

Welfare Organizations
1945-52

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WELFARE COUNCIL of NEW YORK CITY



44 EAST 23RD STREET, NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

Algonquin 4-5500

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State Department of Social Welfare
(in charge of New York City office)
LEE C. DOWLING

Chairmen of Standing Committees
of the Welfare Council

*Thank -
Keep on going
12/5/45*

November 26, 1945

Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt
342 Madison Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I did not want to burden you with a lot of literature at our meeting last week, but I think you might like to see the annual report of the Welfare Council and the descriptive leaflet called "Planning Center."

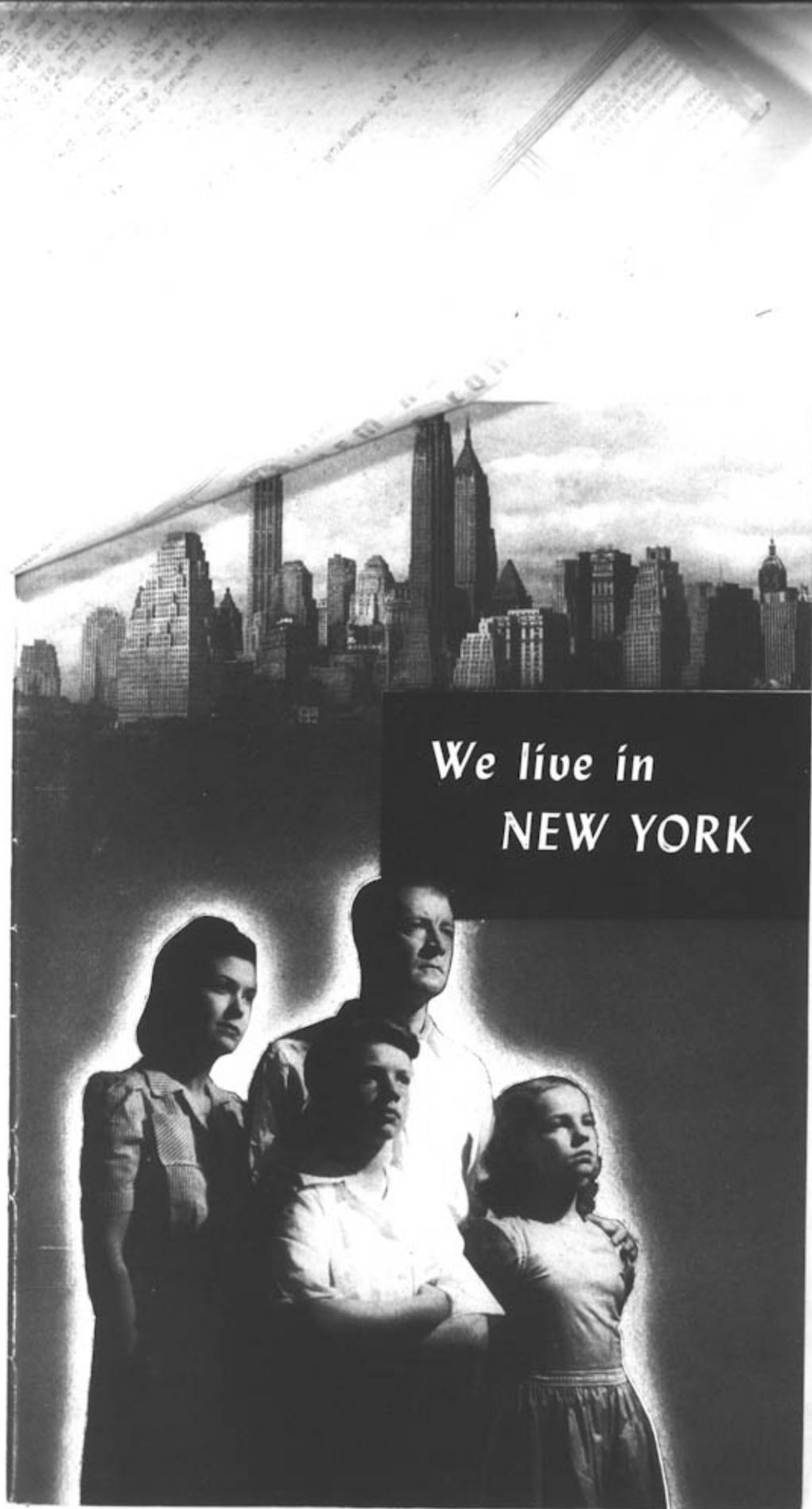
I know that you will understand this is not another request to you to add to your already extensive activities, but rather an offer of the kind of service that an organization like this may be able to give you in connection with the many demands upon your time and attention. Please do not hesitate to call on us if we can be of assistance to you in any way.

Cordially,

Dorothy C. Kahn
Dorothy C. Kahn, Secretary
Standing Committee on Welfare
and Health Services

DKC:vm
Enc.

*Thank you for the letter
12/5/45*



We live in
NEW YORK

WE LIVE IN NEW YORK

Annual Report

1944-1945

WELFARE COUNCIL OF NEW YORK CITY

*Central Coordinating and Planning of
the City's Welfare and Health Services*

44 East 23 Street
New York 10, N. Y.

Telephone:
ALgonquin 4-5500

ALL the photographs in this report (except for the cover) were contributed to the Council without charge by that extraordinary news photographer who calls himself Weegee the Famous. The pictures appearing on pages 2, 5 (top), 9, 11 (center), 13 (top), 17, 21 and 25 (top) are reproduced by permission of Essential Books, publishers of "Naked City," by Weegee. Cover skyline photograph by Black Star.



Introduction

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE WELFARE COUNCIL OF New York City happily is issued as we are about to meet for the first Annual Agency Dinner of the Council. Gathered at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel on the evening of October 3 will be the group of men and women on whom the Council has relied in the past, and must rely in the future, for support of its work and of its financial program. Without this support there would be no Council, and without the Council we would leave this greatest city, alone of all large cities, without a central planning and coordinating body.

At the completion of its twentieth year of service to the people of this city, the Council justifiably looks with pride on a substantial record of accomplishment as set forth in this annual report; and with still greater pride it views its present reorganized and strengthened facilities, which we have full confidence will adequately meet the new and greater demands upon the Council in the years ahead.

William M. Pomeroy
PRESIDENT

September 14, 1945

WE LIVE IN NEW YORK

The Council Serves All the People

TO VISITORS, NEW YORK IS THE GAY WHITE WAY, THE EMPIRE STATE Building, the Fifth Avenue shops, Grand Central Station, LaGuardia Airport, Rockefeller Center, Greenwich Village, Coney Island. To New Yorkers, the city means the houses in which they live, the stores and factories and offices where they work, the streets and parks where their children play, the subways, the schools, the markets, the local movie theatres, libraries, landmarks.

Most of all, New York is its people — the young, the old; the rich, the poor; the white, the black; the good, the bad; the simple, the sophisticated; the happy, the sad; the lucky, the unlucky. No matter how abstract and intangible the jobs it is called upon to do, the Welfare Council never forgets that, at the beginning and end of every problem and every plan, are people — 7,500,000 of them, the people of New York City.

To serve the city's people, more than \$100,000,000 is spent each year by hundreds of voluntary organizations and institutions: welfare services, health agencies, hospitals. In the Welfare Council of New York City, some 600 key organizations in the welfare and health fields (excluding hospitals) are banded together to be of the greatest possible service to the greatest number of people. Through the Welfare Council they make long-range plans, they anticipate needs, they pool their information and experience, they prevent duplication and they concert their efforts toward improving social conditions. The coordinated approach made possible by the Welfare Council increases the effectiveness of each member agency's program of service to the people. Thus, although the Welfare Council is not primarily a direct service agency, its operations ultimately touch New York's people.

A brief description of the Council's structure will help the reader to understand the interplay of its various parts in the achievements to be



LAUGHTER. *The greatest show on earth.*

TEARS. *My little brother got hit by a truck.*



recorded in this report. The basic unit of the Welfare Council is the Delegate Body, consisting of two representatives of each member agency. The Delegate Body elects the Board of Directors, which in turn elects the Executive Committee and officers of the Council. The Board also approves appointment by the President of the Council's standing committees (see lists on page 29). Affiliated with the Welfare Council are twelve regional councils, which concentrate their work in individual boroughs or neighborhoods (see list on page 32).

The period covered in the report which follows is from September, 1944 through August, 1945.

The Council Serves the Young

MANY ASPECTS OF CHILD CARE AND YOUTH SERVICE OCCUPIED THE Welfare Council this year. To help force open the bottleneck in foster care — represented by an almost constant population of 600 or 700 children awaiting placement — the Council appointed a Committee on Foster Care for Children. After studying the procedures of placement agencies and the regulations of public departments, the committee recommended a number of modifications which were communicated to the city's child care agencies and appropriate public departments and were adopted in whole or in part by many of them.

In the belief that the rates paid to foster parents were also a factor in holding up placements, the committee made the first analysis of boarding costs ever compiled in New York City. This "Itemized Guide for Board Rates to Foster Parents" aimed at raising and standardizing the payments made to foster parents. Its trail-blazing nature received national recognition; after the guide had been distributed in New York City, requests for copies came from 58 agencies in other cities.

Still another difficulty in the field of child care lay in the shortage of institutional personnel. A survey made by the Council showed that there were 318 job vacancies — housemothers, caretakers, cooks, instructors, etc. — in 45 children's institutions. When this report was given publicity in the press, a substantial number of employment applications resulted.

The question of adoptions has come in for a good deal of public attention, especially in relation to adoptions made privately for cash. A committee spent a number of months reviewing adoption services and services to unmarried mothers, with the objective of reducing the number of private transactions and improving the non-profit facilities now in existence. Its report, due in the Fall, will cover existing legislation on adoptions, the administrative procedures in hospitals providing maternity services, and shelter and casework care for unmarried mothers.

Delinquent children are the subject of an intensive program of analysis and planning by the Committee on Institutional Care of Juvenile Delinquents and Youthful Offenders. The committee, whose work is divided



CHERRY STREET. *We don't mind the cop's turning it off. We'll turn it right on again, soon as he leaves.*



ALLEY. *Honest, we were only foolin' around in that store. We didn't mean to take anything.*

into four parts — shelter care of delinquent children, institutional care of delinquents, detention of youthful offenders and institutional care of this 16-21 age group — completed the first part of its assignment during the period under review. It submitted to the Mayor a series of recommendations calling for sweeping changes in the city's present system of shelter care: discontinuance of the use of autonomous, privately-run borough shelters; the appointment of a quasi-public, city-wide shelter administration; the construction of a new shelter building in Manhattan; the transfer of shelter jurisdiction over dependent and neglected children to the Department of Welfare.

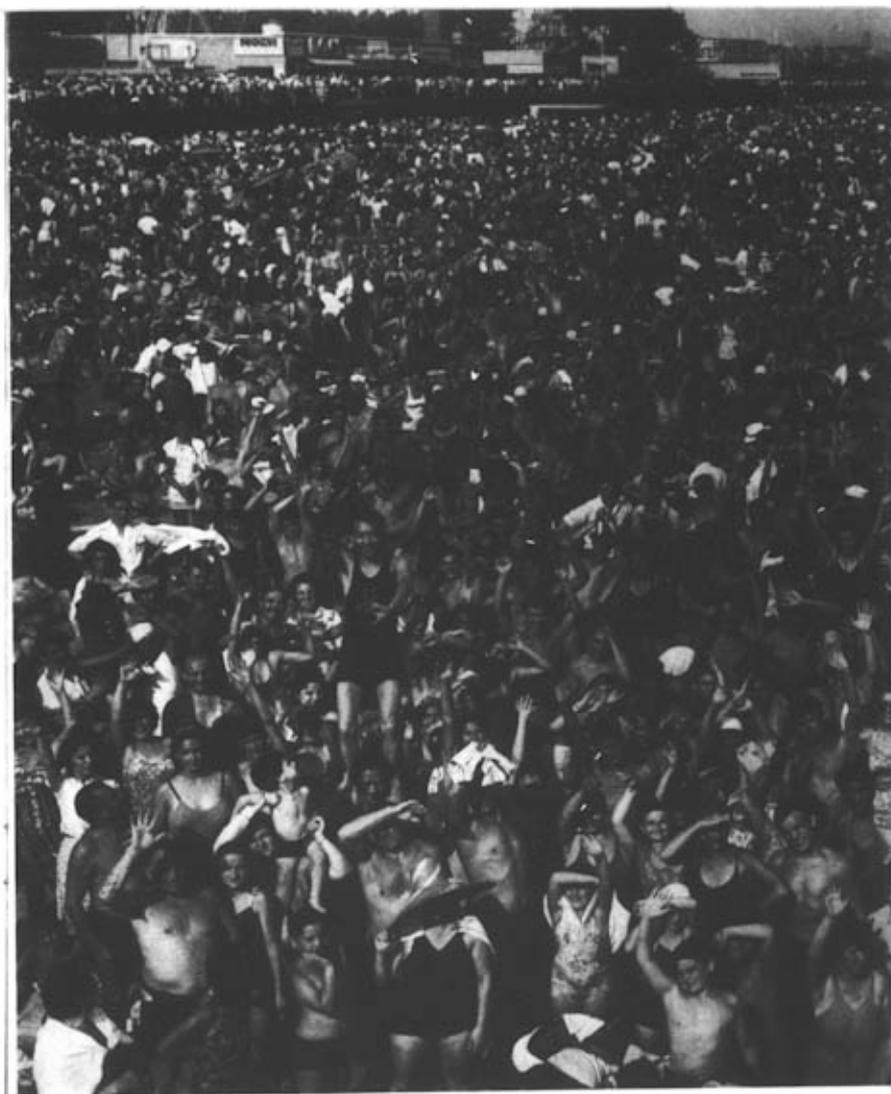
About 1,000,000 of New York's population are between the ages of 12 and 19. To begin formulating a city-wide plan and program for the welfare of these adolescents, the Council and the CIDVO joined forces in summoning an all-day conference in mid-January. Some 800 people attended, representing a wide cross-section of youth-serving agencies, the schools, the church and civic bodies, and including about 100 selected young people. A factual basis was given to the conference's discussions through distribution of 25 statistical tables, prepared by the Council's Research Bureau. The conference was followed by the publication of a 154-page report, summarizing its findings and making recommendations for a city-wide program. A continuing committee will be named to implement the report's recommendations.

What individual neighborhoods can do to serve their young people was demonstrated in two special projects launched by regional councils last year. The Washington Heights and Inwood Citizens Committee for Youth, Inc. was organized under the sponsorship of the Riverside council with the goal of raising \$100,000 for a local youth program. The first youth center under the committee's auspices opened in a public school in the Spring and will shortly be followed by others. Substantial progress was also made in the committee's early months in coordinating youth services and breaking down barriers between local agencies.

A similar demonstration got under way in the Brownsville, East New York and Ocean Hill district last year, guided by the Brooklyn council and financed by a special grant by the Brooklyn *Eagle*. An active local committee was organized to take leadership in raising the necessary funds to continue the project.

Closely tied in with these youth activities programs is a project on which the Council embarked in late Summer — the development of an effective city-wide plan for recreation of both young people and adults. As the first step, a survey will be made this Fall of existing leadership and facilities in recreation. Meanwhile, the entire group work field was strengthened by the issuance of a 150-page publication, "Personnel Standards in Social Group Work and Recreation Agencies," prepared by the Council's Research Bureau and published in an edition of 1,000 copies.

To assist in providing better recreational opportunities for local groups,



CONEY ISLAND. Temperature, 93. Humidity, 60. Humanity, 1,000,000.

the Riverside council published a directory of summer resources for children and adults on the upper west side. The Brooklyn council's efforts to provide facilities in the Navy Yard district bore fruit in the opening, under local auspices, of a teen-age canteen in the Fort Greene housing project. For 75 young people in Harlem who were to serve as summer camp counsellors for the first time, the Harlem council gave an eight-session training course, followed by publication of a booklet, "Tips for New Camp Counsellors," which was widely distributed to agencies operating summer camps for Negro and other children.

Regional councils were also active in promoting day care for the children of working mothers. The Yorkville and Sara Clapp councils issued directories of day care resources in their respective neighborhoods and distributed 300 copies of each to local welfare agencies. The Brooklyn council succeeded in organizing a neighborhood group to take responsibility for a nursery in Brownsville, to be opened this Fall in cooperation with the Mayor's Committee on the Wartime Care of Children. The Queens council made progress in organizing a similar group in Jamaica. In cooperation with the regional CDVO, the Riverside council gave a course in child care, consisting of 12 weekly lectures, for professional and volunteer personnel of day nurseries. The Harlem council held a meeting, attended by 150 local residents, on "Day Care for Harlem's Children." The Bronx council gathered local nursery school executives to hear a representative of the State Education Department discuss "What the Future Holds for Nursery Schools."

The Council Serves the Aged

WHILE PLACING MUCH OF ITS EMPHASIS LAST YEAR ON YOUNG people, the Council did not lose sight of the more than 500,000 New Yorkers who are 65 years of age or older. Because one of the most acute aspects of the problem of the aged lies in the care of the chronically ill, the Council undertook a thorough study of nursing homes. It visited and examined the 51 licensed homes in New York City to determine the need for additional or improved facilities of this type, coordinating its study with the post-war plans of the city's Department of Hospitals. Its survey and recommendations will be issued in final shape in the Fall.

Recreation is as important for older people as for young people. Time hangs heavy on the old person's hands, yet settlement houses and other community recreation facilities have rarely developed programs for elderly people. In an experimental approach to this problem, the Yorkville council gave two afternoon parties for the neighborhood's old people this Spring. The parties, held in two settlement houses, were well attended and were followed by the institution of special activities programs for the aged at each settlement. This project will be intensively pursued in the Fall.



TENTH AVENUE



MOTT STREET



LENOX AVENUE

The Council Serves Families

ABOUT 95 OF EVERY HUNDRED NEW YORKERS LIVE IN A FAMILY group. Preservation of the family is one of the fundamental aims of every social agency. When the homemaker falls ill, or dies, many families — especially those which include small children — are in danger of breaking up. One method of averting this is through the use of visiting housekeeper service.

The Welfare Council has for many years been an active proponent of the use of housekeeper service by both voluntary and public agencies. It has made studies, issued reports, adopted resolutions and in many other ways brought pressure to bear on the city administration to provide housekeeper service. When an appropriation was at last made in the 1945-46 city budget for employment of 50 visiting housekeepers by the Department of Welfare, the Council's Committee on Housekeeper Service turned its attention to standards and practices in the use of the housekeepers. To expedite the committee's work, the Research Bureau made a statistical analysis of the experience of the four voluntary agencies providing housekeeper service.

When individuals or families reach an emotional or physical crisis, the community is prepared to help them through casework service. The family agencies in New York City play an important role in enabling troubled people to work out their problems and lead more satisfying lives. The services of these agencies are not equitably distributed throughout the city, however; the borough of Brooklyn, for example, has far fewer than Manhattan in comparison with population. The Standing Committee on Geographical Distribution of Welfare and Health Services made a study of the need for equalization of family services as between Manhattan and Brooklyn, using extensive statistical material prepared by the Research Bureau. Its recommendations will be made within the next few months.

Families must live in houses, and the housing question reached an acute stage during the war. Plans for post-war housing projects were made, however, and in these the Council played its part. To assist the Housing Authority in formulating final decisions as to community facilities to be provided in forthcoming housing projects, the Research Bureau prepared statistical studies of the population and resources of three neighborhoods — the Lower East Side, Astoria in Queens and Melrose in the Bronx.

The Council Serves Veterans

DATING BACK TO ITS KEY ROLE IN STIMULATING THE CREATION OF the War Manpower Conservation Committee and the Veterans' Service Center, the Council has been constantly on the alert to do its share in helping the community reabsorb the 900,000 New Yorkers who have seen service in the nation's armed forces. Now in progress is a



Sure it's crowded, but it's cooler than inside.

FIRE ESCAPE

Privacy? What difference does that make in August?



survey of the city-wide picture to discover whether additional efforts need to be made in coordination and general planning for veterans. The survey will be sent to the public officials responsible for veterans services.

At the request of the American Red Cross, the Council summoned the city's social workers to an emergency conference in mid-July. The immediate need for 1400 trained caseworkers and group workers to serve veterans in military hospitals was outlined by high-ranking Army, Navy and Red Cross officials to 250 professional men and women.

On a local basis, regional councils have worked toward improving services for veterans. The Veterans Affairs Committee of the Brooklyn council conducted several borough-wide meetings of employers and others, issued a handbook of veterans services in Brooklyn, and urged the extension into that borough of special veterans facilities. Its efforts to have branch offices of the Veterans Administration and the Veterans' Service Center opened in Brooklyn met with success; it continues to press for additional psychiatric facilities in the borough.

In the Spring, the Queens council established a Veterans Affairs Committee which held two successful meetings and issued a directory of veterans services in the borough. A similar committee of the Harlem council held two well-attended public meetings. The Bronx and Sara Clapp councils also brought enlightenment on the subject to their respective communities through special meetings; the Riverside council devoted its annual meeting to "The Community and the Returned Veteran."

The Council Promotes Health

THE FIRST MAGAZINE ISSUE OF "BETTER TIMES" LAST FALL FOCUSED community attention on the advances in public health which had been made since 1900. The issue pointed out that tuberculosis and venereal disease remain among the major enemies of the nation's health. In the war against these two scourges, the Council took up arms last year.

Joining in the campaign to have everyone take a routine chest X-ray once a year, two regional councils mobilized their areas and arranged for mass X-rays at nominal fees. Over 300 residents of the east midtown section of Manhattan responded to the Sara Clapp council's efforts. The Harlem council made its arrangements for May 8, which proved to be V-E Day. Despite the excitement of that occasion, 257 people of all ages turned out for examination.

The increasing spread of venereal disease caused concern in many quarters. In the Council's opinion, an undue share of the blame was placed on teen-age "Victory girls." A statement to the press by the Council's executive director, to the effect that organized prostitution continued to be the tap-root of venereal infection in New York City, aroused much public attention. Conferences followed with members of the District At-



14th STREET. *Whitey's my mascot. She brings me luck.*

torney's staff and with the Mayor. This led to a request by the latter for Council help in devising methods to coordinate and strengthen the measures now taken by the city to repress prostitution and venereal disease. The Council also released a supplement to its 1941 report on the apprehension, trial and treatment of prostitutes in New York City. To familiarize social workers with the rapid treatment method of curing venereal disease, the Sara Clapp council held two special meetings on "Modern Developments in Treatment of Venereal Disease."

The Council this year took under its auspices the work of the New York City Committee on Epilepsy. The committee's aim is to further public education on the subject of this disease.

With a growing number of neurotic, psychoneurotic and emotionally disturbed people seeking new jobs during the reconversion period, some special training in the handling of these people seemed indicated. A six-week seminar for the staffs of employment and vocational guidance agencies was given this Spring under Council auspices on "Vocational Problems of the Emotionally Disturbed."

Work proceeded during the year on preparation of the third and final volume of the Hospital Discharge Study. The study, made by the Research Bureau, is a report of 576,623 patients discharged from 113 local hospitals during a single year, analyzed as to their illnesses, length of hospital stay, care, and place of residence. It is currently used as basic material by the Master Plan Committee of the Hospital Council.

The Council Serves Minority Groups

ALTHOUGH THERE WERE NO SERIOUS RACIAL DISTURBANCES IN NEW York City during the past year, a high degree of tension was reached during the newspaper-delivery strike in July. To prepare themselves for any eventuality, the three regional councils covering the upper end of Manhattan—Central Harlem, East Harlem and Riverside—inaugurated a series of working conferences to develop a plan of cooperative action for preventing interracial flareups and promoting intercultural harmony. The conferences will continue this Fall on a city-wide level.

A number of regional councils held meetings during the year on discrimination in employment. Before the Ives-Quinn Bill became law, the Brooklyn council held a rally in support of it. After the law had been passed, the Sara Clapp council devoted its annual meeting to a discussion of policies which would most effectively implement the law. The recommendations framed were sent to the newly appointed State Commission against Discrimination in Employment. "The Need for a Permanent FEPC" was the subject of a meeting attended by 200 people and held by the Bronx council in cooperation with the Bronx Inter-Racial Conference. Another 200 persons attended a "Conference on Human Rela-



RESIDENTIAL SECTION. *It's a good thing my little boy was in another room when that rock came flying through.*

tions," summoned by the Staten Island council jointly with that borough's Council for Democracy and Federation of Protestant Churches.

Another aspect of the interracial problem—the resettlement of Japanese-Americans—was covered by an Open Information Meeting called by the Council's Committee on Information Services. A committee of the Brooklyn council continued its interest in the hostel for Japanese-Americans which had opened in Brooklyn the previous year. The committee made special efforts to secure employment for these resettled people.

A bibliography of fiction and non-fiction designed to lead to a better understanding of the cultural patterns of various peoples was distributed in 200 copies by the Sara Clapp council. The Harlem council is publishing a leaflet, "You Are Now in New York," for distribution to Negroes arriving in this city from the south. The leaflet provides factual background and suggestions for rapid adaptation to the New York environment.

The Council Serves Its Member Agencies

AS A FEDERATION OF SOME 600 AGENCIES—PUBLIC AND VOLUNTARY, welfare and health, sectarian and non-sectarian, in every functional field save hospital care and in all five boroughs—the Welfare Council is in a position to extend services which will benefit large groups of agencies, and will at the same time focus within the Council the specialized knowledge and experience that these agencies command.

This was the philosophy which led to the establishment, in May 1945, of the Conference Service. Member agencies were classified into eight broad functional groups and were invited to join as many conference units as their programs called for. The Conference Service, which gives agencies the opportunity to share experience and discuss common problems, is linked to the Standing Committee on Welfare and Health Services. When agencies in a given functional field meet with a situation that requires long-range planning and exploration, they may submit it to the Standing Committee for consideration as a special Council project. The Standing Committee, on the other hand, may turn to the agencies in a conference group for expert advice or appraisal on a question before it.

All eight of the conference groups held organizational meetings within two months of the establishment of the service. Enrollment was 81 per cent of the potential. The functional fields represented are: health services, family service and related casework services, child care, employment and vocational guidance, correctional and allied services, care of the aged, group work and recreation, and services for seamen.

How to preserve the interest and energies of the thousands of New Yorkers who served as wartime volunteers is a problem to which many agencies gave thought during the year. A large number of the city's welfare and health organizations use—or can use—volunteers in their



SHIPYARD. *Ever since I been workin' on the ships, I can afford a cigar.*

normal programs. At the request of its member agencies and of the organized volunteer groups, the Council this summer began an inquiry to discover the best method of coordinating volunteer service in the city.

Ever closer teamwork between social agencies and the schools continued to be promoted by the regional councils during the year. For the third time, the Yorkville, Sara Clapp and East Harlem councils joined with the Bureau of Child Guidance in giving an alertness course, to familiarize public school teachers with the methods and scope of social agencies. A similar course was given by the Staten Island council in its borough. In Brooklyn, a four-session seminar was given by the council for the deans and teacher-counsellors of six of the borough's high schools, with a view to better coordination of services for adolescents. The Riverside council, in cooperation with a local parents association, held a panel meeting on "School-Agency Cooperation" which was attended by 125 parents, school principals, teachers, and agency workers.

The New York State Division of Parole last year asked the Council's help in effecting closer working relations between parole officers and social agencies. To meet this request, demonstration conferences were undertaken by the Yorkville, Sara Clapp, Harlem, Bronx, Brooklyn and Staten Island councils with parole officers working in their respective areas. These conferences proved profitable in showing how parole officers and social agencies can work together for the benefit of the parolee and of society, and the Parole Division is now applying this experience throughout the city.

To furnish an indication of trends in welfare needs, the Council's Central Reporting Service continued to issue monthly statistical summaries of the volume of service rendered by 174 agencies in five fields of work: family service, public and private financial assistance, care of homeless and unattached persons, information bureaus and day nurseries. The reports were distributed each month to 322 interested organizations and persons. For the Greater New York Fund's 1945 campaign, the Central Reporting Service also prepared 25 tables of statistics showing the volume of service of the Fund's participating agencies.

One of the Council's most indispensable services for its member agencies is the Social Service Exchange, which maintains a central index of families and persons known to social agencies in New York City. The Exchange made 225,664 reports to its 438 member agencies during the period under review. Its file now contains some 2,350,000 cards.

An extraordinary piece of confidential war service was rendered by the Exchange when more than 46,000 names were cleared for Selective Service as part of the program of screening out before induction men who were likely to become psychiatric casualties. The role played by the Exchange in this psychiatric screening process was called "invaluable" by Selective Service officials. This special job was done by the Exchange staff in more than 4,400 hours of night overtime during a seven-months period.

Another Council service to its member agencies was the publication, for



NIGHT FIRE. *What's happening to the old lady on the floor above ours?*

37 weeks from the end of September through May, of *Better Times*, New York's welfare news weekly. *Better Times* celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary last year by increasing its page size and introducing several new features, including a monthly magazine issue. Its expansion met with widespread approbation and resulted in a gain of 195 paid subscriptions.

Among the Council's special publications of interest to many member agencies were two directories issued by the Information Bureau, one on non-profit placement and guidance services in New York City and the other on services for handicapped adults.

Over and above the specific studies and tabulations mentioned in this report, the Research Bureau gave constant and diversified information, advice and technical assistance to member agencies on such subjects as population data, resource material on neighborhoods, financial expenditures, case records and agency services.

A Social Work Book List, prepared by a joint committee of the Council and the New York Public Library, was issued to guide purchases by branch libraries and thus to make available in all parts of the city those books on social work most widely used by professionals and by students. The list appeared in *Better Times*; hundreds of reprints were distributed.

For those agencies which raise funds through theatre benefits, dances, dinners and similar events, the Council inaugurated a clearing service to prevent conflicts in dates.

The regional program was aided when the Council reestablished the Conference of Chairmen of Regional Councils. At three meetings during the Winter and early Spring, these chairmen shared ideas and experiences and achieved better coordination of their respective councils' programs.

The Council Serves the Public

NEW YORK CITY'S FIRST OPERATING PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN SOCIAL agencies and organized labor was launched on a full-time basis in March under the joint sponsorship of the Welfare Council, the Brooklyn council, the Greater New York CIO Council, and a number of individual CIO and AFL labor unions in Brooklyn. The Workers Personal Service Bureau is a welfare information and referral service for union and unaffiliated workers. After a year's experimental operation on a part-time basis, the Bureau proved to be meeting a real need and the Council was able to secure a special grant to expand its service.

Encouraged by the success of the Bureau in Brooklyn, a Personal Service Bureau in Local 1227 of the United Electrical and Machine Workers (CIO) began this Spring to function one night a week in Queens, staffed by volunteers from local agencies recruited by the Queens council. The growing role of labor in social planning was recognized also by the Yorkville council, which devoted its annual meeting to this subject.



RATION BOARD. *Here's my wife's book. She's too sick to come herself.*



WASHINGTON MARKET. *I hate standing in line, but I can't afford black market prices in my neighborhood.*

To the Council's Information Bureau last year came 8,900 inquiries from social agencies, hospitals, schools and churches, from doctors, lawyers and the public at large. The Bureau's extensive file of information on the city's welfare and health facilities enabled it to refer its inquirers to the proper sources of help. The questions covered every phase of human need: housing, child care, medical help, psychiatric treatment, care of the aged, youth service, employment. Inquiries were stimulated through a daily radio announcement over WABC.

In addition to answering inquiries, the Bureau—acting under the supervision of the Committee on Information Services—conducted three Open Information Meetings for social agency staffs on veterans services, resettlement of Japanese-Americans and retirement plans for social workers.

The city's only confidential reporting service on local welfare and health organizations which appeal to the public for financial support, the Contributors Information Bureau, rendered its largest annual volume of service in the year under review. It received 5,466 requests for reports from contributors, and made 4,034 reports on 704 different agencies which were within its field of reporting. Business firms represented about one half of the Bureau's users, and there was a conspicuous increase in its service to philanthropic foundations, many of which made or withheld sizeable grants on the basis of Bureau reports.

Interpretation of the city's social services was carried on by the Department of Public Relations, which made extensive use of metropolitan newspapers, magazines, radio and television outlets, social agency publications and visual displays to bring home to the general public the variety and scope of the city's welfare and health facilities.

The Council Serves Itself

FOR THE FOREGOING ACTIVITIES AND MANY OTHERS OMITTED FOR LACK of space, the Welfare Council spent \$329,440 from September 1, 1944 through August 31, 1945. Since the Council's fiscal year is the calendar year, the financial statement on page 27 shows income and expenditures during 1944. For 1945, the Council adopted a record budget of \$499,323 which, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, was a reasonable level of expenditures for the largest council of social agencies in the world. For a variety of reasons, that budget was substantially underspent during the first eight months of 1945. The level of expenditures will rise during the balance of the year, however, as the Council's program accelerates.

Financially, the Council's position continues unstable. Having no capital reserves, and being \$20,000 in debt, the Council is forced to exist on a day-to-day basis. Efforts to improve this situation were made on a growing scale during the year. More strongly than ever before, the Council turned to the public for funds. Its appeal was and is necessarily confined to the



BOWERY DAY. *This side of the street, the Jewish section ends. Across the street, Little Italy begins. I guess you'd call the Bowery No Man's Land.*



BOWERY NIGHT. *Now I lay me down to sleep.*

limited group of social-minded citizens who understand the need for and value of coordinating New York City's health and welfare services.

As part of the campaign waged by the enlarged and strengthened Finance Committee, two fund-raising luncheons—one for women and one for men—were held last Fall. These enabled the Council to end the year without an operating deficit. In the Spring, a fund-raising meeting was held for lawyers and a drive also got under way to obtain increased gifts from foundations. The Greater New York Fund repeated in 1945 its previous year's general grant of \$100,000 and also made an earmarked grant of \$10,000 for a specific project. Although the prospects are somewhat brighter than in many years past, the Council will have to double its income from foundation, individual and member agency contributions this year if it is to achieve financial stability.

To bring its organization still further into line with its growing activities, the Council again revised its By-Laws during the year. Amendments dealt with membership requirements, the role of the Delegate Body, nominations to the Board and the procedure for amending the By-Laws. The Council's personnel policies were also thoroughly overhauled.

IN THE FOREGOING WAYS, AMONG OTHERS TOO NUMEROUS TO MENTION, the Welfare Council has worked during the past year to serve the people of this great metropolis. Fundamentally, the Council's pattern is set by the disorders of society and by the needs of citizens unable to fend for themselves. To cure those disorders, to help those citizens, an impressive battery of welfare and health services has been developed here during the last century, and for twenty years these services have been federated in the Welfare Council for the more effective performance of their ameliorating task. As depression followed boom, as recovery followed depression, as war intruded, and now that peace has prevailed over war, the more pressing needs of the people have changed, and the emphasis of community services has changed accordingly. The work of the Welfare Council reflects such changes.

Some of these changes are substantial; veterans and minority groups, for many months and perhaps for years to come, will be sources of concern to New York's social agencies and will therefore figure in the work of the Council. But most changes reveal new forms of old needs. The young, the old, families in trouble, poor health—these are the main enduring headings of human wretchedness. Social agencies will continue to deal with them, and the Council will continue to help. It will try always to help the people themselves, to help the agencies that help them, and to help the public at large in understanding what these needs are and how they are being met.

Financial Statement

WELFARE COUNCIL OF NEW YORK CITY

Balance Sheet, December 31, 1944

ASSETS	
Cash	\$59,015.09
Accounts Receivable	5,586.11
Pledges Receivable	\$ 3,780.00
Less reserve	2,650.00
Inventory of Stationery and Supplies	1,130.00
Furniture and Fixtures	1,981.40
Less reserve for depreciation	\$19,735.40
.....	12,221.58
TOTAL	7,513.82
	\$75,026.42
LIABILITIES	
Notes Payable—Banks	\$20,500.00
Accounts Payable	4,606.13
Employees' Income Taxes—Withheld at Source	2,666.96
Employees' War Bond Account	199.62
Deferred Credits	2,082.85
Fund Reserve Balances (see below)	37,457.04
Capital Fund Reserve—(Investment in furniture and fixtures)	7,513.82
TOTAL	\$75,026.42

Note: The cash funds in the regional councils in the amount of \$1,836, and the inventory of stationery and supplies were not verified by the auditor.

Summary of Income and Expenses, by Funds, for the Year Ended December 31, 1944

	BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 1943	INCOME	TOTAL	EXPENSES	BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 1944
Central Planning and Coordinating	\$(1) 696.05	\$151,552.20	\$ 150,856.15	\$129,409.90	\$ 21,446.25
Social Service Exchange	2,145.45	77,358.31	79,483.74	77,836.59	6,647.15
Central Admission and Distribution Committee	1,194.45	.....	1,194.45	1,194.45	.....
Contributors Information Bureau	2,217.24	13,958.23	16,175.47	16,175.47	.....
Regional Organization	1,937.56	48,074.99	50,012.55	50,012.55	.....
Special Relief Fund	43.75	.....	43.75	.....	43.75
Social Service Exchange—Reserve Account	21,499.50	1,786.83	23,286.33	.....	23,286.33
General Activities—Amortization Account	(2) 13,966.44	.....	(2) 13,966.44	.....	(2) 13,966.44
Repayment of Bank Loan .....	.....	.....	.....	5,000.00	5,000.00
TOTAL	\$ 14,375.24	\$292,710.56	\$ 307,085.80	\$274,628.76	\$ 32,457.04
Add adjustment to show as an expenditure the repayment of bank loan as authorized in budget by Executive Committee .....	.....	5,000.00	5,000.00	.....	5,000.00
TOTAL	\$ 14,375.24	\$297,710.56	\$ 312,085.80	\$274,628.76	\$ 37,457.04

Notes—(1) Central Planning and Coordinating balance at December 31, 1943, includes the balance of Bureau for the Aged, \$176.60, and debit balance of Directory of Social Agencies, \$944.16.
(2) Represents the unamortized balance of the deficit of Central Planning and Coordinating at December 31, 1937, (designated at that date as "General Activities and Better Times") which balance is to be absorbed by yearly amortization of \$6,884.00, provided for by General Activities contributions as authorized by the Executive Committee of the Welfare Council. No provision was made during the year 1944 for such amortization due to insufficient income during the year.

Auditor's Certificate

WELFARE COUNCIL OF NEW YORK CITY:

We have completed our audit of your accounts for the year ended December 31, 1944. In our opinion, the accompanying balance sheet and summary of income and expenses, by funds, fairly present your financial position at December 31, 1944, and the financial results of your activities for the year.

New York, N. Y., March 31, 1945

WILBOUR D. TRIPP & Co.
Certified Public Accountants

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(September, 1945)

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