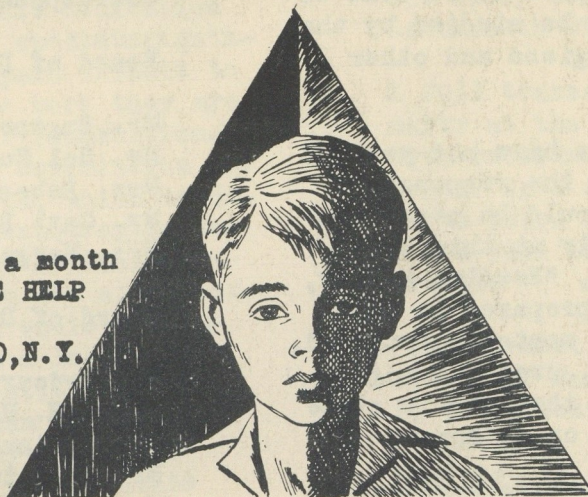


OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE

Issued approximately once a month
by the ASSOCIATION FOR THE HELP
OF RETARDED CHILDREN, INC.
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October 17, 1949
President,
Joseph T. Weingold

Retarded Children Can Be Helped!

**NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD OCTOBER 28th, AT
MABEL DEAN BACON VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL.
DR. E. ARTHUR WHITNEY WILL BE GUEST
SPEAKER.**

The next meeting of the Association for the Help of Retarded Children will be held at the Mabel Dean Bacon Vocational High School, 129 East 22nd Street, in New York City, on Friday evening, October 28th, at 8 P.M.

The guest speaker for the evening will be Dr. E. Arthur Whitney, Superintendent of the Elwyn Training School, in Elwyn, Pennsylvania. He will speak on the topic "What is Mental Deficiency?". At the conclusion of his talk, he will answer questions from the audience. All members and friends of the Association are being urged to attend this free public meeting.

BIG TURNOUT AT LAST AHRC MEETING HEARS PEARL S. BUCK SPEAK ON RETARDED CHILDREN. FULL SLATE OF OFFICERS ARE ELECTED.

Pearl S. Buck, world-famous novelist, and for many years allied in the cause of aiding the mentally retarded, spoke before an audience estimated to be between 850 and 900 persons at the last public meeting of the A.H.R.C. Elections were also held at this meeting and the full A.H.R.C. slate was elected, with Mr. Joseph T. Weingold as President. Details of the election are elsewhere in this issue.

GOVERNOR DEWEY ENDORSES THE AHRC. PRAISES OUR OBJECTIVES IN PUBLIC ADDRESS. PLEDGES SUPPORT IN LUNCHEON WITH OUR OFFICERS.

Governor Thomas E. Dewey has joined an evergrowing list of public figures and officials in endorsing and encouraging the work and objectives of the Association for the Help of Retarded Children, Inc. On October 13th, Governor Dewey

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CONFERENCE IS HELD WITH DR. MACCURDY AND OTHER OFFICIALS. WEINGOLD PROMISES FULL REPORT TO AHRC AT A LATER DATE.

An important meeting dealing with the problems of mental retardation in New York State was held at the Hotel Statler, in New York City on the evening of September 22nd. Present were: Dr. Frederick MacCurdy, Commissioner of the Department of Mental Hygiene of New York State, Dr. Harry C. Storrs, Senior Director of Letchworth Village State Training School, and Mrs. Crystal Potter, Second Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Welfare in New York City. Representing the A.H.R.C. were Mr. Joseph T. Weingold, President, Mr. Nathan Feder, 1st Vice-President, and Mr. Eugene Gramm, Chairman of Public Relations and Publicity, who arranged the meeting. The A.H.R.C. committee submitted several recommendations

to Commissioner MacCurdy's group concerning the mentally retarded. It was agreed that these recommendations would be further implemented in a written report to be sent to Albany by the A.H.R.C. to be studied by the Commissioner of Mental Hygiene and other officials.

"Since our recommendations have not yet had the full consideration of the responsible officials in Albany, it would be premature to disclose them publically at this time", Mr. Weingold said, adding, "Needles to say, the recommendations were prepared in the best interests of all the mentally retarded, regardless of race, color, creed, or age, and regardless of whether they are in state and private institutions, or at home".

WCBS GOES "ALL OUT" TO HELP THE AHRC.

Radio Station WCBS has launched a full scale program of support to aid the Association for the Help of Retarded Children in bringing its name and objectives before the people of New York. Through the initial efforts of Mr. and Mrs. Emil Posner, who are members of the A.H.R.C., Mr. Eugene Gramm was granted an interview with Mr. Clarence Worden, Program Director of WCBS. Mr. Gramm brought with him station-break announcements, news announcements, suggestions for an interview program and other material for presentation over the air. Thus far, the station breaks and announcements have been made on such programs as Jack Sterling, Phil Cook, and Arthur Godfrey.

On Friday, September 30th, Mr. Gramm was interviewed on the Margaret Arlen Show. Following this broadcast there has been a wide response from listeners, and many new prospective members have been contacting the A.H.R.C. office. Financial contributions from listeners have also been made.

Mr. Gramm has asked that every member of the A.H.R.C. write WCBS, New York, N. Y. and express individual thanks for the attention WCBS has given to the oft-neglected problem of mental retardation.

ASSOCIATION'S NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS.

The following is the complete list of A.H.R.C. officers elected this month.

President: Mr. Joseph T. Weingold
1st Vice-President: Mr. Nathan Feder
2nd Vice-President: Mr. George G. Hirsch

Recording Secretary: Pearl Schwartz
Financial Secretary: Minnie Schaeffer
Treasurer: Mr. Irving Shiller
Corresponding Secretary: Ann Greenberg

Board of Directors: Two Year Term

Mr. Eugene J. Gramm
Mr. Sol Hulnick
Mrs. Rebecca Noble
Mr. Carl Rappaport
Mrs. Margaret Riva

Board of Directors: One Year Term

Mr. Sydour Chicquor
Dr. M.H. Hecht
Mr. Julian Banner
Mr. Augustus Jacobs
Mr. Christopher Lydon

WESTCHESTER REPORT

Our first meeting of the season was held on September 21st in the Mt. Vernon Public Library. Mrs. James Killilea, one of the Incorporators of the Westchester Cerebral Palsy Association, spoke with great inspiration on "Organization". We have made a good beginning, she said, in that we have enlisted the aid of Dr. Holla, Medical Commissioner, the Macy chain of newspapers, and the radio stations.

Mrs. Killilea stressed a formula for organization by H. J. Seymour in his book "Design for Giving" which was followed by the Cerebral Palsy Association. We think it important enough to repeat. It is the DIAPPER formula, always to be followed in proper order as follows:

Diagnosis: What is our problem? What needs to be done?

Investigation: Where are children located? Facilities available?

Analysis: How do the two stack up together?

Planning: Only after the other two are done.

Program

Evaluation: After a year of work.

Records

We are going to follow this formula through, and make Westchester County know about its retarded children.

Emma Rosenberg
Corresponding Secretary

attended ceremonies at Letchworth Village, at which he dedicated the laying of a cornerstone for one of several new buildings now under construction. In his dedication speech to the officials and spectators gathered there, Governor Dewey paid tribute to parent organizations for the work they are doing in the field of mental retardation. He specifically praised the Association for the Help of Retarded Children, which he described as one of the most encouraging developments in the aid of the mentally deficient that had yet come to his attention. He said that by stimulating society's interest and participation on a local and community level, the Association for the Help of Retarded Children can do much to relieve the flow of mentally deficient children into already overcrowded state training schools, and can help prevent institutionalization of many educable children.

The Governor added that he was particularly gratified that the Association for the Help of Retarded Children was not what he would term a "pressure group" in the unpleasant sense of that phrase, but rather, a sincere and hard working group who can accomplish a great deal. *

At a special luncheon at Letchworth the same day, Governor Dewey spoke at some length with Mr. Eugene Gramm, Chairman of the Public Relations Committee, A.H.R.C. on the general problems of mental deficiency. Mr. Nathan Feder and Mr. George Hirsch, 1st and 2nd Vice-Presidents were also present. The Governor pledged that he will meet with representative members of the A.H.R.C. and representatives of the Welfare League for Retarded Children at a future date. Mr. Gramm, to whom he extended this promise, is now corresponding with the Governor's secretary to make specific arrangements on behalf of the AHRC and the Welfare League. He is a member of both organizations.

Present also at the luncheon were Dr. Frederick MacCurdy who introduced the Governor to the work of the A.H.R.C., Officials of the Welfare League for Retarded Children, and two Officials of the Assembly of Brooklyn Jewish Women's Organizations: Dorothy L. Michaels, its President, and Millie Felder, its Executive Secretary. The latter two women spoke to Governor Dewey on behalf of the A.H.R.C. and the plans for a clinic for retarded children. Governor Dewey promised that he would visit the Women's Assembly, too.

State Assemblymen, members of the Letchworth Board of Visitors, and other pertinent officials and doctors completed the list of guests at the luncheon, with Dr. Harry C. Storrs, Senior Director of Letchworth Village in the role of host.

A full transcript of Governor Dewey's remarks at the dedication ceremony have been recorded by a stenographer and will appear in a report issued by the Letchworth Board of Visitors. OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE will then quote the Governor in detail.

"Our warmest thanks are extended to Commissioner MacCurdy for bringing the AHRC to the attention of Governor Dewey, and for helping to win the Governor's active interest in our organization", Mr. Gramm stated.

AHRC COMMITTEES FORMED AND RE-ORGANIZED.
CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS.

At a special meeting of A.H.R.C. committee volunteers on Wednesday, October 12th, a complete list of committees were formed and staffed on a volunteer basis.

Working from an organizational plan supervised by Mr. George Hirsch, the following committees were set up by President Weingold:

Budget Committee
Camp Committee
Clinic and School Committee
Education Committee
Fund Raising Committee
Institutions Committee
Membership Committee and (Speakers Bureau)
Organizational Committee on A.H.R.C.
Chapters (in other cities of New York State)
Program Committee
Public Relations and Publicity Committee

A new call for additional volunteers has been issued, and all those interested in joining one or more of these committees is advised to write Mr. Nat Feder at the Association office, and ask for a questionnaire form. A request has also been issued for volunteer office help, to work between 9 and 5 P.M. on weekdays.

DON'T FORGET OUR MEETING
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28th

AHRC TO HIRE A PAID DIRECTOR WHO WILL SUPERVISE ACTIVITIES OF ASSOCIATION UNDER BOARD OF DIRECTORS AUTHORITY.

The A.H.R.C. Board of Directors have agreed to hire a paid Director who will supervise and coordinate the activities of the Association. No salary has been stipulated, as yet, but it is agreed that this executive will probably be a person with social service background and other qualifications that will further the objectives of the A.H.R.C.

Applications are invited from all such qualified men or women.

PROF. LOUIS E. ROSENZWEIG FORMERLY OF
C.R.M.D. CONDUCTS TEACHERS COURSES.

Three courses for teachers and prospective teachers in C.R.M.D. classes are being given at Brooklyn College by Professor Louis E. Rosenzweig, formerly of the C.R.M.D. Bureau.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS COLUMN

Mrs. B.S.T. asks:

Some time ago, it was announced that there was a possibility that the experimental classes for children 4-6 years old, would be started by the Board of Education. What happened to this idea? The mothers would be glad to help with these classes. Can't something be done?

Answer:

This matter has not yet been acted on by Dr. Frank J. O'Brien, Superintendent in charge of this program. Unfortunately, Dr. O'Brien was ill this summer. We hope he will be back at his desk soon and act favorably on this plan. It is something approved by the C.R.M.D. and only needs an O.K. from Dr. O'Brien to get started.

Mrs. Abe Weiss writes us as follows:

I have a son of 18 years who is at present mentally retarded.

For some time now, I have been thinking of purchasing a cooperative farm for him and others like him who can get the care and attention they require, but also be free from the city turmoil - where they will be able to do things for themselves. Since it is impossible for me to undertake such a project by myself, I would

like to hear from other parents who are in the same predicament.

Thanking you, I remain,

Telephone #
Ulster 3-4048

Very truly yours,
Mr. Abe Weiss
1428-43rd St.
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Mrs. L.R. asks:

Is it true that the majority of mentally retarded people in the U. S. are in institutions?

Answer:

No. that's not true. The National Mental Health Foundation states that approximately 8 percent are in institutions.

Mr. C. R. asks:

Have you heard anything about a brain operation to help the brain-injured?

Answer:

On September 14th, the New York Times reported on research and experiments being conducted at the Western Reserve University Medical School. According to the report, doctors are working on a new surgical procedure which involves linking a vein from the brain with an artery at the right side of the neck. The lower end of the vein is then tied off, providing a one-way flow of blood to that side of the brain. This is to stimulate blood circulation in damaged brain areas. While reports have been encouraging in eleven out of eighteen operations performed on severely feeble minded children, the responsible doctors warned against too much general optimism at this stage. The editors of Our Children's Voice will keep readers posted on future developments which may occur in these experiments, and on all other news in the field of mental retardation.

All correspondence and contributions to Our Children's Voice should be addressed to the editors c/o The Association for the Help of Retarded Children, 1133 Broadway, New York 10, N. Y.

Editor- Eugene J. Gramm
Co-Editor- Joseph T. Weingold