



# SCRAP BOOK



December 18, 1949



While other members of his family relax, Ralph H. Smith helps his son, Ralph, with homework. Richard, 15, chats with his mother, while Robert, 10, plays with the dog. Mr. Smith is executive director of the United Fund. —Staff Photo

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...he says.

...er, 1929, when he ...ng social studies, he ...ed an impressive amount ...perience into his career. He ...orked with Family Service in St. Paul, doing casework and group work. He worked on war relief as assistant campaign secretary during the war.

**Red Cross Secretary**

He also was general secretary of the Red Cross War Fund campaign in St. Paul for a year. Add to that war bond work for the government, and a variety of special assignments on national and statewide committees off and on.

He got into social work partly by accident. Both he and his wife at first were teachers. They decided to get into something else. For awhile Mr. Smith studied law, and began to do social work as a means to an end. It became the end.

This sort of work, he says, gives him immense satisfaction.

"You can see things change, watch progress and feel that in some small degree maybe you helped to shape it."

He does his work calmly, without surrendering to executive frustrations.

"I have no ulcers, and I have never lost a night's sleep."

**Fund Director Stresses Planning Work**

By JAMES N. RHEA

Ralph Henry Smith, executive director of the United Fund, Inc., is a solid family man.

He is one of eight children. His wife is one of 14. They have three sons. And he thinks of the Rhode Island community as part of his family.

In the latter connection, Mr. Smith likes to point out that his family chore is not just that of fund-raiser.

"I'm no fund-raiser. I never took any course in fund-raising. I'm a social worker."

By this Mr. Smith means that he is not a person trained in some cold mechanical technique of advertising services to get people to pay for them.

If his organization raises funds successfully, he says, it is because the community has been made to see and feel the meaning of those services in a personal, realistic way.

To get these thoughts and feelings across, he says, requires the application of tested group work practices, and patient planning.

The planning phase of his work is all-important to Mr. Smith, and he would like to do more of it. He speaks with pride about the participation of private citizens in budget planning in the fund movement here.

In Albany, N.Y., where he directed a fund unit for community services before coming here, he refined this lay-participation plan to a fine degree. People raise the money, so let them plan how to spend it, he says.

Another pet project was the Altona Federation, established when he worked in Altona, Pa., in which 124 organizations came together to plan for the community's health, economics, education, welfare and cultural development.

Important in this structure were the Chamber of Commerce, Council of Social Agencies, and City Planning Body.

**Talks with Staffer**

Mr. Smith concerns himself with a wide variety of things social workers are doing far outside Rhode Island.

He is a native of Moorhead, Minn. After a few bouts with illness in his early years, he developed into a husky chap who was named all-conference guard three times on his high school football team.

Southern city. He didn't know whether he could do much good in a segregated organization, but felt challenged to do what he could.

Mr. Smith used no persuasion on the young man, but discussed the philosophy of democracy implicit in community service work.

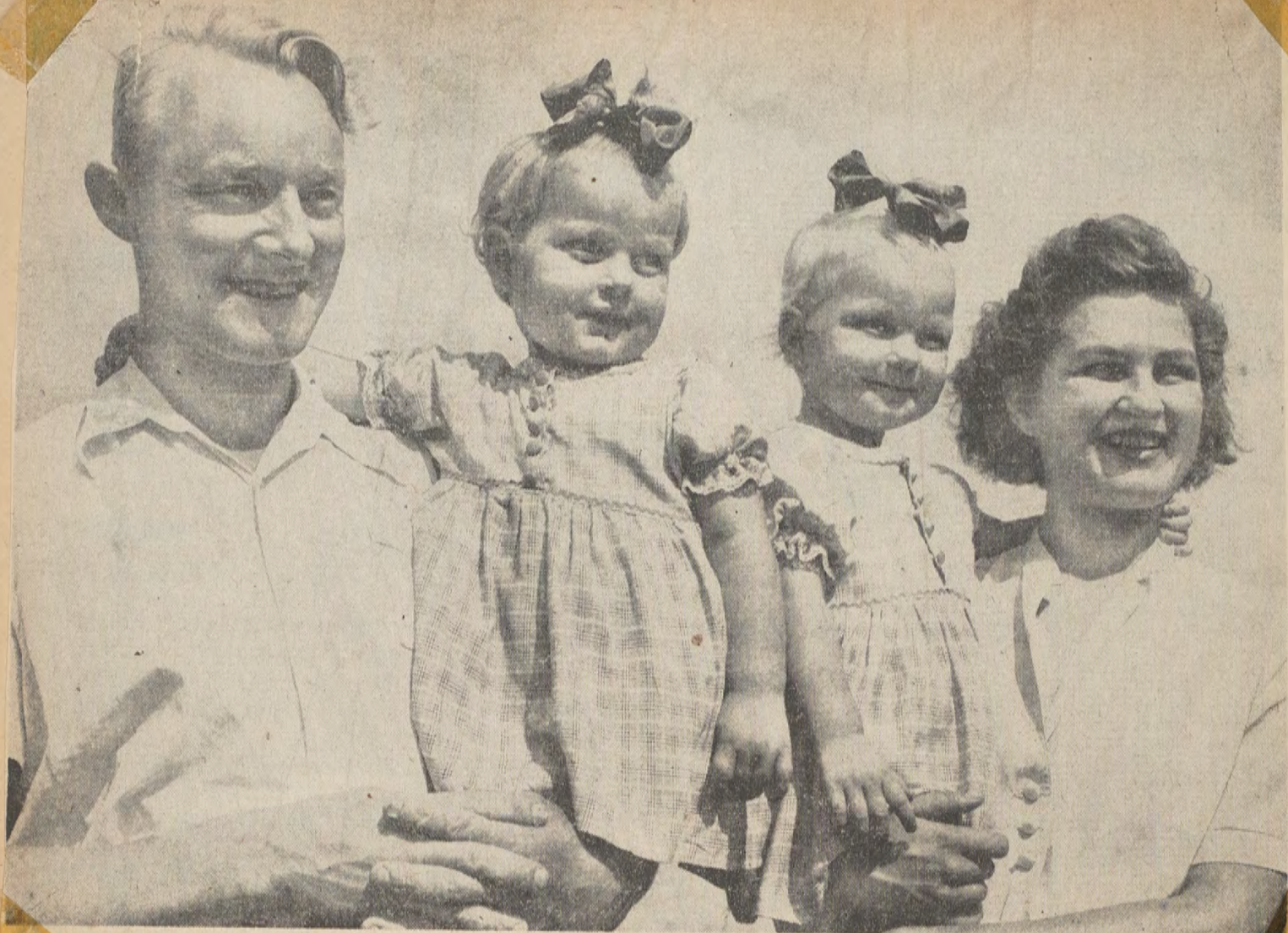
Someone stuck his head in the office door to say that one shop which collected \$197 last year had turned in \$1,500 this year.

"Par for the course," Smith.

**Equal Partici**

Of one thing in Altona practice proud, and the participation of labor. He observed that the Rhode Island class is especially management and labor representatives have to feel like a second-in Rhodie Island, we're all Smith is a native of Moorhead, Minn. After a few bouts with illness in his early years, he developed into a husky chap who was named all-conference guard three times on his high school football team.

hotel room. They were leaving. They found a sign.



**IN THE LAND OF ICE CREAM:** Joyously happy, Jaan and Aino Ploompuu, formerly of Estonia and Europe's DP camps, enjoy Rhode Island with their twins, Tiiu and Merika. Their new problems are learning a new language and finding a job. Story and more pictures, page 15.

—Staff Photo by Clinton H. Cram



**THE PLOOMPUI TWINS REPORT—ON TOYS:** "La, La." That means radio in the twins' talk but it also must mean something "super." Outside a Wakefield toy shop it's Merika (left) and Tiiu.

—Staff Photos by Clinton H. Cram

## Estonian DP's and Twins Look for Happiness Here

BY ELEANOR JOHNSON

"Mrs. Ploompuu, come quickly. It is important."

A merry-eyed cherub pronounced the message in Estonian.

"Come, Mrs. Ploompuu," her twin sister implored, also in Estonian.

The chubby two-year-olds galloped at high speed across the lawn of the Saunderstown cottage to warn of the approach of visitors with a car and a "la la." (If you consult the twin's dictionary you would find "la la" means radio.)

Mrs. Ploompuu is Aino, her husband is Jaan and the twins are their children, Tiiu and Merika. They are Estonians who recently made their home in a DP camp in Germany.

Although the twins speak no English except for "Hey-lo," they managed to make themselves understood by a visiting photographer and reporter. And Mrs. Ploompuu knew strangers were approaching, because it is only then that the twins address her so formally.

The Ploompuu family, who are getting acquainted with Rhode Island (even the mosquitoes pay them many nocturnal visits), three weeks ago were perspiring in a hot New York hotel room. They were discouraged

son of Foster Center; all the way to America we were so happy," Mrs. Ploompuu said. "And then when we arrived at the dock we learned we had no home. Mr. Michaelson's wife had died while we were coming to America."

So the Ploompuus languished in their stuffy room and began, one by one, to discard their dreams of living a new life in America, of recapturing the youth which World War II and the Russian invasion had stolen from them.

Ploompuu tall and sun-bronzed and very blond, took up the story. "Then Mr. W. C. Crolius of Hanover Center Bank in New York heard of us. He offered us this home here for the summer until we could find a place and some work."

"I want to work for my family. I am anxious to do things. Here I tend to the lawn, I do painting and I—" he hesitated and looked word that to supply the missing word that a three-week study of English hasn't yet brought.

At this point Ploompuu disengaged himself from the caresses of Tiiu and went into the little cottage for his dictionary. He found the word "repair, too."

"Tiiu also," the words interrupted him. Merika wriggled out of the single wing, placed her fat legs on

fun using English words. "Paint."

"Yes, I painted the rooms. White. And Merika shyly lifted her golden hair to show a paint-spattered ear. "When I painted, the children had to help me," their father explained

### Life Seems Different

The Ploompuu couple looked happily at their children and laughed with them. Life seemed bright and carefree in the Saunderstown home, so different from what it once was. Aino and Jaan, now 28 and 30, left their native country in 1944. They were given a choice between remaining under Russian occupation or living in a DP camp.

"But we remembered what it was like in 1940 when the Russians were in our country," Jaan said. "Then people hid underground, in chimneys, cellars, every place to escape. "In 1944 I hid in the woods three weeks to escape mobilization before I could get out of my native country. And then I was in Germany."

"Which was worst," you ask? "Answer me—what do you think is worst, a snake or a tiger?"

"All during the life of Estonia there have been two enemies, the Germans and the Russians. My father was a soldier who fought the Germans. My brother was killed by the Russians. He was my twin brother. The rest of my family were sent to Siberia."

### Doctor Came Too Late

"How could I stay in my native country?" he demanded.

Before the Russian troops arrived, he had been a medical student at the University of Estonia. He still hopes to become a doctor some day.

Aino's past too is one of defeat and struggle and fear.

"I was an only child. I lived with my mother. She became sick when the Russians came."

"Because of the Russians she died. Estonians who wanted a doctor had to apply three weeks in advance. When the doctor arrived my mother already was dead."

The twins alternated between twisting their blue hair ribbons and eyeing the toes peering out of their green sandals. They had been promised ice cream cones, a ride in the car, and they were anxious to get started. They did not understand the serious tones of their parents.

"Come," Tiiu linked her fingers into the hand of the photographer and tugged sturdily. She smiled when victory was so easy.

"Look at my family," Jaan smiled. "I must find work. Maybe I could be a housekeeper outside and do repairs inside and my wife could cook."

"We have nothing," he continued. He looked at his family again. "That is, I mean we have no clothes, no money." He looked down at the single pair of pants in his wardrobe, at his wife's solitary skirt and blouse. "I want to work quickly. Not in the city but maybe in the coun-



**TIIU TWINS TEST: ON ICE CREAM—**"Mm, Mm —at's Tiiu (left) and Merika sampling in Wake-

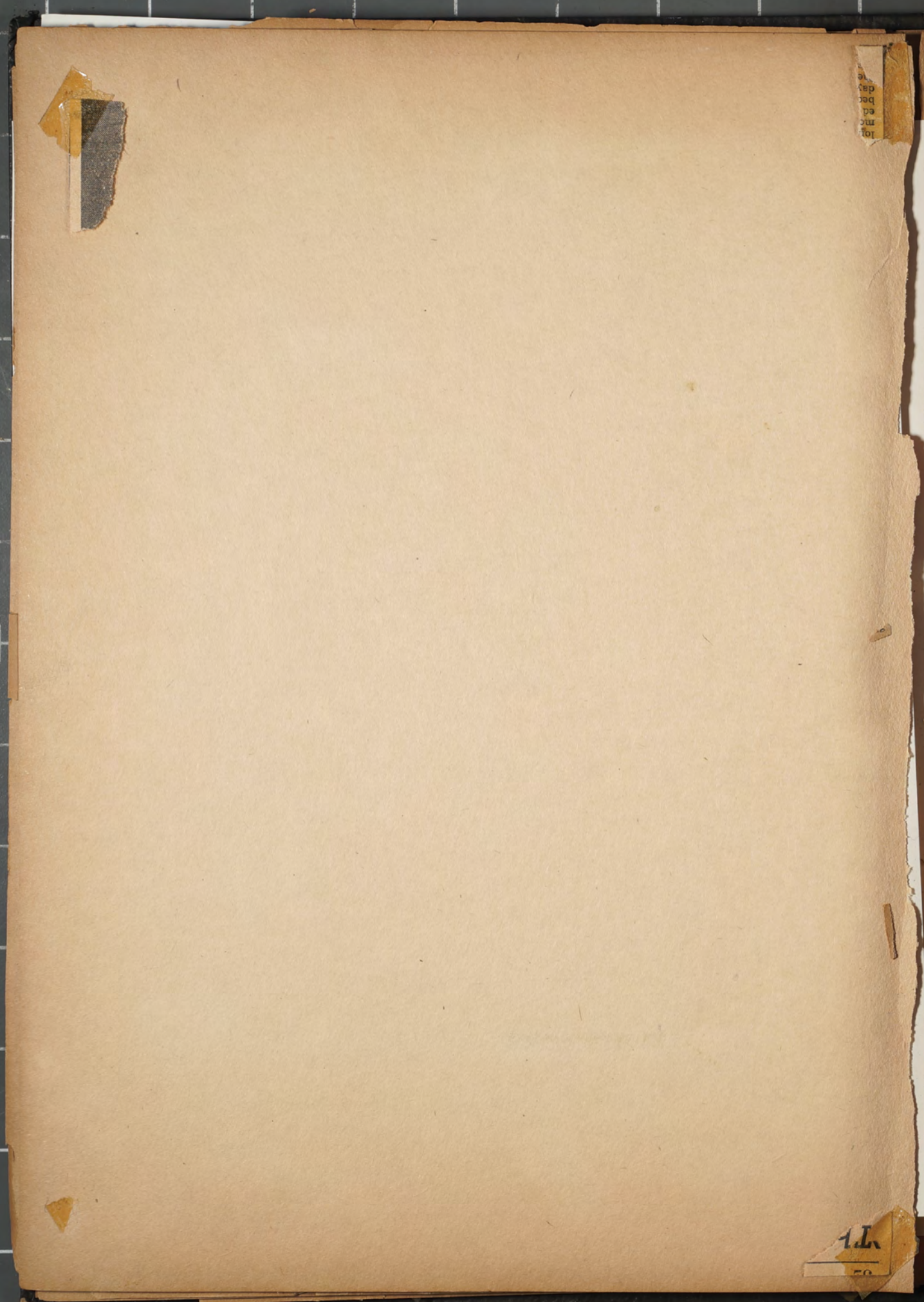
field

trybuy things for my family again I might say. It is too soon now toob comes first."

problems of economic two-year-olds. Mm, their patience a by this time, spoke man. That brought re-

later the twins blissed in ice cream bath and kenfield store windows. Ice cream ran down their short dresses and gers sticky. But they ice cream solved all problems.

August 12, 1949



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## 5 Stowaways Sent to School

Judge Hartigan Orders Puerto Ricans To Washington

Five Puerto Rican youths, who stowed away on a Providence-bound ship in the hope of getting an education and improving themselves, are headed for school.

Federal Judge John P. Hartigan today decided to send them for a year to the National Training School for Boys at Washington, D.C., of which one is an alumnus.

The five boys, ranging in age from 15 to 18 years, were taken off the S.S. Monroe Victory when that vessel docked here Sunday morning with a load of lumber. They had boarded the ship under cover of darkness at Ponce, P.R., on July 12 and gave themselves up because of hunger.

Only one of the boys who could speak any English is Monserrate Perez Monez, 18, who once before stowed away on a ship, landed in Baltimore and was sent for a year to the National Training School.

### Tells of Training

Monez told Assistant U.S. District Attorney Joseph Venezia that at the school he learned to tap shoes and to speak English, but when he got back to Puerto Rico, he could find no work and decided to stow away again. In answer to a question by Judge Hartigan, he said he was the only survivor of 12 children in his family. His father is dead and his mother, after having married again, once more is a widow.

Monez and Isaac Alicea Estrada, also 18, were before the court on criminal informations charging them with boarding a vessel without the consent of the owners or the master. They pleaded guilty.

"I have talked to both of these defendants," Venezia told the court, "and it is a case of running away from a land of poverty for the purpose of coming to America to improve their conditions, improve their minds and learn a trade here."

### Depict Family Conditions

Through an interpreter, S. Joseph Grande, Cranston High School Spanish teacher, both defendants told the court of their family conditions. Estrada, one of nine children, is the son of a sugar cane cutter, who is unemployed in the off season.

"You want to go to the National Training School for Boys?" Judge Hartigan inquired. Both defendants said yes.

The court then placed the youths in the custody of the attorney general for a year, with the recommendation that they be transferred to the school.

Now staying with a French friend in Milton, Mass. Miss Adams is in this country looking about for something else to do.

Choosing time later.

Mrs. Diane Ryan who is high school girl.

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**E TRUCKS**  
**DELIVERY**

**PULVEX**  
KILLS FLIES  
TEA POWDER... KEEPS EM OFF

"Flies Don't Bother Me 'I'm Dusted with PULVEX DDT"

## Madeiras Guest At Testimonial Trade, Industrial Head For Education Dept.; Honored By 500

PROVIDENCE—Edward J. Madeiros, former Cumberland High School teacher, was felicitated on his appointment as state trade and industrial education supervisor by about 500 persons as a testimonial banquet and reception last night at Narragansett Hotel.

Dr. Michael F. Walsh, director of the state Department of Education and one of many speakers to praise Mr. Madeiros as well qualified for the post, said that addition of a trade and industrial supervisor to his staff represents an important advance in state educational functions.

The guest of honor spoke briefly on his duties and thanked the speakers and other guests for honoring him with the banquet. He was presented with a wristwatch by Miss Olga Perry on behalf of the testimonial committee. Mrs. Madeiros was presented with a bouquet of roses by Mrs. Margaret B. Andrade of the International Institute, Providence, chairman of the ticket committee.

Other speakers were Atty.-Gen. William E. Powers, Mayor Ambrose P. McCoy of Pawtucket, Mayor Dennis J. Roberts of Providence; Stephen A. Fanning, Democratic state central committee chairman and Cumberland town clerk; Dr. Frederick Donovan, vice-president of Rhode Island College of Education.

Also Manuel Alves deCarvalho, Portuguese consul in Rhode Island; Rev. Vincent Dore, O. P., dean of Providence College; Rev. John C. Rubba, O. P., of the Providence College faculty; Bernard F. Norton, superintendent of schools in Cumberland; Earl F. Calcutt, superintendent of Central Falls schools.

Also, Albin J. Ryder of the Mt. Pleasant High School, Providence, faculty; Dr. Benjamin G. Schiano of Providence; Dr. Rodrigo P. C. Rego of Providence; Rev. Antonio P. Rebello, pastor of Holy Rosary Church, Providence; Rev. Silvino Raposo, pastor of St. Anthony's Church, Pawtucket; and Richard J. Germano, deputy collector of internal revenue.

Peter J. Pimentel of Pawtucket was the toast master. The large committee was headed by Dr. Mario Pires of Cumberland, chairman; Mrs. Anthony Soito, secretary and Charles Lawrence, treasurer.

1949

## MRS. C. P. SISSON WILL HEAD GROUP

Succeeds Yatman as Leader of International Institute of Providence

Mrs. Charles P. Sisson was elected president of the International Institute of Providence at its annual meeting, held last night at the Providence Art Club. She succeeds Ellis L. Yatman, who has headed the organization for the past five years.

Other officers named are: Gurney Edwards, first vice president; Miss Jessie Hunt, second vice president; Mrs. Aristide B. Cianfarani, secretary; Mrs. Spiros K. Karambelas, treasurer; Mrs. Ross V. Hersey, assistant treasurer.

Edward Corst, former commissioner of immigration at Ellis Island, speaker at the meeting, stressed the necessity of maintaining the unity of the people of the United States in the face of the international situation today.

"We must have a true functioning of democracy here if we are to meet the threatening ideologies in the world today," he said. "The best way to combat the leftist is to make democracy work here, with equal opportunities for all despite differences of race, creed or class."

He made a plea for the assuming by this country of "its rightful share in the solution of the problem of the displaced persons in European countries," declaring that America can easily and profitably absorb in the labor market a reasonable number of displaced persons.

The following were named to the institute's board: Miss Marion Ballou, Miss Mary Basso, Mrs. Sarkis Boyajian, Dr. Alex Burgess Jr., Prof. Harold Bucklin, Alexander Chmielowski, Mrs. Ralph Di Leone, Miss Nancy Dyer, Mrs. Peter Fernandes, Miss Ada Hartzell, Mrs. Charles Kazaross, Mrs. Paul R. Ladd, Miss Mildred Mackillop, Miss Mabel Marshall, Mrs. Leroy Pilling, William Racewicz, John Rebello, Dr. Francis Ronchesne, Miss Ruth Tripp, Mrs. John Thornton, Mrs. John H. Wells, Vincent Whitney and Mr. Yatman.

The minutes of last year's meeting were read by the retiring secretary, Mrs. Ralph W. Eaton. Reports were given by Mrs. Karambelas, treasurer, and Miss Katherine L. Lawless, the executive secretary, who summarized the year's work of the institute.

A program given after the meeting included Polish folk songs by the Polish American Club, Anthony Fidryck, accompanist; folk dances by a Portuguese dance group, accompanied by Miss Mae Silva; Armenian and English songs by George Palojan, accompanied by Miss Zarie Arzooonian; accordion selections by Jimmy Vincent; Bavarian folk songs by Fritz Neadele, accompanied by Mrs. Erica P. Shack, and Scottish songs by Barbara Ogilire, accompanied by Everett McLean, bag piper.

1950

## MRS. SISSON AGAIN INSTITUTE'S HEAD

Re-elected President of International Group During Its Annual Meeting

Mrs. Charles P. Sisson was re-elected president of the International Institute of Providence last night at the annual meeting during which the organization's financial problems, because of a Red Feather allowance cut, were discussed.

Other officers elected were: Felix Miranda, first vice president; Gurney Edwards, second vice president; Miss Mildred Mackillop, secretary; Mrs. Spiros Karambelas, treasurer, and Mrs. Ross V. Hersey, assistant treasurer.

Directors: Aram A. Arabian, Miss Marion A. Ballou, Miss Mary D. Basso, Mrs. Sarkis Boyajian, Prof. Harold S. Bucklin, Robert S. Burgess, Mrs. Aristide Cianfarani, Mrs. Ralph DiLeone, George K. Demopoulos, Mrs. Peter Fernandes, Adolph Gradzinski.

Miss Jessie H. Hunt, Mrs. Charles Kazaross, Mrs. Paul Ladd, Mrs. John Maciel, Miss Mabel Marshall, Mrs. Leroy Pilling, John Rebello, Dr. Francis Ronchesne, Harold S. Staples, Mrs. John Thornton, Dr. Charles F. Towne, Mrs. John Wells and Ellis L. Yatman.

"Unless the institute is able to raise more money, it will either have to reduce its staff or curtail its services," Miss Katherine L. Lawless, executive director, said in her annual report.

She said she hoped \$4300 could be realized by the planned 1950 institute ball "which was such a success in 1949 and helped make up the Community Chest cut."

Four persons who had been brought to the United States by the institute explained their gratitude to the Red Feather agency for its help.

Sarkis Charnakian, Italian-born, who had been forced into German labor during the war, spoke of his pleasure in his jewelry work in Providence. Mrs. Alice Mallo, born in Rhode Island, told how she had lost her citizenship when she married an alien during World War I.

The institute was responsible for bringing her back to the United States.

Kazys Ciocys, Lithuanian, and Mrs. Anna Andrade, German, were additional persons appearing last night who were brought here by the Institute.

A program of Lithuanian folk songs followed the business session. Those who took part were Jan Bernoris, vocalist; Ciocys, Janas Statkevicius, Valdas Szatejkas, Leonos Kaczynskas and Vitas Jurgelevicius, chorus. Sam Beltrami was soloist with Virginia Beneduce at the piano.

Mrs. Sisson announced that Miss Lawless has been elected to the national institute board.

# Learned Trades so They Could Sing in U. S.



Octet of Latvian singers, seven of whom are now living here. (Standing, left to right) Richard Skujins, Rudolis Valdmanis, Arturs Druva, Janis Ansbergs. (Seated) Arvids Dauge, Valdis Jansons, Janis Austrums. (In front) Andris Berzins, who is still in Europe.

That Was the Only Way Latvian Octet Could Overcome Immigration Law on Admission of Displaced Persons—Four Took Up Carpentry

Only four of the original octet are now in America. The group was re-established in November, 1945, in the U. S. zone of Germany and immediately started on a concert tour of all the DP camps. Richard Skujins has a fat scrapbook filled with photographs, clippings of critics' reviews and advertisements telling of the tour. Another book is filled with personal greetings and congratulations from hundreds of delighted people who attended one or more of the concerts and were moved to write to the director.

There were words of praise from the American Red Cross, the U. S. General Staff headquarters in Europe, the USO, hundreds of high-ranking officers of U. S., Britain, France, and other countries. The letters from individuals poured in with profusion. The enthusiastic about the concerts, and there were greetings and felicitations from diplomatic officials in every country where they toured.

is a university teacher, qualified as a tractor operator in order to obtain his visa. Ansbergs became a dairy technologist, passing rigid examinations in farm technology, bacteria control, milk producing and marketing.

Now that they are about to be completely reunited in America, will their octet activities become their major occupation? Richard Skujins slowly shook his head.

"No," he replied, "singing is a lot of fun, and we hope to supplement our incomes with it, of course. We also consider that we have spent too many years in rigid training for concert work to give it all up now when we are near the top of our ability as artists."

### TWO DOCTORS

"But it will remain an avocation," he said, "for a couple of doctors among us now who, of course, will wish to continue their practices as soon as their licenses are recognized here. Austrums will no doubt wish to go back to teaching as a full-time career."

### "WE WERE DPS"

"This is a map showing where we've been," said Mr. Skujins, holding up a map of Europe. It was literally covered with tiny red dots. Hardly a capital city of the continent had been missed, and nearly every community of any important size at all has been visited by the octet since 1945.

"We were displaced persons ourselves," continued the young director. "It was not easy to obtain passports and the permission to come here and make our homes. Not all of the group spoke English, although all of us are bilingual. We sing in several languages, and most of us can talk fluent German, Latvian, Russian and Polish."

As for himself, Richard Skujins wants more than anything else to continue his technical work as a telephone engineer. He has had several interviews with officials of the New England Telephone Co. and he has been invited to look over the latest equipment in Boston's dial system. So far, however, the telephone company hasn't been able to find a position for the young DP's talents. He is currently waiting for an examination that will validate his license here in the U. S., since the European degree which he holds is not recognized here.

"However," he grinned, looking out over the teeming city from his third-floor apartment at 600 Tremont st., "everything here seems so bright with promise. We are beginning to get small engagements to sing at this or that place. Soon, I have no doubt, our octet will achieve the recognition that it had in Europe. It could not be otherwise. This is America, is it not?"

By DAVID LANCASTER

WHEN a man has to become a carpenter in order to sing, that's going in an awfully roundabout fashion. When he is already a skilled engineer, doctor, or businessman, it seems an even sillier effort.

But it wasn't silly. Eight members of a famous Latvian male choir wanted to come to America after the war. They were all successful business and professional men, appearing as an octet in the evenings over the state-owned Latvian broadcasting system and in important concerts and musicals all over Europe.

The immigration laws admitting displaced persons to the U. S., however, did not include singers among the lists of admissible persons.

A dairy farmer could come to America—a carpenter. But a singer—no.

"I decided to study carpentry in order to qualify for admission to America," smiled Richard Skujins, leader of the octet. "I am a telephone engineer by profes-

sion but, unfortunately, no telephone engineers were needed here. Carpenters were needed. It was that clear, so here I am."

Like most of his countrymen, Skujins is tall, fair, and clean-cut, with pale blue eyes. He explained the pronunciation of his name: Skoo-yins.

### SEVEN HERE

Seven of the octet are already here in Boston, eagerly awaiting the arrival of the eighth and final member. Besides the young leader, there is Janis Ansbergs, conductor of the group, and Valdis Jansons, secretary—and Arturs Druva, Rudolis Valdmanis, Arvids Dauge and Janis Austrums.

The group was organized in 1934 in Riga, capital of Latvia. For more than 10 years they sang over the one big network of their country. "In Latvia, the artists are hired by the broadcasting officials, rather than by sponsors who are manufacturers. It is the government's responsibility to the people to provide entertainment of pleasingly high quality," Mr.

Skujins went on. "This, then, is our first claim to recognition of our musical quality, yes?"

With the war came trouble for the octet. Their trade name had always been "Tevija," which translated means "homeland." This was a particularly irksome symbol to the Russians, and when the group continued to sing the ancient folk songs of Latvia over Soviet protests, things began to happen. Dr. Edgars Plaudis, a young physician who was one of the original eight, was whisked off to Siberia without an explanation. "They needed doctors," said Skujins wryly.

### NEVER HEARD FROM

A month later, early in 1940, Arnolds Silins disappeared mysteriously and has never been heard from since that time. He was another member of the octet.

The little countries of Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania lived in mortal terror for nearly 10 years, the octet director claimed. Until 1941, it was the Nazis whom everybody feared. In 1944, Soviet Russia was closing its mailed fist around the Latvian people. Those steel fingers have not yet released their grip.

Sam Oct 9.3.  
Back Nov 4.1948

Back  
Nov 4.1948

1949



Learned Trades so They

in Milton, Mass., Miss Adams is in the best of health and is looking about for some thing else to do.

Learned Trades so They

Greetings  
of Cheer



AT CHRISTMASTIME



D.P. Party



ms. Miss of Woonsocket - Sponsor.  
meeting Lipino Family - Boston July 22 - 1949







**HIS FAST ENDS EASTER SUNDAY:** Here are camera studies of Peter H. John, 23-year-old student, as he goes about his regular activities on the Brown University campus while in the midst of a week-long fast to call attention to starvation in China. John, a pre-theological course senior, says the United States government should alleviate conditions in the Orient with shipments of surplus farm commodities. As his fast drew increasing attention today, John enlisted the support of other students. He has not eaten since Monday. 'I drink water whenever there is a fountain handy,' he says. Story on page 28.

—Staff Photos by Joseph W. Arsenault

*Dec. 1949*  
**50 Former DP's Take Part In 1st U.S. Yule Party at 'Y'**

About 50 former displaced persons, many of them wearing well-scrubbed looks and their best clothes, witnessed their first American Christmas party yesterday afternoon at the YWCA auditorium.

The setting for this memorable event was ordinary. The stage piano sometimes sounded as though it needed tuning and the squeaks from the folding chairs often rose above the voices of the performers.

But when the beaming guests quietly picked up their wraps at the end of the party, the consensus, gathered from comments in a variety of languages, was that everyone had a nice time.

Mirdza Pickalnitis, a husky Latvian songstress, opened the program by singing a vigorous Lettish selection. Though she often sang with opera companies in her native land and before far larger audiences, Mrs. Pickalnitis could not shake off the trace of nervousness from her voice.

"I cannot but help to feel nervous," the Latvian singer explained afterwards. "Christmas is 'wunderbar.' The lights are like I have never seen before. I walk the streets at night just looking at the decorations."

**Sees Happiest Christmas**

Mrs. Pickalnitis said she was looking forward to her happiest Christmas day. Her husband, who is singing with a Baltic group in New York, has been given a chance to develop his style to meet American requirements, she explained.

This is enough to overcome the disappointment of his absence this Christmas, she said.

Elsewhere in the audience, there were other indications that some more of the European arrivals were going to tally up a highly satisfactory year by the time the holiday season ended.

Vincent Cyburt, a Polish refugee, was wearing a well-pressed greyish suit with a neat green pin-striped shirt and a pronounced American necktie that flashed a falling leaf scene.

"I bought my first Christmas present for my wife yesterday," he proudly said. "She is truly going to be surprised."

Cyburt would say only that his gift was "nice." He refused to elaborate on the grounds that the news article might tip off his wife.

A blond little girl who was cradled in the arms of a middle aged man cried out lustily during the show

several times and her parents smiled happily as they applied silencing measures.

**'Happy Cry'**

"She is healthy and well," the father, Joseph Guobys, a stern-faced Lithuanian, remarked. "No one minds hearing a happy cry."

The Guobys have been here since July 13 and though their finances are only the modest wages that a handyman's job brings in, the father said that he has already set aside "two or three" dollars for presents for his wife and child.

The musical program went along smoothly with a clarinet solo by Josephine DiSantis, a German vocal solo by Harry Vartanian, and accordion selections by Anthony Agostinelli.

After a Christmas pageant and some group singing and folk dancing, refreshments were enjoyed.

Upon leaving, the guests thanked their hostess, Miss Kathryn L. Lawless and other members of her International Institute committee. The remarks of appreciation came in all languages but many of them just said that it was "very okay."



**FOOD FOR EUROPEANS:** Gov. John O. Pastore purchases the first CARE food package to be sold in Rhode Island at a ceremony in his office today inaugurating the opening of Co-operative For American Remittances to Europe centers throughout the State. At left is Miss Katherine L. Lawless, executive secretary of the International Institute of Providence. At right is Judge Luigi DePasquale.

—Staff Photo, Frank Farley

## International Ball Planned

Institute Hopes to Cut Up Budget Deficit By Affair Nov. 10

To help make up a \$4000 deficit in its budget, the International Institute will hold its third annual ball at the Sheraton-Biltmore Hotel Nov. 10, Miss Katherine L. Lawless, executive secretary, announced today.

Miss Lawless said the Red Feather agency hopes to equal its last year's profits of \$1600 from the ball.

In addition to social dancing, a program of Swedish, Scottish, Portuguese, Italian, Lithuanian, Polish and Latin American songs and dances is planned. Edward Nedel, Harvard University folk dancing expert, is expected to direct dancing.

Mrs. Spiros K. Karambelas and Felix A. Miranda are co-chairmen of the ball committee with Mrs. Charles P. Sisson, president of the institute's board, honorary chairman.

Other committee chairmen are: Mrs. Aristide Cianfarani, program; George K. Demopoulos and Edward Falciglia, co-chairman, tickets; Miss Theresa Capone, special events; Miss Jessie Hunt, publicity. The reception committee is composed of Harold E. Staples and Mrs. John M. Thornton. John Kaprielian is in charge of posters and Ar-

stide Cianfarani of the program cover.

The general committee is composed of representatives from each group meeting at the International Institute, a social agency which helps peoples of various nationalities adjust to life here.

## ALTHEA M. JENCKS,

### Funeral of Former Americanization Classes Instructor Friday

Funeral services for Mrs. Althea M. Jencks, a teacher of Americanization classes in Rhode Island for many years, and at one time state supervisor of such education, who died Monday at her home, 191 Ninth Street, will take place at noon Friday in Central Congregational Church. The Rev. Arthur H. Bradford, D.D., pastor, will officiate.

She specialized in the teaching of history and civics to new citizens, but also often taught English of necessity. Her early interest in the work arose from difficulties in instructing grade school pupils who floundered in their classroom work because of their meager knowledge of English.

She was state supervisor of Americanization from 1926 to 1935, when she was removed by the late James M. Rockett, then state director of education, who charged that she had improperly engaged in political and partisan activities.

She continued her work, however, as supervisor of Americanization for the joint citizenship training committee of Rhode Island, and conducted regular classes in Pawtucket, Providence, Silver Lake and at Pembroke College.

Mrs. Jencks, the former Miss Althea Mayor, prepared for teaching at the Rhode Island College of Education, and taught in public grade schools prior to specializing in Americanization work.

Mrs. Jencks was born in Providence July 28, 1881, daughter of the late Ralph and Cora (Kelley) Mayor.

She is survived by her husband, Charles W. Jencks, three daughters, Mrs. Edward H. Gauthier and Miss Margaret Jencks of Providence and Mrs. George A. Smoot of Glassboro, N.J.; a brother, Herbert L. Mayor of Conimicut; a sister, Miss C. Lillian Mayor of Providence, and four grandchildren.

## Mirando Will Direct Drive

Knife Co. Treasurer Campaign Chairman Of Community Fund



Felix A. Miranda

Felix Miranda, treasurer of the Imperial Knife Company, will be campaign chairman of the Providence Community Fund in the 1950 Red Feather Campaign.

The Providence Fund, a member of the seven-Chest federation of the Rhode Island Community Chests, Inc., finances member agencies of the fund in Providence, Cranston, North Providence, Barrington, Johnston, Smithfield, Foster, Scituate, Exeter, North Kingstown and Warren.

In announcing the appointment, Milton C. Sapinsley, fund president, said Miranda will direct several thousand volunteers in the annual drive, scheduled to take place between Oct. 8 and 25. It is the first time since the Rhode Island Community Chests federation was formed that a campaign fund chairman has been named.

Mirando will also serve on the campaign cabinet under the direction of Bradford H. Kenyon, chairman of the statewide campaign.

Last year Miranda was in charge of the major firms division and in 1948 he was chairman of the industrial division.

A member of the board of directors of the Providence Community Fund and the Rhode Island Community Chests, Inc., he is vice president of

the International Institute and director of the Providence Boys' Club.

The new chairman is a director of the Hospital Service Corporation of Rhode Island, Rhode Island Medical Society Physicians' Service, Industrial Trust Company, Old Colony Cooperative Bank and the Rhode Island Port and Industrial Development Commission. He also is a director of the Narragansett Electric Co., the Rhode Island Cancer Society, Inc., the Rhode Island Infantile Paralysis Foundation, Rhode Island Chapter, Arthritis and Rheumatism Foundation, and the Providence Chamber of Commerce.

## 8 War Orphans Here From Italy With Princess

Wife of Pope's Nephew Acts as Escort: Catholic Group to Give 4,000 New Homes

Princess Gabriella Pacelli, whose husband, Prince Marcantonio Pacelli, is a nephew of Pope Pius XII, arrived at Idlewild Airport yesterday with a group of Italian war orphans, the first to be brought to this country under the auspices of the War Relief Services of the National Catholic Welfare Conference.

There were eight children in the party, ranging from four to ten years, all awaiting adoption in this country. Some have homes arranged for them. For others there will be a preliminary stay in the Dante School, Concordville, Pa., maintained by the Sons of Italy.

Princess Pacelli said she had volunteered to help bring the children here, and that she planned to return to Italy soon. Her husband is president of IAI, the Italian airline.

### Missions Director Aboard

The children were accompanied on their trip also by the Right Rev. Andrew P. Landi, director of Italian Missions War Relief Services.

The only child who will remain in New York was Giuzanna Pambino, nine, whose prospective new parents are residents of Brooklyn. Their names were withheld at the request of the Very Rev. Emil N. Komora, executive director of the Catholic Committee for Refugees which is co-operating with the National Catholic Welfare Conference in arranging homes for Italian orphans here. However, Giovanni's new parents, with their married son and daughter, were at the airport to meet her. Msgr. Komora introduced them, saying, "This is your new mamma. This is your new papa. This is your new big brother." Giovanni smiled shyly and the grownups wiped happy tears from their eyes. The couple, who have no young children, agreed to adopt the Italian girl upon the recommendation of the relief agents.

### Nuns Take Five Children

Three nuns were present to meet the five children who will be in their care—Pietro Aiello, ten; Giovanni Aiello, six; Salvatore Matarra, four; Anna Matarra, eight, and Maria Fols, five. The nuns were accompanied by Judge Eugene V. Alessandrini of Philadelphia, president of the Pennsylvania branch of the Sons of Italy.

Judge Alessandrini said the organization planned to bring 4,000 Italian war orphans to this country eventually. According to Msgr. Landi about 100 will come here in six months. He plans to return to Rome next week to select the next group.

Two other children were put aboard a train for Chicago last night. They are Oreste Licchese, ten, who will make his home with an aunt, Mrs. Mary Licchese, and Ross Giuseppe, who will be adopted by the Chicago family.

## R.I.-Born Brothers Fight To Shed Syria Citizenship

Steve and Sam Elias live in Syria and are citizens of that country. But they were born in Woonsocket. They want to be decreed American citizens.

Trial of their suit to effect this objective got under way today before Judge John P. Hartigan in U.S. District Court.

The government is asking that their petition, which names Dean Acheson, secretary of state, as defendant, be dismissed.

Steve Elias was born June 18, 1912, at 240 River Street; his brother, Sam Philip Elias, July 14, 1911, on Jeffers Street.

Five months after Steve's arrival, the parents went to Syria, taking the infant boys with them. A couple of years later the father emigrated to Bolivia, leaving the mother and the children in Syria.

### Naturalized as Syrians

In August, 1924, Steve and Sam became naturalized citizens of Syria under the Treaty of Lausanne, providing for collective naturalization of all Syrians acknowledging themselves as citizens.

They were naturalized, says their petition, as a result of their mother's fear for the welfare of her children if they were allowed to remain citizens of the United States.

Contention of the Eliases is that they did not return to the United States for permanent residence before Jan. 13, 1943, under terms of the Nationality Act of 1940, because high priorities on roads to travel were not available to them, because the American legation at Damascus, Syria, failed to determine the status of their nationality and because they did not know their own nationality.

### Government Contention

On Nov. 23, 1948, the American legation determined Sam was not a citizen of this country and on Aug. 11, 1949, made the same determination of Steve's nationality status.

The government contends the mother's motive in seeking naturalization of her sons is immaterial as is the reason why the petitioners did not return to this country. It denies the Eliases have permanent residence in Woonsocket, maintaining that the petitioners lost American nationality by acquiring Syrian nationality, that they continued to live in Syria for years after reaching this country without making

an effort to assert a claim of United States nationality and that they acquiesced in their own documentation as Syrians by exercising political rights of Syrians.

Sam Elias, in this country on a certificate of identity, was present in the courtroom. His brother Steve did not come to this country because of the expense involved, according to counsel. A third brother, George Elias, lives in Woonsocket, as does an uncle, Nicholas Anez.

After trial had started, the matter was continued to Monday at 10:30 to allow counsel for the petitioners to obtain the services of an interpreter.

July, 1951  
Boarding bus for Park

1951

## Ryukyus U. to Get Michigan State Aid

### 5 Professors to Teach on Okinawa for Year

WASHINGTON, June 29 (AP).—Michigan State College has agreed to aid the University of Ryukyus, on Okinawa Island.

Dr. Arthur S. Adams, president of the American Council on Education, announced today that the East Lansing, Mich., college will develop a program of aid to the Okinawan school. The first major step will be selection of five Michigan professors to teach there for a year, starting in September.

The United States Civil Administration of the Ryukyu Islands set up the university near Naha, Okinawa's capital, a year ago. The school was designed as part of the Army's effort to promote formation of a stable economy and democratic form of government in the Ryukyu chain. More than 500 students were enrolled during the first year.

A special committee from the American Council on Education chose Michigan State College, from among several American universities, as the sponsoring institution. "Michigan State most nearly met the specifications indicated by the Army," Dr. Adams explained in his announcement.

Four of the Lansing men will teach in the fields of agriculture and forestry, home economics, government and public finance, and educational administration. The fifth will be an administrative and business assistant.

July 29<sup>th</sup>, 1951

At Roger Williams Park

At Int. Inst.

September 13, 1951

## International Institute Unusual Red Feather Agency

"The purpose of an International Institute is to facilitate in every possible way a successful orientation of newcomers from foreign countries to the United States."

Translate those long words into stories about human beings, and the work of the Providence Institute, an unusual kind of Red Feather agency, shapes up something like the following:

An American G.I. on occupation duty in Japan married a young Japanese girl and they had a baby. He made arrangements to bring them back home when his tour of duty ended. Then the Korean war broke out and over he went with his division to the fighting front.

The immigration machinery was still grinding away however, and in time his mother sent along from this country all the important papers and records. She also sent along a batch of baby clothes. In the whirl of a battle he lost all the papers and the baby clothes, too.

### Helping Hand Ready

They had to begin all over again and the Institute social workers, experts on immigration regulations, are helping them in the long tortuous job of assembling duplicate documents. The young wife isn't here yet but the orientation has begun, for she knows there are people here ready with a helping hand.

The conflicts that can develop between first and second generations are commonplace in the Institute's work.

A Latvian couple living here for 20 years wanted to bring over a young relative. His parents had been killed; he had served as an officer in the Allied armies; he had no place to turn after the war.

The Institute helped pave the way, but the real trouble began after he arrived. Well-educated, he

knew English better than the old couple. He had no trouble getting a job. Socially, he had different standards. Conflicts and resentments multiplied.

They complained that he thought he knew more about America than they did. It was not easy for the social worker to get them to understand he was not ungrateful but just wanted to make his own adjustments. There was wounded pride on both sides, but the worker suggested the simple if drastic remedy that he move out of the home. That worked, and things have straightened out.

But it took an understanding of the old and new backgrounds that the social worker was able to offer: she had grown up in North Europe herself.

### Refrigerator Problems

The Institute also grapples with odd problems like that of the "ice-box lady." She got all tangled up in the strange mechanics of the frozen food and ordinary food compartments of her electric refrigerator. "In the old country no refrigerators, no troubles," she stormed. "Here is refrigerators. What else? Troubles." This called not for consultation with the immigration men, but an orientation talk with the refrigerator dealer.

These are only a few of the 900 cases carried by just five women social workers. One of them, who has 200 cases in her files today, said it is difficult sometimes to know where to begin. Thirty new ones come in every month and because of the nature of the problems, it is hard to close out a case. Sometimes they drag on for years. The correspondence reaches out to every continent in the world, and scores of countries.

The basic value of the Institute is that the workers can talk to foreigners in their own language. Last year 47 nationalities were represented in the files. The social workers and volunteer translators between them can handle 16 languages.

"People trust you if they hear you speak in their own tongue," said one worker. "Some of them may know English but they're still thinking in their own language where meanings are different."

### Kind of "Island"

The institute building at 58 Jackson Street is also a kind of island for nationality groups. Clubs hold parties or entertainments there nearly every night, straining the

cramped space and sparse furnishings to capacity. But it was here that two young people, neighbors in childhood, torn away from their families, and sent to concentration camp, ran across each other for the first time in years. Both thought the other had died.

The institute's biggest need is for new and larger quarters. Miss Katherine L. Lawless, executive secretary, said. But that has to remain just a hope for now. To handle adequately the work load the institute needs another secretary. A fulltime activities director to go out into the community is necessary if the agency is to carry out its mission in full. But there is not enough money for those positions either.

In trying to meet all the demands for help, the Institute people often work at night on their own time—and for nothing.

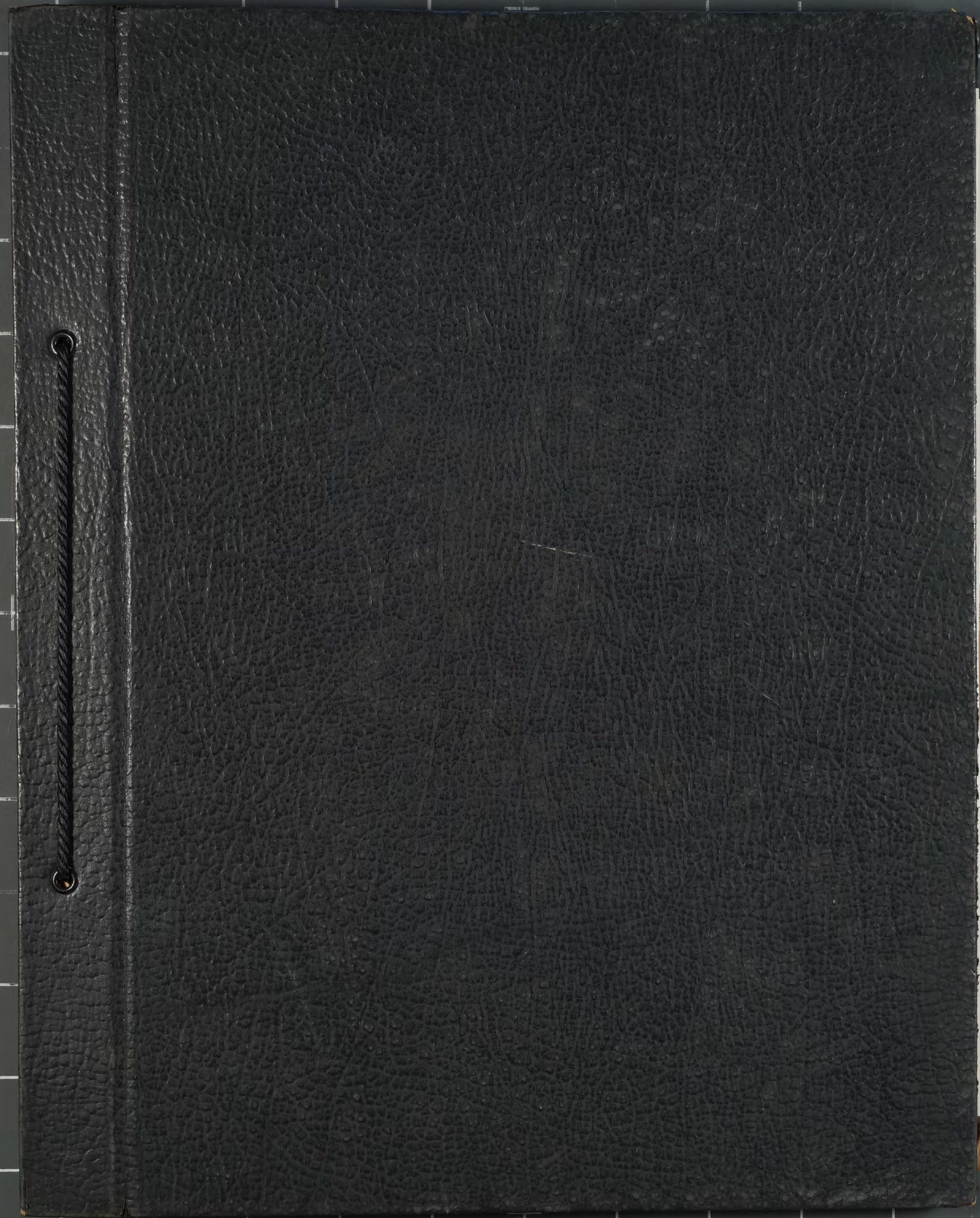
Depending almost completely on the community chest for existence, the institute has proposed a budget of \$23,000 for next year. It will try to raise perhaps \$2000 of this on its own. The amount represents a slight increase in salary for the underpaid workers, Miss Lawless said. She also noted that the institute has never gone into the red, but only by real sacrifices.

Why then do these women work

so hard? They may be thinking of one small displaced person, a 10-year-old boy who has known concentration camps, violent death and separation in his slight span of years. Arriving in this country, he was asked by someone whether he did not think that his uncle's home here would turn out to be the best place after all. He thought for a moment and said,

"The best place is nowhere."

Now she is in the country looking about for some one to do. Asked



17X

17th Jan. Miss Adams is in the  
country looking about for some  
place to live.