

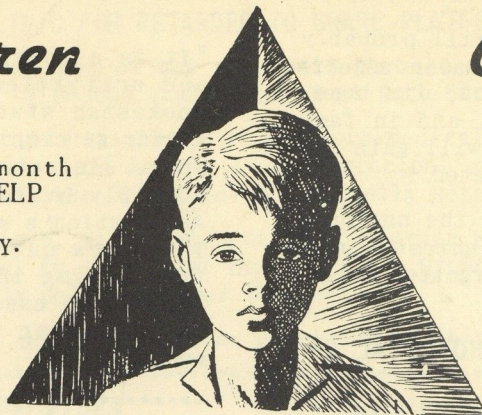
OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE

Retarded Children

Can Be Helped!

Issued approximately once a month
by the ASSOCIATION FOR THE HELP
OF RETARDED CHILDREN, INC.
31 Madison Avenue New York 10, N. Y.

Chartered by the State of
New York, February, 1949



Volume 2, Issue #4
August-September, 1950

President:
Nathan Feder

Executive Director:
Joseph T. Weingold

NATIONAL PARENTS' ORGANIZATION TO BE FORMED THIS MONTH AT MINNEAPOLIS CONVENTION

At least seventy five Parent Groups aiding the mentally retarded, representing various states throughout the nation, have been invited to send delegates to a national convention to be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota, September 28th through October 1st. The groups are convening for the purpose of setting up a nation wide organization to deal with the problems of the mentally retarded.

Four delegates from the AHRC are scheduled to attend the convention. They include Nathan Feder, President, George Hirsch and Eugene Gramm, 1st and 2nd Vice-Presidents, and Joseph T. Weingold Executive Director. Mr. Woodhull Hay will serve as an alternate delegate in the event one of these four cannot attend. Mr. Weingold represented the AHRC at the national convention of the American Association On Mental Deficiency in Columbus, Ohio last May.

It was at the Columbus convention that Mr. Weingold authorized by the AHRC Board of Directors, presented a paper to other parent groups, calling for the formation of a national organization. A Steering Committee was formed, with Mr. Alan Sampson of the Children's Benevolent League of Washington as Chairman. Mr. Weingold is also a member of that committee.

Another member of the Steering Committee, Mr. R. T. Lindh, President of The Association of Friends of the Mentally Retarded of Minneapolis is in charge of arrangements. Among the distinguished guests and speakers whom he has arranged to have at the convention are Governor Luther W. Youngdahl, and the Mayors of the Twin Cities.

The convention will be held in the Radisson Hotel, Minneapolis and registration will begin at 9:00 A.M., Thursday, September 28th. The Steering Committee is now engaged in preparing the agenda.

"It is understood that this national organization will in no way infringe on the autonomy of each individual Parent's Organization," an AHRC spokesman stated.

(continued on p.2)



Dr. Marcus D. Kogel, accepts check for \$4,100 from Nathan Feder, President of the A.H.R.C. to aid in the establishment of a Speech Clinic for the mentally retarded at the New York Medical College, Flower-Fifth Avenue Hospitals. The money was donated through the A.H.R.C. by the Lena Invalid Aid Society and accepted by Dr. Kogel on behalf of his alma mater, the New York Medical College. Dr. Kogel is Commissioner of Hospitals for New York City.

**IMPORTANT SEE MEETING NOTICE
ON PAGE 3**

ARCH IN NEW HEADQUARTERS RAPID GROWTH NECESSITATES MOVE NEW OFFICES AT 31 MADISON AVENUE

New and larger offices, located at 31 Madison Ave., New York City, have been leased by the AHRC, with occupancy beginning September 1st, An Association Announcement stated.

The new headquarters occupy the second floor of a four-story business building north of 25th Street, overlooking Madison Square Park. Considerably larger than the old offices at 1133 Broadway, the new space consists of three rooms: a small reception room and general office, and a large room which can accommodate meetings of up to 100 persons.

(continued on P.2)

"While the national organization will probably concern itself initially with the broader aspects of the problem of mental retardation, its benefits are bound to be felt locally, and in fact every mentally retarded individual will gain immeasurable advantage from it", he stated.

Another parent, reviewing plans for the national convention, wrote: "This is the brightest moment in the long, dark history of 'the forgotten children'".

AHRC CLINIC TO OPEN AT JEWISH HOSPITAL OF BROOKLYN

Arrangements have been made to establish the AHRC's Brooklyn clinic for the mentally retarded at The Jewish Hospital of Brooklyn, it has been announced by the Association. It is expected that the clinic will open in either late September or early October.

The clinic, which will be devoted exclusively to the diagnosis, treatment and guidance of the mentally handicapped, was made possible by a grant from the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Morris J. Solomon Sunshine Fund, which last year voted to donate \$10,000 a year for a period of three years for this purpose. Mrs. Ruth Rosen, present Chairman of the Auxiliary's Board of Directors, was its President at the time the grant was made. The present President is Mrs. Sarah Jacobson.

AHRC officials expressed their appreciation to the following men and women for their help in working out the details and procedure for the establishment of the clinic: Mr. Emil Barr, President of the Jewish Hospital of Brooklyn; Dr. Benjamin Kramer, its Head of Pediatrics; Mr. Paul Meyer, Jr., Executive Director of the Hospital, Mrs. Edna Baer, Executive Director of the Brooklyn Jewish Child Care Council, (Mr. Aaron Jacoby, the Council's President, is a member of the AHRC's Advisory Board.) Miss Jessie Crampton, Executive Director of the Brooklyn Juvenile Guidance Center and Joe Bernstein of the Brooklyn Council for Social Planning. It was learned that space within the hospital has already been designated for the clinic, and that the rooms are now in the process of being decorated and furnished. A psychiatric social worker has been engaged, with the hiring of further personnel awaiting the return of Dr. Kramer from the Pediatric Conference in Paris.

The Jewish Hospital of Brooklyn is located at 555 Prospect Place.

PARENT COURSES TO START

The Fall session of the AHRC Parent Education Course is scheduled to begin early in October. Parents who have not registered are urged to do so at once. In addition to the regular lectures, there will be a special course for parents on how to improve their child's speech by home training.

Parents wishing to register for the courses may do so by writing to George Hirsch, Chairman, Education Committee, AHRC, 31 Madison Avenue, New York.

"It is a heartening token of the rapid growth and activities of the Association," an AHRC Spokesman stated, "that within a little over a year we completely outgrew our original office space. In recent months, it had gotten so impossibly overcrowded at 1133 Broadway that the Association's work was being seriously hampered. These new quarters will permit more efficient functioning in all phases of our activities, and can be used for a number of other important purposes for which our old offices were inadequate."

PLANS PROGRESS FOR COOPERATIVE CLASSES

Plans are progressing for the formation of A.H.R.C. cooperative classes. The cost of such classes will be shared by the parents of the children attending. The composition of each class will depend on the applications and the subsequent screening of the children. The lowest age eligible is six years.

All those interested in a cooperative class, or a play therapy class are advised to submit their names and address to the A.H.R.C. office immediately, and an application form will be mailed them. The speed with which the class will be set up depends upon quick action by interested parents. It is hoped that such a class can be started this fall.

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION FOR RETARDED SET UP

Through the cooperation of Goodwill Industries, and the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation of the State of New York, a program of vocational training for a limited number of youngsters has been set up at the Sheltered Workshop of Goodwill Industries in Manhattan. Not all who have applied can be taken now as facilities are limited, but this is a great step forward in the philosophy of the Sheltered Workshop. "We owe a great deal to the farsightedness of Mr. Rhatigan, Executive Director of Goodwill Industries and Mr. Leonard W. Rockower of the N. Y. State Division of Vocational Rehabilitation who made this program possible," stated Joseph T. Weingold, AHRC Director. "Aiding them to work out the details were Miss Phillips of Goodwill Industries, Dr. Mary Harnett and Irwin Goldstein of the CRMD and Dr. Emily Burr, one of our advisors, who is doing the testing for the DVR."

"We hope to be able to interest the other Sheltered Workshops in the city to expand their programs to include the mentally retarded, many of whom could be trained for employment if the facilities existed. Some of the youngsters are already being trained and testing is continuing."

NEXT GENERAL MEETING OF AHRC SEPT. 22ND

DR. SLOBODY, HEAD OF CLINIC FOR RETARDED TO SHARE PLATFORM WITH DAN BOYD, PARENT

The next general and free public meeting of the AHRC will be held on Friday Evening, September 22nd at 8 P.M., at the Central High School of Needle Trades, 225 West 24th Street, New York City.

Dr. Lawrence B. Slobody, Professor of Pediatrics at New York Medical College and Director of Pediatrics at Flower and Fifth Avenue Hospitals will be one of the principal speakers. Dr. Slobody is a member of the AHRC Board of Advisors, and heads the Clinic for the Mentally Retarded at Flower and Fifth.

Also scheduled to speak is Daniel Boyd, Vice President of the Bergen Unit of the Association of New Jersey Parents' Groups. Mr. Boyd will speak on "The Three Stages in the Growth of a Parent of a Mentally Retarded Child," an address which he recently delivered over the radio.

Latest activities and plans of the AHRC will also be presented at this meeting.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO AHRC PROVIDES

SUMMER CAMP FOR NEEDY RETARDED CHILDREN

Through the philanthropy of the Esther Baila League, the Ruth Kirzon Group for Handicapped Children and Mr. Ben Jacobson of New York City, mentally retarded children of families in poor financial circumstances have enjoyed Summer Camp in 1950.

The Esther Baila League through Mrs. Yvette Greisman of the Bronx, pledged Two Hundred and Eighty Dollars to the AHRC. From the Ruth Kirzon Group through Mrs. Florence Vogel of the Bronx, Two Hundred Dollars was received, and Mr. Jacobson donated Fifty Dollars.

Four children have been sent to Pine Grove Camp in Saugerties, for one month each.

Pine Grove lowered their rates to benefit these children.

In all cases, the financial circumstances are severe. One parent is on Home Relief, and is nursing a chronically ill husband. In another case, there are five children in the family and the husband earns a small salary. And in still another, the mother is separated from the husband.

"On behalf of the entire AHRC," an Association Camp Committee spokesman stated, "May I say that heartfelt thanks go out to these warm and generous people who have made Camp possible for these needy retarded? Hardship cases like these find it impossible to get summer camp facilities for their retarded children without such help. It is hoped that we will be able to extend this aid to some of our other retarded children in need, in the future," he stated.

ADVERTISING TO BE ACCEPTED

OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE needs financial support to continue publication. Advertising will be accepted starting with the next issue. For advertising rates, write to:

Editor, OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE
A H R C
31 Madison Ave., N.Y.

MEMBER RUNS ONE-WOMAN FUND CAMPAIGN DURING VACATION

This is the story of how one AHRC member waged a single-handed crusade for the Association during her summer vacation.

Mrs. Shirley Hulnick, who is a chairman of the Bronx Committee on Fund-Raising, has been spending the summer at a resort hotel in Long Beach, Long Island.

From almost the moment of her arrival, she set about organizing a campaign among both the permanent and summer residents on behalf of the AHRC. She distributed literature; recruited new members; enlisted the aid of people who, while not themselves directly affected by the problem, were won over by her own fierce devotion to the cause of "the forgotten children". She acted as her own publicity committee, and succeeded in getting a number of the local newspapers to publicize her efforts and the work of the Association.

On August 9th, she ran a card-party at the Beachhurst Hotel. By this time, she was receiving energetic assistance from Mrs. Gertrude Davis, a resident whom she had recruited as an AHRC member during her campaign. Two non-parents, Mrs. Doris Levine and Mrs. Roslyn Shulsinger, who are co-owners of the hotel, donated the use of the hotel's facilities. Association members who live in the vicinity pitched in to help.

Other residents of the hotel and community donated prizes and cash gifts.

And when the function was over, and the proceeds counted, some \$500 had been raised to advance the Association's work!

C.P.A.'s — ATTENTION!

The Budget Committee needs the help of Certified Public Accountants to assist with various phases of its work.

Members who can contribute some of their spare time to this important work are urged to communicate with Mr. Christopher Lydon or Mr. Julian Banner, c/o the AHRC, 31 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y.

BROOKLYN FUND RAISING MEETING PLANS LUNCHEON, BOROUGH MEETING FOR OCTOBER, CARD PARTY

The general, state-wide Fund-Raising program of the AHRC is now in process of preparation. Individual borough committees are already planning small functions of various kinds which will serve to augment the larger, over-all drive.

In Brooklyn, three such functions are scheduled for October and November, according to Mrs. Freda Kleinberg, Co-Chairman of that borough's Fund-Raising Committee. One of these, a borough meeting and social get-together for members and their friends who live in Brooklyn, is to be held Tuesday evening, October 3rd, at the "Tropic Isle", 350 Flatbush Ave. Extension, at 8 P.M.

"Last year", said Mrs. Kleinberg, "we ran a number of such affairs, and members who attended were very enthusiastic about them. In addition to providing an evening of entertaining social activity, with refreshments being served, raffles being held, etc., these functions give our members who live in the same community a chance to really get acquainted, talk over their common problems, and generally get a feeling of being closely united. It does wonders for all of us! We know that members who attended last year's get-togethers are eager to come again; and for those who didn't, I can promise a very pleasant and gratifying experience on October 3rd".

Invitations will be mailed to all Brooklyn members for this event, Mrs. Kleinberg stated.

Also in October, a luncheon will be held by the Brooklyn Committee at the Victoria Hotel in New York. This luncheon is held regularly in conjunction with the WMGM radio program, "Prince Charming" which is broadcast at 12:30 P.M. Monday through Friday. There are a number of door prizes, including free vacations at several leading resort hotels. In addition, guests who hold "lucky numbers" are interviewed on the broadcast program.

Mrs. Kleinberg and her Co-Chairman, Mrs. Linden, together with a number of other A.H.R.C. members and their friends, attended one of these luncheons in July. Both were interviewed on the broadcast, with valuable publicity for the Association resulting.

The price of admission to this luncheon is \$2.50 per person. The Brooklyn Committee is setting a minimum goal of 150 members and friends to attend the October event. (The A.H.R.C., of course, shares substantially in the proceeds of the tickets it sells.)

Members who are interested in attending are asked to telephone one of the following officials of the Brooklyn Committee for further details: Mrs. G. Linden, Sl. 6-2654 or Mrs. A. Pearlstein, Pr 2-0690.

A card party will be held Wednesday evening, November 29th, at the Menora Temple, 15th Street and 14th Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, according to an announcement by Edward Fliegel, Chairman for the Brooklyn card party. Tickets for this card party

will go out by mail to Brooklyn members shortly. Donations of merchandise for raffles and door prizes are requested. They are to be sent to Mr. Leo Jacobs, 1091 Ralph Avenue, Brooklyn, HY 4-8721.

(Editor's Note: According to a special bulletin from the North Country, the Bronx will not take all this lying down. "We're just giving those Brooklynites a head start, but we'll win the fundraising series hands down" is the cry heard up and down the Grand Concourse.)

ELECTIONS TO BE HELD IN OCTOBER LAST CALL FOR NOMINATIONS ISSUED

The AHRC Nominating Committee has issued a final call to voting members of the Association who wish to submit their own choice of candidates for any office. Such members should immediately send their choice for nominations to Mr. George Hirsch, c/o AHRC, 31 Madison Avenue, New York City.

The Nominating Committee is now in the process of selecting a slate of officers, according to the method prescribed in the AHRC Constitution and By-Laws. Suggestions from the voting membership are therefore in order, a Committee spokesman stated.

CHAPTER REPORTS WESTCHESTER CHAPTER

At last we have had the well-earned satisfaction of holding board meetings in our own "home", the former Pelham Home for Children, now the Westchester A.H.R.C. Day School on Split Rock Road in Pelham Manor, New York. Here we have the facilities to accomplish much for our retarded children. Not only are there classrooms that would satisfy the most exacting educators; but there are bedrooms for proper rest; room for workshops; fully equipped large playground; possible clinic facilities; a kitchen that lends itself to the greatest culinary demands; dining rooms; office space; and ample living quarters for staff and help, if necessary. The official signing of papers took place on July 13th, in the offices of the attorneys in Pelham Manor. George Hirsch, 1st Vice-President of the A.H.R.C. represented the Association. The present School Board set up to start the operation of this school as soon as possible, is as follows:

William E. Weaver, President and Chairman of Finance and Budget

Emma Rosenberg, Secretary and chairman of Curriculum

Robert Cremins, Chairman of Building, Grounds, Repairs

J. Edgar Matthews, Chairman of Scholarships

Ethel Weaver, Chairman of Admissions

Mrs. E.H. Gasstrom, Chairman of Transportation

Bernard Librett, Chairman of Supplies and Equipment

Nathan Finkelstein, Chairman of Lunches

Mrs. J. Burns, Chairman of Parent Education

William H. Childs, Chairman of Personnel

Bernard Rosenberg, Member at Large.

CHAPTER REPORTS (cont'd)

LONG ISLAND CHAPTER

General meetings of the Long Island Chapter were discontinued for the months of July and August. The Board of Directors has, however, met to develop plans for the coming year.

The first major project of the group has met with gratifying success. The two-month day camp under the directorship of Mrs. Helen Kaplan has been operated five days a week at one of the public schools in Westbury, Long Island. Approximately 30 children have been in daily attendance. A staff under Mrs. Kaplan's direction consists of 4 trained teachers, 2 counsellors and a psychologist from one of the Long Island school districts. In addition to the regular staff, several of the mothers have contributed liberally of their time. We are presently investigating the possibilities of a nursery school.

The Clinic Committee, under the leadership of Dr. Alan A. Jacques, is investigating the possibilities for a suitable clinic for this area.

Our first general meeting will be held on the fourth Monday of September at the Morris Avenue School in Rockville Centre.

AHRC TO PARTICIPATE IN

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION

The AHRC will have a booth at the 27th Annual Women's International Exposition, which will be held at the 71st Regiment Armory, Park Avenue and 34th Street, November 6th to November 12th. The hours will be from 12 noon to 11 P.M.

Exhibits of the work of retarded children will be displayed and the extent of the problem, together with what the Association is doing will be graphically demonstrated.

This Exposition is attended annually by many thousands of visitors interested in social problems. Funds are collected at the various booths.

The AHRC has been given 1500 tickets to this Exposition, and will be permitted to keep the entire proceeds of their sale. Tickets are 50¢ each and can be obtained from the AHRC office.

Women volunteers will be needed to supervise the AHRC booth and collect whatever funds are donated. Members who wish to help in this connection are asked to contact Mr. Weingold at the AHRC office.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

With this issue of *OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE*, the general membership activities of our Association resume, after the summer vacation.

Your officers, your Executive Director, your Board of Directors, your Committees - all these, have been busily meeting and working steadily throughout the summer. Much thought and effort have gone into the formulation of plans for the coming months. Plans which, when effectuated, will mean substantial progress toward the goals to which we are all dedicated.

However, this will call for the time, the energy and the talents of a great many more people. Those people must come from the ranks of our general membership.

Elsewhere in this issue, you will find appeals from several committees for additional workers to come forward and help them with their tasks. The need is by no means limited to these committees. Every committee: Publicity, Fund-Raising, Speakers' Bureau, Membership, School, Educational, and all the rest - will desperately need additional strength this fall and winter.

I can think of no more pertinent message to convey to all of you at this time than the following: If you are not already actively participating in the work of your Association, please take a few minutes this very evening to sit down and take a "personal inventory." Ask yourself: What particular past experience, aptitude, skill, or talent have I that can be utilized, in my spare time, by the Association?

Surely, many of you will find valuable resources to give us -- and, thus, to give to all our children. And the very knowledge that you are giving something will - I know from personal experience - afford you a great measure of satisfaction, and even happiness. If you're not meeting and working with other parents like yourself, you're missing one of the most satisfying experiences the A.H.R.C. has to offer you. Write us very soon, won't you?

With the co-operation and help of all of you, I know that the months which lie ahead will see even greater accomplishments and achievements for this Association, and bring nearer that better life, that better world for our beloved children.

Welcome back to all of you!

Nathan Feder,
President

Who's Who

IN THE A.H.R.C.

(This space will from time to time introduce to the membership men and women who are daily making valuable contributions to the welfare of all our children. It is hoped that their example will inspire others to come forward and do likewise.)

MAC KALLOR: Fund-Raising sparkplug, Budget Committee stalwart, and tireless worker on so many other committees and projects, his calm, easy going manner belies boundless energy and fierce devotion to all things AHRC.....**JOE KUHN:** a recent "find" for the Publicity and Fund-Raising Committees, his extensive experience in the printing and graphic-arts field has already made him an invaluable cog in the workings of the AHRC machine.....**WOODHULL HAY:** Distinguished editor in his own field, he has made important contributions to the Publicity and Public Relations Committee and is rapidly becoming recognized as a very dependable source of counsel to the AHRC. He has recently authored a nation-wide survey of Parent Groups which should prove extremely helpful to such organizations throughout the Country.....**ROSE NUSSBAUM:** Active Fund Raiser and a charming lady, and like many of those other wonderful Brooklyn Girls, selflessly dedicated to the ideals of our organization...**JIM MC CONNELL** of the Long Island Chapter, a soft-spoken, clear thinking member who brings intelligence and sound judgment to AHRC Board Meetings.....**BILL WEAVER,** of Westchester, who alternates with Chapter-President Bernie Rosenberg in attending Board sessions, and who is one of the moving spirits in that dynamic gang just No'th of the city line.....**ED FLIEGEL,** new chairman of the Institutions Committee...who never stops going on behalf of the institutionalized children. He has already collected huge sums of clothing, equipment, etc. and has ambitious plans for the future. (MORE NAMES TO FOLLOW IN FUTURE ISSUES...SEND IN YOUR SUGGESTIONS)

CHAIRMAN OF MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE HELPS PRODUCE NEW BRONX MEMBER

Carl Rappaport, Chairman of the AHRC Membership Committee, is the proud father of a new member.... a 6½ pound baby boy. According to Mr. Rappaport's elated reports, the little fellow is obvious "presidential material" for the AHRC.

The mother, Ida Rappaport, head of the Program Committee and former Vice President of the AHRC, and young Mr. R. are doing well.

MANHATTAN MEMBERS URGED TO AID COMMITTEE

The Fund-Raising Committee, which is now engaged in preparing for the 1950-'51 Fund Raising Drive, has issued an appeal to all AHRC members in Manhattan to offer their services for this vitally important work.

Dora Banner, Co-Chairman of the Committee's Manhattan Division, points out that in last year's campaign this borough was far behind the others in the scope of its activities and in funds raised, despite a substantial membership.

"We simply must have more workers from Manhattan," Mrs. Banner said. "It is so unfair for people to sit back and let just a few do all the work. We realize that some people have less time to give than others. But everyone can do a little; even if it is only to work at home, addressing and sending out literature, or making a few telephone calls during the evening. A lot of little efforts add up to a sizeable total. And there's so much satisfaction in knowing that you're doing your share."

Members who wish to serve are urged to get in touch with:

Mrs. Dora Banner, 246 West End Ave.

Telephone: ENdicott 2-2807

Mrs. Mary Tarshes, 40 West 86th St.

Telephone: ENdicott 2-6985

OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE has been asked to print the following message from officials of the AHRC who are working on the problem of adolescent and young adults of retarded mental development, and their role in industry.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR INDUSTRY COMMITTEE

We need as many volunteers as possible, men and women, to join an INDUSTRY COMMITTEE. This will constitute a selling force to make a survey of job areas and convince various industries to employ our young people when trained.

Of course, there will always be some retarded who will be able to work in a sheltered workshop only, but vocational training without job placement for the others would defeat the purpose of the program. It will be the job of the Industry Committee to sell industry on our children.

Remember, we want a very large committee representing all counties. Please write or telephone the office and leave your name and address. A meeting will be called soon to meet with the people who will train the committee in their job.



PEARL S. BUCK

Great ability in the field of letters is not a common commodity. Human goodness and courage are equally rare. And these qualities combined within one person are all but legendary. But they exist in Pearl S. Buck, and it is well for retarded children everywhere that they do.

In THE CHILD THAT NEVER GREW (Ladies Home Journal, May; Readers' Digest, August 1950) Pearl S. Buck has put into words that will never die, the heart-break, the anguish, and most important, the purpose of parents like ourselves everywhere.

The AHRC light shines on Pearl S. Buck because she has reaffirmed what parents of retarded children recognize in their noblest moments.... that there is a meaning and a purpose to this tragedy, fulfilled at last, when the parent can look outside of his or her private hell...and see all of the retarded everywhere and can embrace them all saying, "these are my burden".

PARENT GROUPS THROUGHOUT NATION ACTIVE

(Editor's Note)

The Editors of OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE have been gratified to receive the publications of a number of other parent groups from all parts of the country. It is a source of great encouragement to learn of the wonderful activities which are destined to be coordinated, and through united action, strengthened immeasurably, with the formation of the National Organization at Minneapolis. We believe brief mention of some of these will be of interest to our members.

The Editors will appreciate receiving the publications of other groups who do not at present carry us on their mailing lists.

HOUSTON, TEXAS "Houston News Letter", published by the Houston Council for Mentally Retarded Children, 627 Euclid Street, Houston 9, Texas; Mr. H. A. Pecore, President, -- This group about a year old, has been instrumental in bringing about establishment of additional public-school classes, including a kindergarten-1st grade level class and a pre-kindergarten class. It has also worked with the City Health Planning Board and Baylor Medical School, to bring into being a special home for the more seriously handicapped children. It has contacted all clubs in Houston to arrange speaking dates, with many favorable replies resulting, including one from the important Houston Advertising Club.

LOS ANGELES, CAL. "Exceptional Children's Foundation News", published by Exceptional Children's Foundation, 2225 West Adams blvd., Los Angeles 18, Cal. Mrs. Kelsey W. Cook, Editor.--This organization has to its credit a great variety of accomplishments. One of these is the organization of a Boy Scout Troop, #157, for the children of its members, In July, the Troop held a hike and outing. It has also arranged for participation in Girl Scout activities, and has enlisted the aid of prominent screen personalities in behalf of its children.

HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO "The Bulletin", published by the Council for the Retarded Child of Hamilton County, Inc. Howard H. Hofmann, President; Mrs. Lu Riggs, Secretary.

This organization has grown in two and one-half years from an original membership of 30 to its present total of over 1200. It works vigorously for improved and enlarged school facilities, and has succeeded in establishing summer classes for its children. Its committee set-up is extensive, and engages in a large variety of publicity and fund-raising activities. In the former category, it has recently had extensive television publicity; and is currently engaged in a "paper collection" drive to raise funds. It has even sent gifts to children in institutions in other countries.

CHICAGO, ILL. "Little Tardies", Published by Retarded Children's Aid, Parents' Group of Chicago's South Side. Everett G. Gadbois, Editor, Mrs. Paul A. Ludeman, President, Mrs. T. F. Mulcahy, Secretary. --- This group, which is of only recent origin, is showing great strides in its short term of existence. It already numbers 250 members, from merely its own regional area. --Its first project has been successfully realized in the establishment of the "South Side Special Play School" -- a notable accomplishment for so young an organization. Its publication, "Little Tardies" also compares favorably with that of many much larger and older organizations.

Retarded Children's Aid is a member of the Illinois Council for Mentally Retarded Children.

"DIRECT TO YOU"

Joseph T. Weingold, Executive Director

I have a large chart in my office on which are listed the things in progress and what is happening in each one. Let's look at this together and not necessarily in the order of their importance. First I see Mid-Century White House Conference. Then, Vocational Training, followed by Co-Operative Classes, National Organization, Women's International Exposition, C.R.M.D., Clinics, Chapters and Funds. This, of course, does not list such other daily activities as the many interviews with parents and others, the large amount of correspondence handled by the office, meetings and Ann Greenberg's wonderful telephone therapy. Today, I should like to tell you in a little detail about the Mid-Century White House Conference on Children and Youth.

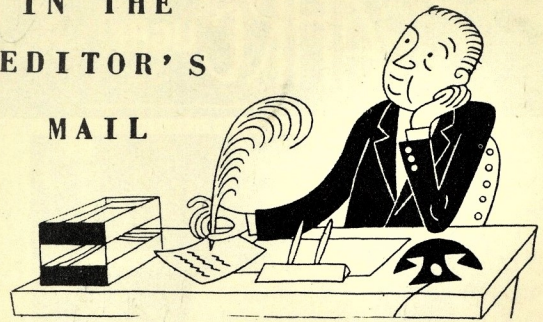
Every 10 years, since 1909 when the first conference was called by President Theodore Roosevelt, a national conference on children has been held in Washington. This is the fifth such conference and, coming in 1950, is called the Mid-Century Conference. The present conference bases its concern for children 'on the primacy of spiritual values, democratic practice, and the dignity and worth of every individual'.

In New York, Governor Dewey appointed the Citizens Committee of One Hundred for Children and Youth to present the New York program on December 3rd in Washington. As early as February of this year, Gene Gramm saw its importance and asked the Committee that we be included in its work. Bernie Rosenberg of Westchester went to Washington and saw Secretary Ewing. Finally Gene Gramm and your Executive Director were chosen to represent the A.H.R.C. on Project #4 which will deal with the problem of retardation. Rev. Joseph B. Toomey of Syracuse is its Chairman. The first meeting was held on June 22nd and another on July 26th, when it was decided to gather whatever information and studies there are in the State on the subject of Retardation, digest them and report in September.

I have written to all persons and agencies possibly concerned and have found exactly *one* recent study, and this is a limited one - The Report of the Regents Commission on Mentally Retarded and Gifted Children in 1935. I might say that the same problems existed then as now and that in 15 years little if anything has been done to improve the overall picture.

This Conference, however, presents a wonderful opportunity to present an overall program, and most important of all, to do something about it after the conference is over. Our Chairman, Father Toomey, has suggested that the committee continue after December for this purpose. The following form was suggested for our study. 1. Statement of the objectives of the Committee on Mental Retardation. 2. The situation as of today. 3. The needs. 4. Legislation necessary to get these needs. 5. Plans for the next 5 years and the next 10 years.

IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL



A GOLD STAR FROM THE LONE STAR STATE!

Dear Sir,

As a native Texan, I, of course, believe that anything Texas does is naturally bigger and better --BUT-- here is the tip of a big Texas ten gallon hat (if I had one!) to the AHRC and the progress you have made!

I have read and re-read the literature you sent and have received worlds of help and ideas from it.....

Cordially,

Hap Pecore
President,
Houston Council for
Mentally Retarded
Children

PRAISE FROM CHICAGO

Dear Sir,

.....I have been telling of your report of May 17th, 1950 -- your address on the formation of Parents' Groups and their scope (Weingold-report at Columbus AAMD Convention) and giving excerpts. Invariably, whoever I speak to, or any group, asks for copies of the original address...And with good reason; it lays out the problem, the method, and the perspectives as no other statement that has come to our attention here in the midwest. It is most realistic and optimistic, for I find that parents are not afraid of work, no matter how difficult, provided it offers some hope of effect; but negative blackness they cannot stand and will not believe.....

Leonard Karlin
Chicago Parents' Group

All questions and contributions for this newspaper should be addressed to OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE, Association for the Help of Retarded Children, Inc. 31 Madison Ave., New York 10, N. Y.

EUGENE GRAMM.....Editor
DAVID WEISS.....Co-Editor