

IN HONOR OF RUDOLF DREIKURS
ON HIS 70TH BIRTHDAY

In this issue we are honoring Dr. Rudolf Dreikurs on the occasion of his 70th birthday which was on February 8th of this year. We are doing so by presenting an autobiography of his, a bibliography, and a survey of appreciations by friends and former students, conducted and reported by R. J. Corsini.

For those not familiar with the name of Dreikurs we should like to introduce him as an associate of Alfred Adler from the days in Vienna, who has probably done more than any one else to keep alive, teach, demonstrate, propagate and develop further what are the most specific Adlerian techniques of counseling and psychotherapy—especially the counseling of one person, or even a whole family, before an audience of professional or otherwise interested listeners. This method requires alertness, self-confidence, conviction and courage, and met with opposition. Yet it can be considered as being on the forefront of social psychiatry. To attend a demonstration by Dr. Dreikurs is a great experience. Fortunately there are now tape recordings of his way of counseling available (audiovisual aids a, c, e, and g),¹ to serve as substitutes for the direct experience.

But Dr. Dreikurs is not only the psychotherapist, counselor, teacher, demonstrator, and lecturer, with a unique Adlerian style, he is also a prolific writer. The bibliography shown below has some 180 entries. Of these eight are printed books. These are *Fundamentals of Individual Psychology* (1933a, 1935d, 1950c), *The Challenge of Marriage* (1946a), *The Challenge of Parenthood* (1948a), *Psychology in the Classroom* (1957g), and a book on impotence (1931a). Three volumes are with co-authors or assistants, *Adlerian Family Counseling* (1959b), *Encouraging Children to Learn* (1963a), and finally the most successful, *Children: the Challenge* (1964a).

In addition there are five mimeographed volumes of collected papers—on child guidance (1957a); psychodynamics, psychotherapy and counseling (1958g, 1963e); group psychotherapy (1960d); and music therapy (no date, a). Furthermore, there are three printed pamphlets (1932b, 1950b, 1952a), two mimeographed pamphlets (1961e, 1962g), and a mimeographed volume (1961c).

¹All references are to the Rudolf Dreikurs Bibliography, pp. 158-166.

Beyond these, Dr. Dreikurs has made within the last twelve years sixteen contributions to edited books, mostly in the form of original chapters. These do not only attest further to the great productivity of Dr. Dreikurs but are also a testimony to the wide esteem in which he is held in the professional world since such contributions are upon invitation. They are to books on psychology in general (1955d), personality theory (1963c), Individual Psychology (1959a), psychotherapy (1956a, 1958d, 1959d, 1961b, and 1967a), group psychotherapy (1963b), psychosomatic obstetrics (1962b, 1962d, two contributions to the same book), music in medicine (1958f), school psychology (1960b), social education (1963g), religion (1961i) and human potentialities (1966a).

Finally, there is Dr. Dreikurs the editor. He started the periodical (1940) from which the present *Journal* has developed, and he is on the editorial boards or among the editorial consultants of *Humanist*, *Humanitas*, *The Individual Psychologist*, *International Journal of Social Psychiatry*, *Journal of Existentialism*, and the present *Journal*.

A most impressive contribution of Dr. Dreikurs is what he meant in the lives of the many people who have accepted him as teacher and friend. And this is most aptly presented by Dr. Raymond J. Corsini in the account of the survey he conducted (see this issue, pp. 167-180).

In view of the importance of Dr. Dreikurs we are pleased to be able to present below his autobiography which he kindly wrote for us upon our request. We feel that this is a real contribution not only to the history of Individual Psychology but to the profession in general. We should, however, mention that there is an earlier biographical study of Dr. Dreikurs.² But we have not seen it. It has not been well received by those who became acquainted with it, since the data presented were frequently found inaccurate; nor is it very accessible.

We wish to close this brief tribute with our particular appreciation of Dr. Dreikurs as the founder of this *Journal* who recommended us some ten years ago to succeed him in the editorship.

H. L. A.

²Mackness, W. H. *A biographical study of the life of Rudolf Dreikurs, M.D., with special emphasis placed upon his work in relating the theoretical principles of Individual Psychology to the modern classroom setting.* Doctoral dissertation, University of Oregon. Ann Arbor, Mich.: University Microfilms, 1963. No. 63-4266.