

## ALFRED ADLER CENTENNIAL EVENTS

The 100th birthday of Alfred Adler, February 7, 1970, is being celebrated throughout the year. We shall report these events to the best of our knowledge, in the present and the subsequent issue of this Journal. The collaboration of Paul Rom, editor, *Individual Psychology News Letter*, is gratefully acknowledged.

### GENERAL EVENTS

On the evening of February 7, the Individual Psychology Association of New York sponsored a *centennial lecture* by Ashley Montagu. His topic was "Alfred Adler: The Challenge of Social Interest." The lecture is printed in this issue, under the title, "Social Interest and Aggression as Potentialities." The lecture was held at Caspary Hall, Rockefeller University, New York City. The Honorable Timothy Costello, Deputy Mayor of the City of New York, psychologist, former professor, and member of the Association, was chairman of the meeting. He welcomed a capacity audience with a greeting from Mayor Lindsay, and introduced the speaker. The lecture was very well received.

After the lecture the audience was treated to a surprise feature, a *sound film of Adler*, from about 1930, all too brief but most lifelike and characteristic. It was enjoyed with equal relish by those who had known Adler and those who had never had this privilege. At the conclusion of the meeting, the chairman called upon Dr. Alexandra Adler for a few words. She graciously expressed appreciation on behalf of herself and the entire Adler family of all those who were participating in honoring the memory of her father, and especially of those who had made this particular occasion possible.

A *commemorative medal*, cast in silver, bearing the profile of Adler, was exhibited for the first time at the meeting for the centennial lecture. It was sculptured by Adele Cashwan-Roth, Chicago artist and wife of the dedicated Adlerian, Sydney M. Roth. Mrs. Roth regards the medal a labor of love, both for Adler's humanity and for her husband who shared his knowledge of Adler's personality and teachings with her.

A *centennial concert* took place February 10. It was given by the Lenox Quartet at Town Hall, New York City, with David Glazer as clarinetist. The centennial feature was the United States premiere of Richard Stoker's Quartet No. 3 (Adlerian), inspired by one of

Adler's papers (see this Journal, 1969, 25, 257). The young composer, professor at the Royal Academy of Music, London, was present, with his wife, and was warmly applauded. The program which included clarinet quintets by Mozart and Brahms was enthusiastically received. The concert was for the benefit of the Alfred Adler Mental Hygiene Clinic and the Alfred Adler Institute, New York.

Several *radio interviews* were conducted. Margaret Truman interviewed Ashley Montagu about Adler's views on social interest for her program, "Author in the News," heard throughout the United States and on the Voice of America. She also interviewed Richard Stoker. For New York City radio stations Danica Deutsch was interviewed by Ruth Jacobs of the Jewish Home Show; Danica Deutsch, Bernard Mackler, and Richard Stoker, by Caspar Citron; and Danica Deutsch, Bernard Mackler, and Dr. Helene Papanek, by Lee Graham. Stoker's Adlerian quartet was taped and broadcast several times.

January 28, Dr. Alexandra Adler gave a lecture at Cooper Union Forum, New York City, on "Challenges and Opportunities in Individual Psychology."

February 4, also at Cooper Union Forum, a panel consisting of Dr. Kurt A. Adler, Danica Deutsch, and Dr. Helene Papanek discussed "Home and School in Crisis."

February 7, Father W. Dayton Salisbury and Walter E. O'Connell celebrated the Adler centennial at the Newman Hall, Texas Southern University, Houston, Texas. Plans for a psychology workshop were discussed, and the coincidental birthday of St. Thomas More was also honored.

March 17, William P. Angers, Newark State College, New Jersey, was the keynote speaker at an Alfred Adler 100th anniversary meeting. He also arranged a display of Adler's writings in the college library.

March 31, Paul Brodsky spoke on "Adler's Influence on Today's Psychology and Education," in honor of Adler's centenary, at the Beverly Hills, California, Adult School.

April 12, Seton Hall University, South Orange, New Jersey, will have a program on "Social Interest and Social Conflict," commemorating the Adler centenary. Professor Donald N. Lombardi will be the moderator, Dr. Helene Papanek will speak on "Life Style and Social Feeling," Dr. Kurt A. Adler, on "Relevance of Adler's Philosophical and Sociological Ideas for Today." Dr. Alexandra Adler, on "Theory of Individual Psychology and Psychopathology," and Danica Deutsch, on "Family and Educational Problems." The program was arranged by D. J. Hess, president of Psi Chi, and R. P. Linarducci president of the psychology club.

April 26, Dr. Rudolf Dreikurs will lecture at the North Side Unit, Family Education Association, Chicago, in honor of the memory of Adler.

*Austria*

February 5, the Austrian Association for Literature sponsored a lecture by Manes Sperber on "Alfred Adler or the Misery of Psychology," the title of his book which appeared in German (Vienna: Molden) on Adler's 100th birthday. The lecture was given in the large hall of Palais Palffy, Vienna.

On February 16, the Vienna Society for Individual Psychology and the Society for Psychiatry and Neurology held a memorial meeting in the auditorium of the university clinic. The guest speaker was Professor Erwin Ringel, M.D., president of the first-named Society; his topic was "The Significance of Alfred Adler for Present-Day Depth Psychology."

*Great Britain*

A Festive Symposium was held by the Adlerian Society of Great Britain February 3, at the Alliance Hall, London. A message was read from Dr. Kurt A. Adler, New York, son of Alfred Adler, and president of the International Association of Individual Psychology, to introduce the meeting. The speakers were Dr. Neil R. Beattie, Lewis Way, James Hemming, and Dr. Emerich Weissmann. These were followed by the playing of the British Broadcasting Corporation recording of Quartet No. 3 (Adlerian) by Richard Stoker, played by the Wissema Quartet.

Paul Rom spoke on February 4 at the Institute of Linguists on "Foreign Languages Spoken in Dreams;" on February 27, in the Students Union, University of Sheffield, on "Understanding Dreams with Adlerian Psychology;" on March 3, in the Students Union, University of Sussex, on "Alfred Adler's Science of Living;" and on March 10, at the Harold Wood Social Centre, Essex, on "Alfred Adler, the Man and his Work."

James Hemming was interviewed February 13 on the BBC by Pamela Gibson on "What Should Life Mean to You?" and Heinz Beran will speak April 10 on Alfred Adler for the Third Program of the BBC.

*Switzerland*

On February 7, the Swiss Society for Individual Psychology held a commemorative meeting in the Guild Hall, Zurich, at which Erik Blumenthal, president of the Society, and Drs. Victor Louis and Christoph Wolfensberger spoke briefly. The main address was given by Dr. Rudolf Dreikurs, Alfred Adler Institute, Chicago.

On February 16, the official celebration of Adler's 100th birthday was held at the philosophical faculty, University of Zurich. Professor Wolfgang Metzger, University of Münster, president of the German Society for Individual Psychology, delivered a lecture on "Adler's Individual Psychology in the Light of New Theoretical Developments." He was introduced by Professor H. Biäsch, Zurich Institute of Technology. The lecture was followed by a reception by the Swiss Society.

## NEWSPAPERS AND JOURNALS

*Psychology Today*, a general magazine "about psychology, society and human behavior," February 1970, 3(9), devoted six pages to Alfred Adler on the 100th anniversary of his birth. Under the title, "Alfred Adler, Individual Psychology and Marilyn Monroe," Heinz L. Ansbacher pointed out the relevancy of Adler for today's social problems and illustrated Adler's theory of mental disturbance through the case of Marilyn Monroe. Elizabeth Hall presented a sketch of Adler. The papers were illustrated in the present-day manner.

*MD: Medical Newsmagazine, New York*, February 1970, 14(2), 185-190, commemorated Adler's anniversary with an account entitled, "Individual Psychologist." Illustrations included a large portrait of Adler, and photos of him as a young man, with his wife and his children, with some students in California, and lecturing, as well as a handwriting sample and a picture of his country house. The account itself is well organized and well presented, under the headings of theory, fictional goal, therapy, Adler's personality, and heritage.

*New York State Journal of Medicine*, February 15, 1970, p. 507, carried an editorial on Adler, signed J.H.W., which includes an interesting comparison. "In Adler's emphasis on the healthful qualities of socializing [and], relating to others," the author is reminded of Thomas Jefferson, "who looked on altruistic social intercourse as real food or nourishment to a well-adjusted personality."

*POCA Press*, a publication of the Psychiatric Outpatient Centers of America, distributed free to clinics, Winter 1970, 6(2), includes a two-page article by Dr. Kurt A. Adler on "Alfred Adler's Contribution to Psychotherapy," and featured Adler's portrait on its front cover.

## Germany

*Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, February 9, 1970, under the title, "Alfred Adler," published "on the 100th birthday of the founder of Individual Psychology," the last four pages of the preface by Manès Sperber to his new book *Alfred Adler oder das Elend der Psychologie* (Vienna: Molden). The reader receives a masterful word picture of Adler by one of the great writers of our day who as a young man was a student of Adler, much befriended by him. [A larger part of this preface, in an original translation, is included in the present issue of this Journal.]—Reported by J. MEIERS, M.D., *New York, N. Y.*

*Praktische Psychologie, Lütjensee, Bez. Hamburg* March 1970, 24(3), 80-81, published a translation of "Beginnings of Training for the End," *Voices*, 1969, 5(1), 40-41, by Paul Rom. The title is "Vorbereitung aufs Sterben," to which was added "Zu Alfred Adlers 100. Geburtstag."

## Great Britain

*The Guardian, Manchester*, February 7, 1970, carried an article by Geoffrey Moorhouse entitled, "The Man who Stood Out Against Freud." Although the author holds that "Adler's school of Individual Psychology . . . has been overtaken by time," he does concede that "Freud was eventually to acknowledge bits and pieces of this heresy." Furthermore, "There was enough substance for much of it to be absorbed so completely by modern psychology that few people

seem to notice, or care to acknowledge, its origins." The article, except for the last two paragraphs, was also included in the *Guardian Weekly*, February 14, under the title, "Adler Ignored."—Reported by SUSANNE LIEBMANN, Ph.D., *Pewsey, Wilts., England*.

*New Society, London*, February 5, 1970, 8, 217-218, published a fine paper by James Hemming entitled "Alfred Adler: the Neglected Innovator," with the subtitle, "It is time to recognize the value of his introduction of society into psychoanalysis." After a comprehensive account of Adler's contributions the author continues, "But the real test of Adler's continuing significance is not the extent to which his ideas have penetrated theory, but their usefulness in society today." He believes that Adler can indeed help us today, "because the problems are right inside the human territory which Adler made his own—the sense of inferiority, status-hunger, compensation, a breakdown in social involvement. Around the world it is those in position of inferiority who are in revolt—the have-not peoples . . . Adlerian psychology is, *par excellence*, a programme for prophylaxis."

*Humanist, London*, February 1970, 85(2), 51-53, under the title, "Alfred Adler Centenary," published a paper by Paul Rom which deals with the development of Adler's theory, especially against the background of psychoanalytic thought, and the ways in which it took its place in psychology and psychotherapy today. A picture of Adler and one of Freud are included.

*Freethinker, London*, February 7, 1970, 90(6), 43, also carried an article by Paul Rom, "Memories of an Individual Psychologist." The author recalls Adler's remark after introducing him to another Adlerian, "During all my life it was my endeavor to bring people together," and believes these words would be the finest epitaph for Adler, the man and savant.

*AJR Information, London*, published by the Association of Jewish Refugees, March, 1970, p. 6, included a commemoration of "The Founder of Individual Psychology" by Susanne Liebmann, Ph.D. After summarizing Adler's life and work the author recalls him saying, the patient's attitude of, "if I only did not have" such-and-such a trouble, should be replaced by, "in spite of it."

*Guernsey Evening Press and Star*, February 13, 1970, p. 9, carried an item submitted by Mrs. Toni Towns of St. Peter Port in connection with the centenary of Adler's birth. Mrs. Towns tells of the success she has had in using Adlerian psychology in working as a teacher of young children. She studied with Hertha Orgler.

### *Switzerland*

*Neue Züricher Zeitung*, morning edition, February 9, 1970, p. 27, reported on the meeting of the Swiss Society of Individual Psychology on the 7th (see above) and added a summary of Adler's life and work together with a picture of him. His ideas of finality, social interest, and the role of encouragement in education and re-education for fellowship are highlighted.

*Tages-Anzeiger, Zurich*, February 10, 1970, p. 13, carried a briefer account of the Swiss meetings, and paid tribute to the great practicality of Adler's teachings. Although "his name is too often not mentioned, and is not at all known," his teachings are today widely applied.