authority through their daily experience with these children, appear convinced that the greater part of communication takes place on a physical plane. Physical expression enables the child to act out his inner tensions and thus obtain some release, as well as to interpret his feelings by communicating them actively. It also helps the child to develop other methods of communication.



Communication is the primary tool for attaining social adjustment which is the goal for a child at the beginning of his school career. It is essential that he be encouraged to use every means at his command, and often physical expression precedes or even substitutes for other types of communication.

Inability to communicate is a frustrating force that handicaps many trainable retardates. The Workshops discussed tools and methods to help develop communication. It was discovered that many of the teachers had been employing useful devices toward this end, and by correlating these successful tools, units valuable to the children and teachers can be developed.

The Buffalo meetings were addressed by Mr. Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director of AHRC, and Mr. Bernard M. Fine-son, President of the New York State AHRC. Others who participated were Mr. Charles Becker, Associate in Education of the Mentally Retarded, State Education Dep't., Mr. John Armstrong, Associate in Education of the Mentally Retarded, State Education Dep't., Mr. Salvatore Tavormina, Associate in Education of the Mentally Retarded, State Education Dep't., and Mr. Charles Mac Allister, Department of Mental Health. Mr. Arthur Rosenberg, President of the Albany AHRC, spoke at the Albany meeting.

In addition, Bernice Baumgartner, Director of Classes for the N. Y. City Chapter, is being released to act as consultant to the State Dep't. of Ed. for 5 teacher conferences on the young educable retardate.

Yonkers Raceway Aids Retarded

Yonkers Raceway was the scene of a gala fete on October 9th, at 7 P.M. for the benefit of the Association for the Help of Retarded Children, Inc. Bill Leonard of radio and television fame was chairman of the benefit committee which planned the event.



Yonkers Raceway Gala

Left to right—Mrs. Sigurd S. Larmon, Grover Whalen, Mrs. Walter Cronkite, Bill Leonard, Mrs. Leonard, Mr. Larmon, Mrs. Whalen.

Tickets were priced at \$25 apiece and included a special dinner and gratuities at the Raceway Pavilion as well as the Clubhouse entrance fee. Committee members included Mrs. Albert Lasker, Mrs. Thomas P. Leaman Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Lee Hastings Bristol Jr., Senator and Mrs. Jacob Javits, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph I. Strauss; also Messrs. William Barrett, Sam Cook Digges, Honorable James A. Farley, William Harrison, Marvin Josephson, Prince Ali Khan, Martin Kivel, Jackie Robinson, Richard Rodgers, Honorable Grover Whalen and Clarence Worden.

Department Stores Create Campaign Displays

B. Altman, Bloomingdales and Gimbel Brothers turned the talent of their window designers over to A.H.R.C. to help the



Gimbels Window—Hal Reiff Photographs.

latest campaign. The photographs that were taken by Doris Pinney at our Joshua School in the Bronx were used with great skill to produce a window on Bloomingdales' 59th Street side that had an almost Oriental feeling of stark beauty.

The window designers at Gimbel's featured the Hal Reiff series of photographs that he made at our Flushing social activities group for young adults, and at the Training Center and Sheltered Workshop, while B. Altman used a single photograph created by Victor Keppler as its theme.

All the photographs that were used including the campaign poster were contributions by these famous photographers to the Director of Public Relations of A.H.R.C.

ARRANGE TELETHON PARTIES AT HOME

LECTURE DISCUSSIONS ON MENTAL RETARDATION

YOUNG ADULT THE FOCUS

In answer to a growing demand among professionals and others interested in the retarded adult, the A.H.R.C. is presenting a series of lecture-discussions for workers in the field of mental retardation. These sessions, started in November, were planned by Workshop Staff and take place Friday afternoons between 3:30 and 5:00 P.M. at the Workshop, 116 East 27th Street. The first lectures dealt with Etiology, Special Education Problems, and Services at a Hospital Clinic for the Retarded.

The series will continue on January 9th, the **C.R.M.D. Bureau-Program and Objectives With Regard to Vocational Preparation**, Elkan E. Snyder, Assistant Director, C.R.M.D.

January 23, **Objectives and Techniques of the Social Activity Group Program, and Possible Areas for Coordination with the Sheltered Workshop**, Mr. Jack Rubinstein, Supervisor of Group Activities, New York A.H.R.C.

February 6, **A Review: Seymour Sarason and Thomas Gladwin, "Psychological and Cultural Problems in Mental Subnormality; A Review of Research" (1958)** — Mr. Jack Tobias, Psychologist at the Workshop.

February 20, **Characteristics of Childhood Schizophrenia, and Problems of Differential Diagnosis with the Mentally Retarded**. Dr. Gloria Faretra, Supervising Psychiatrist, Children's Unit, Creedmoor State Hospital.

March 6, **Familiar Emotional Problems of Retarded Young Adults, As They Are Related to Vocational Maturity**, Mr. Jerome Nitzberg, Social Worker at the Workshop.

March 20, **A Description of the Psychological Tests Used in the Sheltered Workshop, and Special Problems in Their Administration with the Retarded Adult**.

April 3, **The Principal Criteria for Determining Employability in Competitive Industry of Mentally Retarded Young Adults in a Sheltered Workshop**. Mr. Anthony Lombardo, Director, Sheltered Workshop and Training Center, Westchester Chapter, A.H.R.C., and Mr. Max Dubrow, Director of the Workshop.

April 17, **The Central Role of the Shop Supervisor in Developing Vocational and Personal Competence in the Mentally Retarded Young Adult**. Mr. Max Dubrow, Director of the Workshop.

May 8, **Techniques, Objectives and Special Problems in Providing Individual Counseling to Mentally Retarded Young Adults in a Sheltered Workshop**. Mr. Jerome Nitzberg, Social Worker at the Workshop.

May 22, **Techniques, Objectives and Special Problems in Doing Group Work with Mentally Retarded Young Adults in a Sheltered Workshop**. Mr. Jerome Nitzberg, Social Worker at the Workshop.

June 5, **The Personality Traits, Attitudes and Vocational Abilities Which Contribute to Success and Failure in Competitive Employment**. Mr. Sidney Rudner, Rehabilitation Counselor at the Workshop.

June 19, **A Day Center for Mentally Retarded Young Adults — The First Few Months of an Experiment**. Mrs. Sylvia Topal, Social Group Worker for the New York A.H.R.C. Day Center for Mentally Retarded Young Adults.

Questions should be addressed to Mr. Max Dubrow, Director A.H.R.C. Training Center Workshop, 116 East 27th Street, New York City.

Msgr. Toomey, Friend of Retarded, Dies

The Rt. Rev. Msgr. Joseph B. Toomey, a long time friend of A.H.R.C. and retarded children died suddenly at the age of 54 on November 10th, 1958 in the rectory of his church, St. John the Evangelist in Syracuse.

He served for years as advisor to the Onondaga County Chapter. As a member of the Citizen's Committee of 100 for the mid-century White House Conference on children and youth, he was charged with the mental health section including the program for the retarded.

Other charitable services that Msgr. Toomey performed included his being named diocesan director of Catholic charities, and membership on the board of visitors of the Syracuse State School in 1943. In 1944 he was elected president of the New York State Conference of Social Work. From 1947 to 50 he served as trustee of the National Health and Welfare Retirement, Inc.

We in A.H.R.C. and retarded children everywhere have lost a great and true friend.

Calendar of Events — New York City Chapter

Address inquiries regarding meeting places, etc., to Borough Chairmen:

Bronx — Mrs. Teresa Harris, 1440 Shore Drive, Bronx, N. Y.

Mrs. Jean Katz, 2105 Blackrock Avenue, Bronx, N. Y.

Brooklyn — Mr. Joseph Gitter, 51 Argyle Rd., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Manhattan — Mr. Irwin Kamin, 525 Mercer St., Jersey City, N. J.

Queens — Mrs. Anne Kraus, 63-50 Wetherole St., Rego Park, N. Y.

Jan. 7 — Bronx — Speaker, Mr. Charles Adams — Guidance Counselor for all Junior and High School CRMD classes. 8:30 P.M. Refreshments and discussion follow.

Jan. 12 — Brooklyn — Dr. Joseph Wortis, Brooklyn Jewish Hospital, 8:30 P.M.

Jan. 13 — Donor Get-To-Gether, Astor Hotel, 8 P.M. Mrs. Arlyne Bernstein, Donor Chairman.

Jan. 21 — Manhattan — Katherine Lynch, Dir. of Bureau CRMD, "Our Children Teach Us." 8:30 P.M.

Jan. 22 — Queens — Dr. Gunnar Dybwad, National Association for Retarded Children. 8:30 P.M.

Jan. 31 — Brooklyn — Mrs. Minna Bober, Chairman, Town & Country, Jewel Box Revue — Dinner Show.

Feb. 4 — Bronx — Mr. Bernard M. Fineson, President, New York State AHRC — Protecting Your Child's Future. 8:30 P.M.

Feb. 7-8 — TELETHON — CHANNEL 5

Feb. 10 — Brooklyn — Discussion on Wills and Taxes, Planning for your Child — AND Family. 8:30 P.M.

Feb. 18 — Manhattan — Dr. Ignacy Goldberg — "Let's Chat About Our Retarded Children". 8:30 P.M.

Mar. 3 — Bronx — Miss Bernice M. Baumgartner, Director of Classes, AHRC, 8:30 P.M.

Mar. 10 — Brooklyn — "The Invisible Mark" — Armstrong Circle Theatre Drama, 8:30 P.M.

Mar. 18 — Manhattan — "The Invisible Mark" — Armstrong Circle Theatre Drama, 8:30 P.M.

April 4 — Bronx — I Mongoli, Color Motion picture made at school for mongoloids at Milan, Italy.

April 15 — Manhattan — Rev. Raymond Rigney — "The Catholic Schools and Retarded Children". 8:30 P.M.

May 14 — Queens — "If I Should Die", drama on Guardianship Committee, with Mr. Julian Banner, Moderator, and original cast as presented at the State Convention.

WHEN: FEB. 7-8

STATION: WABD (5)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dead Editor:

Being under stress and strain with personal problems, and no place to turn to, I thought of Mr. Joseph Weingold, our executive director. I decided to make an appointment with him, and discuss my son, Steven, at our office at 200 Fourth Ave. After a short time, Mr. Weingold suggested that if I wanted to, I could send my boy to Pomona Center (Note: this facility was spotlighted in a recent article in Our Children's Voice). I tightened up inside, just dreading the thought of sending my boy away, if only for a few weeks. I had a tremendous decision to make, but I decided to send Steven to Pomona. Today, I am not a bit sorry.

Receiving the necessary details from Mr. Weingold, I went into action making arrangements to have Steven admitted. In 4 days following Pomona Center's instructions, my boy was admitted.

Words just cannot describe how a parent feels leaving his child for the first time. However, much to my surprise, I felt 100% better a few days later, seeing what a tremendously efficient staff they have taking care of my boy as well as the many other children at Pomona. My son was treated with loving care, and the staff kept in constant touch with me, informing me of my son's new life and environment. They let a parent know the bad as well as the better side. I know a parent would want it that way, straight from the shoulder at all time.

I cannot tell you enough about Mr. Ashforth, the terrific director at this wonderful Center, or of his staff. I knew very soon that Steven was in very capable hands, giving me peace of mind, and permitting me to concentrate on other problems.

Parents of AHRC. Don't let this opportunity pass you by. If you face the same problems that I have, and you could use a well deserved rest, Pomona Center is the place to send your child.

Again I say, thank you Pomona, from the bottom of my heart, and I know Steven thanks them too.

Sincerely yours,
Irwin Kamin

Dead Editor:

I would like to comment on an article that appeared in your October issue of "Our Children's Voice", under the heading, "RETARDED—SECOND CLASS CITIZENS IN NEW YORK CITY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOLS".

As a teacher of retarded children in the junior high schools for the past eight years, I should like to take issue with you on several points in your article.

For one, "that children in junior high school classes are not allowed to participate in school shop programs, except at the will of the principal." The impression is given here that all junior high schools prohibit retarded children from shop participation. On the basis of my own personal experiences and

that of my colleagues on the junior high level, our children are given the opportunity to include shop in their programs in most schools.

While assigned to Jr. H.S. 85 in Brooklyn for over six years, classes for the retarded were sent to four shop classes a week. In addition, these children were assigned to club periods of their choice.

I am now teaching at John Marshall Junior High School 210, Brooklyn. One of the first things my principal, Mrs. Florence Hornung, said to me was, "Every effort has been made to give your class and that of the girls CRMD class in our school, a program equal to that of the other children".

True to her word, Mrs. Hornung assigned our children to four shop periods a week. In addition, our retarded youngsters attend a weekly assembly period, a visual-aids period and attend gym classes.

This gives me five "unassigned" or "free" periods a week.

You do not mention the cognizance given to our children by such fine people as Mrs. Hornung and the many supervisors of the Bureau of CRMD, in the attainment of "equality" for our children and teachers in the junior high schools of New York City.

In addition to the school program, our children are invited to participate in one of the outstanding school and community centers in our city, located here at the John Marshall Junior High School. Through competitive games, dancing, roller skating and shop activities, the afternoon center, which runs every week day and Saturdays, further enriches the life of our retarded children through participation in school-community social activities.

It is easy to say, "discrimination on the basis of mental achievement" but it is not justifiable and does not give credit to the progress being done in this area for the retardate.

Yours truly,
James C. Stuber
Teacher, C.R.M.D. Boys
Jr. H.S. 210

(We are well aware that there are many junior high schools who are treating the retarded as they would other children. The fact still remains that this is a matter of discretion with the principals and that the division has not yet enunciated the principle that the retarded, as a matter of right, shall share in all the programs they are capable of joining in. There are still junior high schools where the teachers do not get free periods and where the retarded participate in shop and gym on a left-over basis.

Our contention is that their participation in these programs is not a matter of largesse on the part of administrators, but a matter of right to which the children are entitled.

May I assure you of our understanding of the fine work that is being done by the teachers and many of the principals.

Editor)

ASSOCIATION FOR THE HELP OF RETARDED CHILDREN, INC.

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