

FROM OUR FRIENDS

RIO DE JANEIRO GROUP

Donna Vera S. Street, the Executive Secretary of the group, sends the following report. The Association is in the process of reorganization. The constitution had to be changed to meet the needs of the many new members, and to permit a more democratic election of officers. A new executive body has been elected. President: Dr. Januario Bittencourt; Executive Secretary: Donna Vera S. Street; First Secretary: Dr. Granadeiro Neto; Second Secretary: Dr. Pedro Ribeiro de Cavallo; Editor of the Bulletin: Dr. Raphael Galvao Flores; Treasurer: Dr. Augelo Quintello Filho. A medical and an educational committee have been established and are under the direction of Dr. Olavo Rocha and Dr. Benjamin Gaspar Gomez, respectively. They will submit rules of procedure at the next general meeting which will be held in March. The Child Guidance Clinic is proceeding and functioning satisfactorily.

CHILD HOUSE ASSOCIATION OF LOS ANGELES

Paul Brodsky reports about our co-workers in Los Angeles who have concentrated their work around the Child House. They started a series of fifteen weekly classes on Individual Psychology, with the title, "The Science and Art of Releasing the Human Potential for Cooperation". Part I consists of an introduction, six weekly lectures given by Dr. Lydia Sicher. Then follows Part II, consisting of three special group courses for nine weeks. It is divided into three sections: A. — Parents and Pre-Child Parents; B. — Teachers and Social Workers; C. — Physicians and Medical Students. Section A of Part II had to be split into two sections, separating parents and pre-parents because a group of pediatricians took special interest in this class. They arranged for a special class and personally volunteered to pay for those of their private patients who could not afford to pay for themselves. The following is the content of the series of lectures given by the following lecture staff: Lydia Sicher, M.D. Ph.D.; Camilo Servin, M.D.; Elizabeth Scarbrough, Director Child House Nursery School; Paul Brodsky, Senior Assistant, Child House Nursery School.

PART I: AN INTRODUCTION TO INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGY

First Session

INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGY—teaches a positive approach to the problems of living; the determining factors in the life of an individual are not what has HAPPENED to him, but the way he INTERPRETS such experiences in the light of an overall meaning of life.

Second Session

CHARACTER—not a mysterious hereditary force, but the sum total of the answers the individual gives to the major questions of life: Sex, Society and Work.

Third Session

THE NORMAL FEELING OF INFERIORITY—a constructive life force impelling the individual towards adequacy and completeness.

Fourth and Fifth Sessions

THE EXAGGERATED INFERIORITY FEELING—overintensification of the normal feeling of inferiority prevents the full development of the Individu-

al. Four major stumbling blocks to this desired development are: Family Constellation, Organic Inferiority, Sexual Role, and Form of Education.

Sixth Session

SOCIAL INTEREST—A fully developed human being is one who moves toward the fulfillment of his own inner purposes in natural spontaneous harmony with the ideal of the welfare of the community.

PART II — SPECIAL GROUP COURSES.

SECTION A: PARENTS AND PRE-CHILD PARENTS

Understanding the meaning of the child's behavior is the first step in being able to guide him properly. Withdrawal from group contact, destructive play, and other common difficulties will be considered in the light of their relationship to the child's future ability to cope with life.

SECTION B: TEACHERS AND SOCIAL WORKER

Training in the recognition of unique and individual goals underlying classroom behaviors. Common patterns: the shy child, the dependent child, overambitious child, model child, etc. Revealing to the child how the particular problem of the moment is related to his UN-understood goal. Classroom atmosphere: authoritarian, laissez faire, and guided-cooperative. Character difficulties in the teacher and social worker which may interfere with his proper contact with the child. The discussion group as a medium for introducing community values, thus correcting mistaken life interpretations. The impact of the imperfect community upon the child. School-home relations.

SECTION C: PHYSICIANS AND MEDICAL STUDENTS

The application of Individual Psychology in the practice of medicine. The importance of early detection and correct evaluation of the psychological factors in disease; psychosomatic medicine; the difference between "nervous" and "neurotic" patients; how physical diseases are used for neurotic purposes; the combining of psychotherapy with necessary medical and surgical treatment.

Registration should be made to Child House Association, 3855 W. Seventh Street, Los Angeles, Telephone Exposition 9386.

Dr. Alexandra Adler has been appointed as an Assistant Clinical Professor of Neurology at New York University and as an Adjunct in Psychiatry at the Mount Sinai Hospital in New York. She is also the chairman of "Alfred Adler Medical Society", which meets monthly at the New York Academy of Medicine Building. Her book, "Guiding Human Misfits", is being reedited in London by Faber and Faber, with a new chapter on WAR NEUROSES added.

Dr. Kurt Adler has opened his office practicing psychiatry in New York.

Regina Seidler has accepted a position as psychologist with the State Department of Mental Hygiene in Buffalo. She was formerly Head Resident of Neighborhood House in Auburn, N. Y.

Abraham D. Zweibel is giving a Course on Applied Psychology at the North Newark Adult School.

The next issue of the Bulletin will be an ALFRED ADLER MEMORIAL ISSUE. We should like to publish in this issue a bibliography of all English publications of our co-workers. Please send us the titles, periodicals and dates of your publications.