

RETARDED CHILDREN CAN BE HELPED

PARENTALK

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY
SAINT PAUL ASSOCIATION FOR RETARDED CHILDREN, INC.
25 NORTH DALE STREET
SAINT PAUL 4, MINNESOTA

May 1958

Vol. VI No. 9

CALENDAR

May 7 - Regular Meeting
25 North Dale Street
8:00 p.m.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Speaker: Richard Weatherman
Special Education Division
of Minnesota Department of
Education

May 21 -Conference Committee
Representative
Jayne Frank
Pr 1-8191

Every Sunday - Sunday School
Christ Lutheran Church
11:00 a.m.

Every Monday - Girl Scouts
73 Leech Street
7:30 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

Mr. Richard Weatherman, from the Special Education Division of the Minnesota Department of Education, will tell us what has been accomplished throughout the state since the legislative action of last year at the May 7 meeting of SPARC.

This will also be the Annual Business Meeting of the Association with the election of next year's officers and board, so you won't want to miss it. If you need transportation, call Peg Welte, Ca 6-9124.

LAST MEETING

Miss Florence Gerten of the St. Paul school system spoke on "Special Education in Secondary Schools" at the April meeting of SPARC.

Miss Gerten emphasized the point that in America we strive to educate all while in Russia 7 out of 100 go to high school. In educating all we need classes tailored to the ability of our children with special problems. In St. Paul there are classes for the visually handicapped, deaf, crippled, disturbed, gifted, and mentally retarded. All of the Junior High Schools, with the exception of Highland because of its newness, have these special classes. Senior High Schools have them where there is room.

The utmost effort is made to identify children in need of special placement as early as possible. But St. Paul has its problems in the lack of classroom space and qualified teachers. The number of children is limited to 18 per class so the city can no longer take children from outside the city. The classes are adapted to the need of each individual group. Variations and deviations are not only allowed but encouraged. These students have shortcomings and are taught to know and accept their weaknesses.

The children take part in regular school activities, are placed in regular home rooms, and have an adjusted athletic program. It is the policy to keep them in their own age groups and to try to finish their formal education by the time they are 18 or 19 when they are graduated the same as other students.

EDITORIAL STAFF

Editors - Don and Bev Le Roy
991 Ingerson Road
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IV 4-4363

Multilithing - Ray Springer

Circulation - Industrial Workshop

KEEPING YOU POSTED

The Girl Scout troop made and delivered 100 Easter favors for the children at Lake Owasso. Mrs. Nagle also reports they would like more girls to join the troop. The troop meets every Monday night, 7:30 p.m. at 73 Leech St.

* * * * *

Crowley School extends an invitation to all and especially to their Alumni to attend their Family Fun Night on May 23 from 7:30 to 9:30. The Centennial will be the theme for the evening. There will be a cake walk, general store, door prizes--something of interest for everyone.

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Miss Frances Coakley, Supervisor of the Unit for the Mentally Retarded for Ramsey County, was named president-elect during the recent Dallas convention of the American Association on Mental Deficiency.

She will take over the presidency in 1959.

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Mrs. Joseph Laughlin, chairman of our booth for the Careers Day Festival reports that the booth was considered a success by all who worked in it. There was a steady flow of students visiting the booth, many of them drawn by the pictures and handicraft exhibit. The questions asked showed an interest in careers related to the field of retardation.

HOW NOT TO HELP MAKE YOUR ASSOCIATION SUCCESSFUL

- 1) Don't attend meetings.
- 2) Never have anything to say at the meetings--wait until you get outside.
- 3) Get all the Association will give you and don't give the Association anything.
- 4) Never ask anyone to join the Association.
- 5) If asked to help say you haven't the time.
- 6) Never accept an office or committee appointment since it is easier to criticize than to do anything.
- 7) Don't do any more than you have to, and when the others willingly and unselfishly use their ability to help the good cause along, then howl because the Association is run by a "clique".

From the MARC Beacon

PROJECTS COMMITTEE REQUESTS

The Projects Committee has the following requests.

We are lacking things needed for adults in institutions. Anyone interested may pick up a list of requested items at the nursery school.

Several radios in need of repair have been given us. If any member could repair these at the cost of parts, call Peg Welte, Ca 6-9124.

More volunteers are needed for city pick ups, deliveries to institutions and telephoning. Please call Rosemary Schultz, Mi6-6844

Save your stamps and premium coupons.

Too much idleness, I have observed, fills up a man's time much more completely, and leaves him less his own master, than any sort of employment whatsoever.

Edmund Burke

RECREATION PROGRAM

At the February 18 meeting of the Board of Directors of SPARC a Recreation Committee was appointed. This committee is studying the needs of and methods for operating an experimental recreation program for retarded teenagers and young adults in Ramsey County. Donations from Epsilon Sigma Alpha and Economics Laboratory Inc. have made this possible.

A program, under professional guidance, will probably consist of bowling, swimming, other athletic events, and dancing. There will be no transportation facilities.

Before any project of this type can be initiated, we must be sure that there is a need, that our children will use the program, and that their parents will cooperate. If your child will be interested in this program please notify the Recreation Committee with the information

listed below. Replies must be in by March 15.

Name of Parent _____

Address _____

Telephone no. _____

Name of child _____

Age _____

Ability Level (Check one)

Educable _____

Trainable _____

Parents available for chaperoning

Yes _____

No _____

Parents available for transporting

Yes _____

No _____

Elsie Greengard
Ch., Recreation Comm.
457 Macalester
St. Paul 5, Minn.
Mi 9-2596

We are trying to bring our membership file up to date. If you have not already done so, please fill in the form below and bring it to the next meeting or mail to Mrs. Robert Schultz, 1378 Como Avenue W., St. Paul 13, Minnesota.

Name _____ Telephone No. _____

Address _____

Status (Check)

Parent _____ Teacher _____ Social Worker _____ Other _____

IF A PARENT, PLEASE FILL IN THE FOLLOWING:

Child's age _____ Home _____ Name of School _____
Placed _____ or Hospital _____

Please check your interests for work programs and committees

_____ Hostess	_____ Run ditto machine	_____ Parents Council
_____ Refreshments	_____ Collect Items	_____ Public Relations
_____ Telephone	_____ Finance Comm.	_____ Projects Comm.
_____ Stuff envelopes	_____ Membership Comm.	_____ Program Comm.
_____ Typing and filing	_____ Deliver items	_____ Legislative Comm.
	_____ to institutions	

The Projects Committee is collecting the following items for the schools and hospitals:

New and used clothing
Yarn
Records - all sizes
Radios - working or repairable
Old Christmas cards
Catalogs and magazines
Toys of all kinds
Trading stamps
Coupons

If you have any of the above, please call Peg Welte, Ca 6-9124 or Rosemary Schultz, Mi 6-6844.

"The child who is mentally retarded is more like normal children than he is different from them.

"He needs a family and needs to know that he is loved and wanted - that he belongs. He needs a chance to play, to have a part in the activities of other children, to be given a place in the group, and to be accepted by

the group members as he is, with all his limitations.

"He needs a chance to get as much training as he can use. As far as he is able, he needs to do things for himself. He needs to experience success. He needs to be recognized as an individual and to feel that he is useful and contributes, even if it is in a very limited way.

"The good parent cheerfully meets the challenge of rearing the retarded child. He may not know just why he was chosen for this task. All that he knows is that he is the parent and this is his child. And he dedicates himself to this child with the same love and devotion he would do to any other. His reward is the deep satisfaction of success that triumphs over difficulties--plus the very special unretarded love of his child."

--Quoted from "The Child Who Is Mentally Retarded," published by Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

St. Paul Assn. for Retarded Children
25 North Dale Street
St. Paul 4, Minnesota



Sec. 34.65 (e) P. L. & R.

Dr. E.J. Engberg
Faribault School &
Colony
Faribault, Minn.