FREE MIND

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HUMANIST ACTION

Service Fund

Through special donations to the AHA's Humanist Service Fund we were enabled to send money to several Dutch and Belgian Humanist groups to aid in flood relief in those countries. Writes Humanitas, an organization of Dutch social workers subscribing to Humanist principles: "Your relief for our work in behalf of the flood victims has been particularly welcome. . . .The funds were used by one of our workers in the village of Kortzene (Zeeland)."

Libraries

Several members have asked why The Humanist is not indexed in the International Index, the standard library reference book on magazine articles. Our inquiry to the publishers of the Index elicited the information that all listings are chosen by vote of its library subscribers. Here is a project that almost every Humanist can work on. Simply ask your local librarian to request the International Index to list The Humanist.

In case your library doesn't receive The Humanist, we still have unassigned library gift subscriptions available. If any member secures the consent of a library not now receiving the magazine to accept a free trial subscription, we will be glad to supply one, within the limits of the available fund, of course.

Broadcasts

Thanks to any number of AHA members who wrote, phoned, wired NBC radio stations we apparently got good national coverage on the July talks by Drs. Kallen and Kilpatrick. Special thanks are due our friends in New York City who helped us get our programs on WNBC for the first time since we started them. In all, we received several hundred requests from all over the country for copies of the talks.

LEWIS A. MCGEE JOINS AHA STAFF

The smiling face pictured below belongs to Lewis A. McGee, the AHA's newest staff member. Lewis came to the AHA from his latest post as minister of the Free Religious Fellowship on Chicago's South Side. The Fellowship which he founded four years ago has the distinction of being the first Chicago church specifically organized to be both inter-racial and non-creedal.

LEWIS A. MCGEE

Lewis, the son of a Methodist minister, himself joined the A.M.E. ministry after graduating from Payne Theological Seminary at Wilberforce, Ohio. In 1947 he was received into fellowship in the Unitarian ministry. Lewis has taught philosophy and religion at denominational schools in North Carolina and Florida and at Roosevelt College, Chicago. For ten years he was a social worker in Chicago. He served as chaplain in both World Wars, seeing service in France, Wales, England, Belgium, and Germany.

Lewis says that even in theological school he was critical of traditional, dogmatic religion. It was not, however, until he first came to Chicago in 1927 when he met Curtis Reese and read his book, Humanist Sermons, that he began to think of himself as a Humanist. Once he did, though, he made up for lost time. Lewis has served the AHA as a field representative, a member of the Board of Directors (1941 - 1951), and now is full time administrative assistant.

Lewis's main job will be liason with Humanist groups and chapters. If you belong to an AHA chapter, you have probably already heard from him. If you do not belong to a chapter, but would like to, he wants to hear from you.

THE FREE MIND

Humanist Dr. Willis R. Whitney, organizer and first director of the General Electric Research Laboratory turned 85 on August 22. At what many consider a very advanced age, Dr. Whitney has lost none of the drive, zest for life, nor faith in the future that have sustained him over so many years. He feels that there is no ceiling to new knowledge. "The past," he says, "has proven that the future holds an endless variety of new ideas. Sometimes I feel I was born too soon, because I won't be around to see all the great things which will happen in the next 100 years."

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