

Dr. Chisholm Says Children Are Nation's Most Important Product

"The most important product of any country is its children," Dr. Brock Chisholm, specialist in world health problems, told the Southern Oregon Child Guidance Clinic association last night.

Dr. Chisholm spoke to about 150 people from Jackson, Douglas and Klamath counties who attended the association's annual meeting at Hedrick Junior High school. His subject was "Growing Up in a New Kind of World."

The development of children will determine whether or not the human race will survive, he said. The speaker noted that a new kind of thinking is necessary now because we are living in a new kind of world.

Conditions for Survival

"Conditions for survival now are different than at any other time in the history of the human race. . . . Our ancestral patterns have ended in war. If we follow

the example of our ancestors it will result in the end of the human race," he said.

Dr. Chisholm commented that the human race now stands as other races have stood just before their dissolution.

"Warfare is no longer anything but synonymous with death. We have to learn to live in this new kind of world without warfare," he said.

The speaker also suggested there is a need for a new kind of free thinking. "What we have called thinking actually has been accepting local prejudices imposed by local people. We have rearranged these prejudices and called it thinking."

Taught Not to Think

He added, "In childhood we are actually taught not to think." He illustrated this statement by referring to the common phrase, "Mother knows best."

Dr. Chisholm emphasized the need for self examination in averting another world war. "After World War II, nations were so concerned about themselves they decided something had to be done. . . . So they started telling each other what to do. Instead, we should use self examination, which is a full time job."

He pointed out that the human race has had faith in organization and legislation. "We set up the United Nations and other special agencies and felt that was all that was necessary. . . . The UN is simply an instrument waiting to be used by people of the world for the purposes for which it was designed. If people used it for the purpose for which it was designed, it would do a magnificent job," he said.

Only Hope for Peace

Special agencies such as the United Nations and UNESCO, represent the only hope for the human race, he commented. "Wars begin in the minds of men. We've pretended wars begin by economic conditions."

Dr. Chisholm added, "Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well being, not merely absence of disease."

The speaker further stated, "Elderly people tend to think that only children need to change. . . . Children have to have freedom if they are to change, and not many are being given that freedom."

He gave special emphasis to the need for children to develop their own faculties, such as imagination. "They need to explore in all directions. To do that, they must not be tied down to customs too soon." He said they need a "safety valve" and illustrated this by saying a child should not hit a playmate over the head, but should be allowed to say he wants to.

"They need to explore in the whole field of cause and effect. If they did this, they would not close their eyes to bad effects," he said.

Dr. Chisholm added, "Destruction of the imagination is still being practiced in many families. Wherever evil exists it needs to be seen, heard and talked about. Man may not survive because of hiding his head in the sand."

The speaker said World Wars I and II were caused because we would not look at reality. "Children have to learn to face facts, think of terms of cause and result, and make sound decisions."

To illustrate how imagination can be used to see things as they really are, Dr. Chisholm asked the audience to pretend they lived in Southeast Asia and Czechoslovakia. He pointed out economic and social advantages of North Americans over the rest of the world. He noted that the United States and Canada used more irreplaceable national resources since World War I than the rest of the world put together. He mentioned that North Americans are industrious people and are more willing to work for what they want than people in other parts of the world.

Can Do More Damage

He also commented that films portraying the United States can do more damage in other countries than the Voice of America can undo. Dr. Chisholm said old films showing lynchings, race riots and other degrading happenings in this country are commonly shown abroad.

"The next steps toward world peace will have to be taken at home in our own communities and not in the United Nations," he declared.

Preceding the talk, the association cast a unanimous ballot for nominees to the board of directors for the next year. New directors include Mrs. Albert Bamforth, Rogue River; Richard C. Cottle, Ashland; the Rev. Richard Jones, Medford; Mrs. David Legg, Medford; Mrs. Allyn Monroe, Medford; Harold Snodgrass, Medford; Mrs. Warren Wolf, Medford, John Graff, Medford, to fill unexpired term of Mrs. Dwight Houghton until June, 1958; Mrs. Clarence Davies, Eagle Point, to fill unexpired term of Mrs. W. H. Young, until June, 1958.

Mrs. Carl Wimberly Jr., presided at the meeting.

The Family Council

Editor's note: The Family Council consists of a judge, a psychiatrist, three clergymen, a newspaper editor, a women's editor and two writers. Each article is a summary of an actual report. The Family Council does not give advice; it merely reports on problems that have been dealt with by responsible agencies and counselors.

Charles P.—My wife's card playing is disgusting.

Olga P.—It's a harmless pastime.

Charles P.—My wife and I have been married nearly 30 years. For the past 15 of those years we have been battling about something that gets on my nerves so much that I feel I just can't take it any more.

Olga P.—I'm a card player and have played several times a week all these years. I have no idea how much money she has lost, but I'm sure it's plenty. It's not just the money, though. I think it's disgusting to see these women playing together, smoking and gambling every afternoon. Sometimes she even goes away in the evening too, and doesn't come home until late at night.

I have been after her for the longest time to take a job—anything to keep her busy so that she'll get out of that disgusting habit. I tell her it's just as bad as drinking, but I can't seem to convince her.

gets home. I have a right to some pleasure during the afternoon.

The idea that I have lost a lot of money playing cards is ridiculous. We play for small stakes. Playing for money makes the game more exciting, but I doubt whether I've lost as much as \$100 in the past several years.

My husband thinks that I should be satisfied with nothing in my life but work and sitting home with him in the evening watching TV and reading the papers. A person needs more excitement in life than that.

The Council: A person certainly does need more pleasure and excitement in life than the day-to-day routine, but Olga has settled for trifling pleasure and unreal excitement. Even this trifling pleasure and unreal excitement is harmless enough as an occasional pastime, but when the hours spent at it add up into weeks, months and eventually, years, it is bound in the end to leave the individual with a sense of futility and boredom with life in general.

If Olga tries to analyze her pleasure in card playing, she will probably find that it breaks down into three things—the pleasure in sociability, the pleasure of pitting her mind against those of others and the emotional excitement of working with and against the laws of chance. All of these satisfactions can be enjoyed in other ways—which do not leave one with a sense of boredom and futility in the long run.

It would take real desire on Olga's part to tear herself away from this ingrained habit and seek more constructive pleasures and mental activity and she would have the satisfaction of making her own money besides.

Volunteer work would also give her sociability and mental activity and she would have the additional satisfaction of helping others. Both forms of work would provide emotional stimulation by the challenge they offer to impose human order on the chaos of chance.

Olga says she is hurting no-

Swim, Gym Classes Schedule at YMCA

The Medford YMCA spring pool schedule includes two swimming classes for women, according to Y officials.

Starting Tuesday, April 30, a beginners class will be held each Tuesday and Thursday between 7:30 and 8:30 p.m. An advanced class will start Thursday at 8:30 p.m. for women who have completed the beginners class or are

more advanced in swimming skills, officials said.

On Tuesdays and Thursdays between 2 and 3 p.m., Mrs. Lannell Wilkes will instruct preschool children accompanied by their mothers. She will teach mothers, who will instruct their children.

Gym classes on Mondays and Saturdays followed by free swim periods have been scheduled for boys in the 9-12 age group. Classes will start at 4 p.m. Monday, and the pool will be open between 4:45 and 5:15 p.m. The boys gym will be open between 9 and 10:30 a.m. Saturday and the pool will be available between 10 and 11 a.m. Saturdays.

Additional information on the classes is available from the YMCA office.

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