

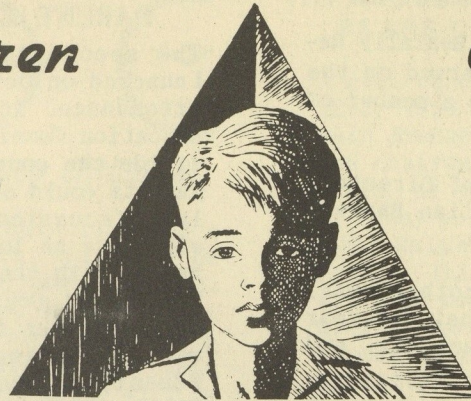
OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE

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.

Volume 2, Issue No. 5
Oct. - Nov., 1950



Chartered by the State of
New York, February, 1949

President:
Nathan Feder

Executive Director:
Joseph T. Weingold

FEDER RE-ELECTED

**OTHER INCUMBENT OFFICERS ALSO WIN
NEW TERMS; TWO NEW VICE-PRESIDENTS,
FIVE NEW DIRECTORS CHOSEN IN AHRC
ANNUAL ELECTIONS.**

Nathan Feder was re-elected President of the AHRC at the Association's annual elections, held October 27th at Mabel Dean Vocational High School.

Other incumbent officers to be voted another term were: George G. Hirsch, 1st Vice-President; Eugene Gramm, 2nd Vice-President; Irving Shiller, Treasurer; Ann Greenberg, Corresponding Secretary; Margaret Riva, Recording Secretary; and Minnie Schaeffer, Financial Secretary.

In accordance with the recent amendments to the AHRC's Constitution and By-Laws, two additional Vice-Presidents were balloted for, with Rebecca Noble and David Weiss being elected 3rd and 4th Vice-Presidents respectively.

Mrs. Noble is one of the small group of parents responsible for the founding of the Association, and is active on both the Program and Fund-Raising Committees. Prior to her election she had served as a member of the Board of Directors. Mr. Weiss, who also was a Director, is a member of the Publicity Committee, heads the Speakers' Bureau, and is Co-Editor of OUR CHILDREN'S VOICE.

Five new members of the Board of Directors were elected. (Two of these replace Mrs. Noble and Mr. Weiss.) The new Directors are: Rose Nussbaum, Lou Yonofsky, Woodhull Hay, Maxwell Kallor, and Dr. Frederick Kleinberg.

Mr. Yonofsky is a member of the Brooklyn Fund-Raising Committee and the newly-formed Speakers' Bureau. Mrs. Nussbaum and Mr. Kallor have both headed their borough Fund-Raising Committees. Mr. Kallor also serves on the Budget Committee. Mr. Hay has served on the Education and Publicity Committees and was one of the delegates to the recent national convention of parents' groups at Minneapolis. He is secretary of the new National

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PEARL S. BUCK TO SPEAK AT AHRC GENERAL MEETING ON DECEMBER 5th

Pearl S. Buck, world-famous novelist, outstanding writer on the mentally retarded, and a sponsor of the AHRC, will be the principal speaker at the next free general meeting of this Association. The meeting will be held at the Central Needle Trade High School at 225 West 24th Street, New York City at 8 P.M., December 5th.

Pearl Buck, long a champion of the rights of the mentally retarded, has recently come into greater fame with the publication of her article: "The Child That Never Grew" in the Ladies Home Journal and the Reader's Digest. It is the story of her own mentally retarded daughter.

A speaker at one previous AHRC meeting last year, the renowned writer will give further expression to her personal philosophy and viewpoints on the retarded.

"We cannot imagine how any parent or friend of the mentally retarded could possibly be absent when we have a spellbinding speaker like Pearl S. Buck", a spokesman for the AHRC Program Committee stated. "Those who heard her first talk will certainly not want to miss this sequel. Those who have never heard her have one more opportunity to hear America's most eloquent voice for the retarded".

NEW NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FORMED TO HELP THE MENTALLY RETARDED

A new national organization, known as National Association of Parents and Friends of Mentally Retarded Children, was formed in Minneapolis last month to help an estimated seven million mentally retarded individuals throughout the nation achieve better facilities for training, care and development.

The first such national organization ever established, the Association consists of parents of the retarded, and all others interested in their welfare. It is made up of member-organizations from all over the United States. In New York State, The AHRC, the Welfare League for Retarded Children, Inc. and the Benevolent Society for the Aid of the

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FEDER RE-ELECTED

(continued from p.1)

Association of Parents and Friends of Mentally Retarded Children. Dr. Kleinberg has served on the Brooklyn Fund-Raising Committee and is a member of the Clinic Committee.

The following members of the Board of Directors were re-elected for another term: Julian Banner, Augustus Jacobs, and Christopher Lydon.

Three Directors continue to serve another year, the unexpired portion of their original two-year terms. These are: Carl Rappaport, Jack Max, and Sol Hulnick.

Serving on the Board as delegates from chapters are Bernard Rosenberg of Westchester and James O'Connell of Long Island.

It is expected that formal installation of the new officers and Board members will take place at a meeting in the near future.

NAT'L ORGANIZATION

Mentally Retarded are organizations who had sent delegates.

The four day convention's activities included the writing and adoption of a constitution and by-laws, a statement of purposes, the election of officers, and other similar initial business. These are now subject to ratification by members of each local organization.

Elected by the convention delegates as first president of the national organization, was Mr. Alan Sampson of the Children's Benevolent League of the State of Washington. Mr. Lee Marino of the New Jersey Parent's Group, and Mrs. L.H. Riggs of the Ohio Group were elected first and second Vice Presidents. Mr. Woodhull Hay of the AHRC was elected National Secretary, and Mr. Harold Bieber of the Exceptional Children's Foundation of California, Treasurer. Other states represented by elections to the Executive Board include: Maryland, Tennessee, Utah, Minnesota, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Illinois, Wisconsin, Missouri and Texas. Joseph T. Weingold of the AHRC and Mr. Louis Kaplan of the Welfare League for Retarded Children, Inc. were two New Yorkers elected to the Board.

George Hirsch, of the AHRC served on the nominating and Constitutions Committee. Other AHRC delegates included Joseph T. Weingold, who worked on the Constitutions and By-Laws Committee, Woodhull Hay, on the Purposes Committee, and Eugene Gramm, chairman of Convention Publicity Committee.

A news release on convention activities went out over the national and international wires of the United and Associated Press. The story appeared in newspapers throughout the country and was broadcast on many radio stations throughout the United States.

Purposes, Constitution and By-Laws are now being readied and will shortly be sent to organizations, according to Secretary Hay.

PARENT EDUCATION COURSES START

The second AHRC Parent Education Course was launched on October 19, 1950 with 80 parents in attendance. In viewing this large turnout, the Education Committee felt that it was important to divide the courses into two sections so that the parents could obtain the benefit of personal-problem discussion with the lecturers. This would otherwise be lost in a larger class. This was arranged with the help of Mr. Hungerford who guides the Parent Courses. "The remarks of many of the parents after the first three sessions have been most heartening", George Hirsch, Chairman of the Education Committee stated. Parents declared: "This project of the A.H.R.C. shows we are on the right track"... "Our eyes have been opened to the problem"... "This means more to me than the clinics, it points the way to my child's future!"

The following are the subjects which have and will be covered and the names of the lecturers who have and will give of their time to aid the parents:

Doris Trepel, Speech Therapy
Richard H. Hungerford, Definitions, kinds, causes.
Louis E. Rosenzweig, Child in the home, recognition, impact, acceptance.
Willia F. Peace, Child in the home-training-
Louis Scharf, Implications-personal, social, vocational.
Doris Trepel, Speech therapy.
Max Siegel, Psychological Testing and Interpretation.
George Jervis, M.D., Present status of medical therapy and research.
Doris Trepel, Speech therapy (continued).
Chris J. DeProspo, City and State facilities and programs.

MEMBER DONATES \$1,000

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS, UNION MEMBERS ALSO CONTRIBUTE TO AHRC

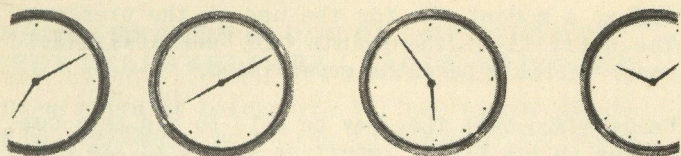
The following excerpt is from a letter received recently from a member of the AHRC:

"Gentlemen:

We are pleased to enclose herewith our check in the amount of \$1,000 in order to help make a better life for retarded children"....

Nathan Feder, President of the Association, in acknowledging the gift stated, "The action of this parent is one of the most inspiring things that I have ever come across. From the deep suffering of his own tragedy he has found a place in his heart for every retarded child, everywhere. Every one of us owes him our profound gratitude."

Other donations received by the Association recently included one from the James Madison High School Students' Organization, and the Cooks and Assistants Union, Local 325, Brooklyn.



IT'S TIME.... TO HELP RETARDED CHILDREN!

The AHRC Fund Raising Committee have launched a new city-wide fund raising project, which may be in operation by the time this paper goes to press. On display, in each of the boroughs, will be an 8-day clock. Each second, in each minute, in each hour of the 24 hour day will be offered for sale at five cents per second. A valuable prize will be offered to the holder of the precise second (of the minute, of the hour) that the clock stops upon. Volunteers are needed to man the booths in which the clocks will be set up. To volunteer for service, contact your respective chairman:

Bronx: Shirley Hulnick - 1501 Undercliff Ave.

Manhattan: Dora Banner - 246 West End Ave.

Brooklyn: Frieda Kleinberg - 6414 Bay Parkway

Queens: Ethel Schulman - 170 Beach 133rd St.
(Belle Harbor)

Or contact AHRC office. In either case, let your borough chairman know what hours you have available for this purpose. Get behind this exciting project!

MAKE EVERY SECOND COUNT....FOR THE MENTALLY RETARDED!....

FIGURES SHOW NEED FOR ADDITIONAL SCHOOL FACILITIES

A special study by the University of the State of New York in November, 1948 recommends the following standards for public education of the mentally retarded:

One special-class teacher of retarded children per 1,000 registered children (on the basis of 20 children per special class). 2% of all school children are so retarded as to need special education on a low estimate basis.

Against this, the following facilities actually exist (statistics taken from the Bureau Statistical Services, August 15th 1950 by the State Education Department):

New York City: total registration 910, 344. At one class per thousand there should be 910 special classes. Actually, there are 713 such classes in New York City.

New York State: total registration 1,953, 676. At one class per thousand there should be 1,953 special classes. Actually there are 1,098 such classes in New York State. Special classes now in existence service 17,639 children. They should be servicing 39,000 children according to reliable estimates.

BROOKLYN FUND RAISING COMMITTEE PLANS CARD PARTY ON NOVEMBER 29th

A gala card party on Wednesday Evening, November 29th, 1950 at the Menora Temple, 15th Street and 14th Avenue, Brooklyn is now being planned under the chairmanship of Edward Fliegel. Alice Pearlstein, of 405 Crown Street, Brooklyn is in charge of money collected for tickets, and Mr. Leo Jacobs, 1091 Ralph Avenue, Brooklyn will handle door prizes. This committee makes a special appeal to all AHRC members to donate these door prizes. Any kind of useful merchandise will be accepted by Mr. Jacobs at the above address. Or telephone him at HY 4-8721.

BULLETIN FROM BROOKLYN COMMITTEE

Please pitch in and help us on our various activities. Come to our Brooklyn Meetings and learn more about your AHRC...A word of praise to Mrs. Fischer & Mrs. Seigel who have collected \$34.00 for the Association by selling toothpicks. Good work and thanks!....About our Luncheon that was to have taken place Oct. 25th many thanks to all the women who have bought tickets to the occasion. Unfortunately, the radio program, of which this luncheon was a part, has gone off the air. Will be calling on you again when something definite comes in view....Meantime, don't let us down. Don't let the same people shoulder all the work. Remember to collect merchandise for door-prizes for our card party and send them to Mr. Jacobs (see story)....Cheers for Florence Goldman (non-parent) who has volunteered again to run a Puppet Show for the children in the Tropic Isle, Brooklyn on December 17th....Mr. Carroll, the owner of the Tropic Isle has very kindly donated the premises to us again.Last minute flash on that card party! Tickets have been mailed to all Brooklyn members and we'll see you all at the Menora Temple. Please send money or return tickets to Alice Pearlstein today.



BROOKLYN SOCIAL COMMITTEE GIVES HALLOWEEN PARTY TO ENTERTAIN RETARDATEES

A Halloween party, offered to parents and their retarded children was held in Brooklyn last month, with Mrs. Kamins, Mrs. Snapper and Mrs. Droutman as hostesses. Two professional entertainers known as 'Party and Smarty' offered their services without charge. They presented a puppet show and supervised a group of the retarded children in various games. The children are reported to have had lots of fun, and the parents, a boost in morale.

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.)

RUTH LOEWER: Manhattan AHRC-ite who is giving hard-working Dora Banner a much-needed assist in her work with that borough's fund-raising activities..
..ALEC RUSSOTTO: another Manhattanite who is pitching in on fund-raising work, and is also lending his talents to the Legal Committee....
BERNIE FINESON: still another "legal eagle" who is helping with the writs, mandamuses and replevins, or whatever it is our barristers toss around in their smoke-filled committee sessions....
MRS. SNAPPER: Brooklynite who is doing a grand job on that borough's program of social activities for the adolescents and young adults...
MARGIE WILLIAMS: writer of advertising copy who has joined the Publicity and Public Relations Committee, and whose talent for making-with-the-words is also expected to lend many a bright paragraph to these pages....
ALICE PEARLSTEIN: Hard-working little dynamo from Brooklyn, a dreamer of great dreams for all of the retarded - and an active fund-raiser who believes rightly, that dreams mean responsibilities....
REBECCA NOBLE: One of the founders of the AHRC, still a terrific worker, and now, to the delight of everyone, a V.P. in the AHRC....
FRIEDA KLEINBERG and GLADYS LINDEN: Co-Chairwomen of the Brooklyn Fund Raising Committee, two more of those wonderful workers from that wonderful Borough!....
MARY TARSHES: A Co-Chairlady of Manhattan Fund Raising--a charming and intelligent person, a keen organizer...
IRVING SHILLER: Treasurer of the AHRC, a modest officer whose diligent and time-consuming efforts deserve the thanks of all of us. His thinking is like the books he keeps -- clear, concise, balanced!....
MADELINE KELLY: Bronx member who recently staged a cyclonic one-woman fund raising campaign. Ran a terrific bunco-party, and enlisted the whole-hearted aid and cooperation of the local American Legion Post.

BRONX MEETING PLACE NEEDED FOR ADOLESCENTS' SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

A meeting place in the borough of the Bronx, which could be utilized on Saturday evenings is needed by the AHRC's committee for social activity among the adolescents and young adults, according to Mrs. Evelyn Leckart.

Mrs. Leckart, who heads the committee's Bronx division, says that a place which is readily accessible from all parts of the borough would be most desirable. If necessary, the parents of the young people who are participating in the program would

defray a modest fee for the use of the premises. The activities, she points out, are always held under suitable parental supervision.

Readers who feel they may be able to aid this committee in its highly important work with the older children are asked to communicate with Mrs. Leckart. Mail can be addressed to her at the AHRC offices, or she may be reached by telephone at her home: DAYton 8-4564.

FROM DAY TO DAY

(An Editorial)

In the pages of this newspaper, and at the meetings of this Association, emphasis is frequently placed upon the "projects" -- the large-scale plans in which it is engaged. This is of course right and proper; for it is these -- the clinics, schools, sheltered workshops, and all the rest -- which affect the large numbers, the mass-problems, of the children and their parents. Yet there is a continuous, day-to-day activity of the AHRC which is perhaps equally important. This activity deals with the individual, pressing problems which are the daily lot of all of us, and which so often, for one reason or another, are beyond the ability of a parent to cope with unaided. Perhaps it would be pertinent to illustrate, by a few typical cases, how your Association functions in this regard:

Mr. & Mrs. R: Have an 8 year old Mongoloid child. Tested by Bureau of Child Guidance and excused from school. Upon appeal of parent, AHRC arranged for independent psychological test which showed child had I.Q. making her eligible for CRMD. Arrangements then made for retest at Bureau of Child Guidance. Child now attending school.

Mr. & Mrs. D: Child, 30 years old, had been in custodial care at a private school for over twenty years. School gave parents two weeks notice to remove child as buildings were being remodeled. Parents, frantic with worry, asked for help. AHRC arranged for her immediate admission to another school.

Mr. & Mrs. L: Have 7 year old retarded child, two other children of 4 and 11. Mother ill, father unemployed. Situation desperate. AHRC arranged for examination at Kings County Mental Hygiene Clinic and placement at Letchworth for the retarded child. After six months, father found job, parents wanted child back. Child removed from Letchworth and now attending low I.Q. class in public school.

Admittedly, there are many situations in which, try as it may, this Association cannot always provide effective relief or assistance. Nevertheless, it should be a source of comfort to all of us to know that always, the AHRC is there, where before there was nothing, nowhere to turn. To know that, day after day, it stands ready to do its utmost, always, for every retarded child.

NO MORE BEDS ON FLOOR OF LETCHWORTH DEWEY TELLS WELFARE LEAGUE AT DINNER

Not one child at Letchworth Village is now sleeping on the floor, according to a speech by Thomas E. Dewey, who, in his capacity as Chief Executive of New York State, addressed the Welfare League for Retarded Children, Inc. on October 29th at the Hotel Astor. The occasion was the 10th Anniversary Dinner of the League.

It is believed that a transfer of many of the children of Letchworth Village to the Willowbrook State School has helped bring about the relief in the over-crowded conditions at Letchworth.

The AHRC had worked, as had the Welfare League in recent months, to bring about this transfer. As early as 1948, a member of the AHRC had a lengthy letter published in the New York Herald Tribune, which emphasized the fact that retarded children at Letchworth were sleeping on the floors for lack of bed-space. This letter received wide circulation when it was adopted by the National Mental Health Foundation in their fund-raising campaign. Other stories on this overcrowded condition at Letchworth then began to appear in New York newspapers. Shortly thereafter, the state's building program for state institutions which had been delayed during the war, was actively begun and is now in progress.

In 1949, a statement by Joseph T. Weingold made to the AHRC (at a general meeting) on the need for more beds at Willowbrook to absorb the Letchworth excess, was printed in the New York Sun-World Telegram. At meetings with the New York State Mental Hygiene Commissioner and the Governor, AHRC spokesmen vigorously stressed the problem of overcrowding at Letchworth. In an article in the New York Times, an AHRC member once again expressed this organization's views on the same subject. This article too, was re-printed and circulated widely. Finally, 1,000 additional beds at Willowbrook were returned to New York State for the use of the mentally retarded.

HUNGERFORD AND GRAMM ALSO SPEAK AT WELFARE LEAGUE'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY

Preceding and following the Dewey-speech at the Welfare League Dinner, Gene Gramm and Richard H. Hungerford also addressed the assemblage. Mr. Hungerford paid tribute to Dr. Storrs, Senior Director of Letchworth, Mr. Kirkbride of the Board of Visitors, and to the Welfare League for Retarded Children, Inc., as a team of three devoted to the welfare of the children of Letchworth. Mr. Gramm, who is an elected Trustee of the League, made a fund appeal. In his speech, Gramm paid special tribute to the League's ten years of service to retarded children. "As the first Parent's Organization in New York State devoted to the needs of the retarded, and one of the first in the nation," he stated later, "the Welfare League for Retarded Children has earned a special place in

the honor roll of those whose efforts have made America remember the "forgotten children."

Mr. Hungerford, in his speech, asked that New York State bring about a special Legislative Commission, composed of legislators, professionals and parents, to make a state-wide study of the problems arising from mental retardation. This statement was re-printed in the New York Times. (The AHRC had favored a similar measure, introduced at the last legislative session at Albany, but it was killed in committee.)

Dr. Storrs and Dr. I. Zwirling (who is a member of the Welfare League's Medical Research Committee) were also speakers.

PARENTS REQUESTED TO MAKE INQUIRIES IN WRITING

Your officers have issued a request that members who wish to obtain information of any kind from the Association do so by writing to the office, giving full details of the particular problem, rather than attempting to obtain the answer by telephone.

This, it is pointed out, will serve to give the office a chance to thoroughly study the problem, and to gather complete information from pertinent sources. A reply can normally be expected within a few days.

On the other hand, presenting the problem over the telephone usually gives the person at the office end a less orderly presentation of the facts, and does not allow time for investigation and assembling of necessary data. In addition, such lengthy telephone inquiries tie up the Association's limited office personnel and telephone facilities unnecessarily, preventing much important work from being attended to.

"By all means", said an Association spokesman, "we want all parents who feel we can help to call upon us; that is one of our primary functions, and we invite their inquiries. However, we can serve them best, and the work of the Association can proceed most efficiently, if they will co-operate by putting their inquiries in written form. So please: unless it's very urgent. WRITE, DON'T TELEPHONE."



BULLETIN FROM THE BRONX

By the time O.C.V. appears, Bronx Committee will have held a Card and MahJong Party on Tuesday Evening, October 31st, at Elsmere Hall, 284 East 170th Street, at 8 P.M. Refreshments, Door-Prizes and a good time promised! Bronx Borough meeting November 9th, same address.

CHAPTER REPORTS

WESTCHESTER CHAPTER

The annual business meeting of the Westchester Chapter took place in the YMCA auditorium in White Plains on Tuesday, October 24th. At this meeting, the following officers were elected: *President*, Bernard Rosenberg; *1st Vice-President*, William H. Childs; *2nd Vice-President*, Evald H. Gasstrom; *3rd Vice-President*, Max Blanck; *4th Vice-President*, J. Edgar Matthews; *Recording Secretary*, Mrs. M. Hansel; *Treasurer*, Mrs. Wm. H. Childs; *Financial Secretary*, Mrs. S. Greenberg; *Corresponding Secretary*, Mrs. D. Cohen.

The following Directors were elected for two-year terms: Mrs. M. Elson, George Avery, Dr. H.G. Hoffman and Eugene Unger.

Elected for one-year terms as Directors were: Mrs. Walter Logan and Mrs. Wick.

The development of the school in Pelham is continuing with a selection of a psychologist and a teacher who will act as the nucleus around which the school will be developed.

We also expect the co-operation of the Sarah Lawrence College who will probably be able to offer us teacher-in-training students to help us with our work.

-- Bernard Rosenberg, President

SULLIVAN COUNTY CHAPTER

The last meeting of the Sullivan County Chapter of the AHRC was held in the home of Mrs. Strongin. Mrs. Bennett, the chapter's president, presided.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted. Under old business, a review of the AHRC's activities for the first half of the year was presented. This included the activities of the clinic at Flower-Fifth Ave. Hospital, and summaries of other accomplishments. The formation of the national parents' organization was included in this discussion.

Under new business: the discussion regarding combining activities with the Cerebral Palsy group was tabled until the next public meeting.

A letter was read from Mr. Rutherford giving his approval for the use of a school room for a meeting at any time.

The list of sponsors for the Sullivan County Chapter was read. It includes: Rev. W.A. Crawford, Rabbi Israel Lebendiger, Rev. Wm. F. Wilkins, Judge Harold Spriggs, Superintendent of Schools Leon J. Weiss, and Hon. Ben Newberg.

Mr. & Mrs. Bennett attended the county Medical Association meeting, and requested the Medical Association to act as a group-sponsor for the Chapter. Twenty four of the doctors present voted affirmatively, but three opposed the motion. This subject will be discussed at the next meeting.

Mrs. Garlick, a representative of the Parents' Club, stated that their organization will help the AHRC in any way possible.

Mrs. Bockman of Hurleyville made a donation to the chapter.

Proceeds from a dramatic presentation given in Sullivan County by the Dramatic Workshop will be shared with the Sullivan County chapter.

-- Mrs. J. Sawitch, Secretary

LONG ISLAND CHAPTER

The meeting of the Long Island Chapter of the AHRC, held September 25th, 1950, at Morris Ave. School, Rockville Center, called to order by Chapter President James McConnell.

Mr. McConnell gave a resume of the Chapter's year of existence. He stressed the growth from ten members to the present approximate five hundred. He urged more members to come forward for work on the various committees, and for suggestions from the membership as to format of future meetings.

Mrs. Kaplan reported for the Education Committee. She described the summer day camp which was held at the New Cassel School in Westbury during July and August.

Mr. F. Smith called for a vote of thanks to Mrs. Kaplan for the job she did on the summer camp.

Mr. Allen Jacques reported for Clinic Committee. He stated that he has made many contacts in regard to a clinic, but many details still remain to be worked out.

Mrs. Reiss announced that the Lecture Series will start at the end of November in the Education Building, School Street, Westbury. She asked for suggestions regarding speakers.

Mr. McConnell introduced the speaker for the evening, Mr. J.T. Weingold, Executive Director of the AHRC. Mr. Weingold read a paper that he and Mr. Eugene Gramm had been asked to prepare for the New York Citizen's Committee of 100.

Mr. McConnell announced that our next meeting will be held in Bayshore.

--Rita Jedlicka, Recording Sec'y.



IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL A PARENT'S VIEWPOINT ON PARENTS

Dear Editor:

As one whose child has been for some years away from home, I am perhaps a veteran in experiencing the conflicting emotions which parents feel when their child is placed in the care of others. Perhaps what I have to say here will help to adjust the thinking of many of these who are still to go through that experience, or who have only recently begun to do so.

It is only natural for us to feel that by keeping our children at home, we will be providing them with the love and care that we alone can give. Yet for many of us, the time will and must come when, for a variety of reasons, we decide to place our child in the care of others. We exercise every precaution in making the arrangements best suited in our particular circumstances - and, finally, the dreaded step is taken.

There comes, then, that first visiting day. In the respite at home - we have forgotten those many difficult days; of not eating, of "wettings" despite our unremitting efforts at training, the tantrums, the occasional listlessness, and the responses that are not always there.

And so, when we see our child, we are subconsciously prepared to find everything wrong.

Let us be fair. Let us recognize that we as parents were unable to achieve absolute perfection. Let us realize that it is important to look at things in proper perspective; not to let small, trivial things loom too large in our overall assessing of the situation. Let us not be pseudo-experts: doctors, psychologists, educators.

By all means, we must exercise vigilance over our children's welfare when they are away from us. But let us temper our critical approach by remembering, always that those who care for our children will have the same difficult days, the same trials, that we had at home; that they too, have no "magic button" to press which will create that Utopia where all things will be of the best for all children.

We parents, through our Association, must work for the day when society in general will provide a full measure of the things vital to the nourishment of the body and spirit of every retarded child.

And meanwhile we must find some peace in knowing that we have attempted to do what is best for them, our own emotions notwithstanding.

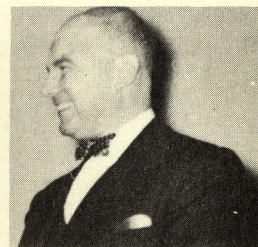
Finally, we must be grateful that some people are willing, despite all the difficulties and obstacles, to make the care and training of our children their life work.

Sincerely, Dora Banner

IN THE **AHRC** LIGHT

RICHARD H.

HUNGERFORD



President of the American Association on Mental Deficiency, Director of the Bureau for children with Retarded Mental Development in the New York Board of Education, Editor of the American Journal on Mental Deficiency, Advisor to the Association for the Help of Retarded Children -- Richard H. Hungerford is an Educator in the most ideal sense of the word. He is a "teacher of teachers", and to this editor, for one, a man ahead of his time. That he is an invaluable friend to the mentally retarded and to their parents is widely appreciated. That he is a friend to them in the order named, is perhaps less appreciated by some, but not by those who put truth above expediency.

The AHRC light shines on Richard H. Hungerford because he has the courage, wisdom, and patience to look into the face of truth and into the faces of the mentally retarded day after day -- and make the advancement of both his life's work.

AHRC-PROFILE

No. 1

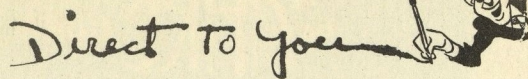
NATHAN FEDER
President

Born 1915 in New York City -- Graduate of James Monroe H.S. and N.Y.U. School of Engineering. Employed as Mechanical Engineer. Now employed as Chief Engineer in an air conditioning concern. Came into AHRC in response to a story in the Post Home News of December, 1948 about Mrs. Noble and Mrs. Greenberg. Immediately made Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee. Elected acting 2nd Vice Pres. At the first regular election, was elected 1st Vice President. Assumed office of President, March, 1950 when the President resigned. Was re-elected President, October 1950. Is the parent of a seven year old boy who attends C.R.M.D. and has another boy, a bright four-year-old. Lovingly calls them: "Murder, Inc."

Is a member of the American Society of Heating & Ventilating Engineers, American Military Engineers Society, American Association on Mental Deficiency. Hobbies -- until AHRC took up all spare time -- golf and oil painting.

Ed. Note: Nat forgot to mention in interview, he played the lion's share in the establishment of the first clinic for the mentally retarded at Flower and Fifth.





Your Executive Director has a boy of seven. Yet, almost from the first day I joined the AHRC, I have felt the pressing needs of the older boy and girl; the teen ager, or a little older. All our efforts for the younger child will have been pointless if we do not provide the facilities at the other end: vocational training, sheltered workshops, jobs.

To this end, we some time ago started to make contact with the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, a part of the State Department of Education, set up under the National Rehabilitation Act, which includes the mentally retarded under the 1943 Amendment. At the DVR, we found Mr. Frederick G. Elton, District Supervisor, and Mr. Leonard W. Rockower very sympathetic to our cause. Two things held back our program: the lack of training facilities for the mentally retarded, and the feeling of the DVR, up to then, that the youngsters whom they would handle must have a prognosis of being able to compete in private industry after training.

With the cooperation of Mr. Rockower, we approached Mr. Rhatigan, Director of Goodwill Industries. At a meeting on April 3rd, there were present representatives of Goodwill, AHRC, DVR, and the CRMD of the Board of Education. It was decided that Goodwill would take ten youngsters for training, to be paid for by the DVR; further, that the standards would be lowered to include youngsters who might need a sheltered workshop after training; and that Goodwill would keep ten boys and girls employed in the sheltered workshops after training.

After much interviewing on my part, further interviewing by DVR, and aptitude-testing by Dr. Emily Burr, the first group went into training in June. Not all were from AHRC referral. Some came from the CRMD; but all were retarded and needed training. -- Three more AHRC youngsters were placed in training; and it was announced that one boy was ready for a job.

Pitifully little as these facilities are, they nevertheless represent a mighty beginning. We must bend every effort to enlarge these facilities by involving other established sheltered workshops, until such time as our children have their own. -- Sincere thanks are due all those who have helped: Mr. Rhatigan, Miss Phillips, Mr. Elton, Mr. Rockower, Mr. Hungerford, Dr. Harnett, Mr. Goldstein -- all of them friends of the retarded.

Elsewhere on these pages, you will see a "Jobs Wanted" Column. This is for the children trained and ready to work. It is a "Want Ad" Column for our own children. -- This Association began because we felt we must help ourselves. Job placement within our ranks is a vital form of self-help; and will enable other children to enter the training program.

REMEMBER: What we do for the older children, we are doing for the younger!

JOB WANTED!!

YOUNG MAN -- 18 years old. Trained for 14 weeks at Goodwill Industries. Now employed there doing the following tasks in the basement store: cleans shelves and keeps merchandise in order as customers rummage. He keeps coats and dresses picked up, placed on hangers and on the proper racks. He wraps packages, putting small articles in paper bags and wrapping and tying larger articles in wrapping paper.

HIS ASSETS: Goodwill States: "In performing his work, he has assumed considerable responsibility on his own, seeing what was required without being told. His work is neatly done, and he seems really to enjoy what he does. He can read fairly simple directions with help. He is ready for placement in competitive industry."

HIS DEBITS: Because he works carefully, conscientiously and neatly, he is inclined to be slow. However, he has been able to work faster within the last month. Supervisor terms him "stubborn" occasionally when taking directions.

PERSONAL ADJUSTMENT: He seems to relate himself fairly well to supervision, and to those with whom he works.

THIS YOUNGSTER IS READY FOR A JOB!
WHAT HAVE YOU FOR HIM? -- REMEMBER
WHEN YOU HELP HIM YOU HELP YOUR OWN!

MEMO ON FLOWER-FIFTH CLINIC

"It has become a too common practise of many parents who have appointments at the Flower and Fifth Ave. Clinic for the retarded, not to appear on the date of their appointment. Although they have been requested repeatedly to notify the hospital at least 24 hours before their appointment of their inability to appear, very few have done so. This action is cruel, when you realize the tremendous demand for appointments. Therefore, please keep your appointments if at all possible, and please telephone to cancel your appointments if it is absolutely impossible to attend. Give the hospital enough time to contact some other parent who is waiting for an appointment."

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.

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