

11404-94 Street, Edmonton,

March 23 , 1954.

Mrs. J. L. Edgar,
Grande Prairie, Alberta.

Dear Mrs .Edgar ,

Your letter of recent date to Mrs. Blom of Gibbons has been passed on for reply. We are sending you a booklet "Home Guidance Help". Also would like to pass on information of book put out by porter Sargent, Publishers and written by Miriam and Morris P. Pollock who have spent more than twenty years working with these children. An order blank is also enclosed, should you wish to avail yourself of the book, which in my estimation is the best of the many I have read on the subject.

Our day school here is actually two and one-half days per week, that being all the time that can be spared to us by the Recreation Commission, who are good enough to give us space, rent free. We are trying to obtain a building, but have not met with success up to now.

We have 41 students enrolled, and the children are taught on seven different mental levels, within the childrens capabilities. The children are taught Woodwork and Basketry, Rugmaking and Sewingj Speech therapy, Dancing and Physical Education. We have twelve pupils taking regular Grade 1 work. Of course all this is at a much slower tempo than regular schooling. Three certified instructors as well as other helpers are all giving of their time voluntarily.

We have presented a Brief to the Government for consideration of a grant.

For your information Retarded Children are now included as Disabled persons and eligible for the pensions at the age of twenty-one years, and to take effect on April 1st of this year.

Would it be possible for you to be in Edmonton in the not too distant future? Our classes are on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 A.M. to four, with Wednesday the morning only. You could see the boys and girls in action. As well I should like to have details of your boy, as case histories are being kept, for purposes of checking advancement. If not possible for you to be in the city perhaps you could write me all pertinent details, such as when started to walk, talk, toilet training; reactions to people and toys... in fact just all about him.

Also, have you any idea of how many such children there might be in your area? We, like you find it hard to locate them, doctors consider it as confidential information, and many parents are loth to mention it. We wrote nearly a dozen women's organizations to ask their help in giving us names of neighbors who might be interested, inserted an ad in the Edmonton Journal, had the press stories that you mentioned reading and Which always brings telephone calls and letters. You might mention this to the ministers of your churches, and such organizations as you have. Certainly there is strength in numbers, and much can be done if organized.

May we hear from you, or better still see you at some time during the early summer.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs. D.M.Stewart) Winnifred M. Stewart, R.N.
President
Organization for Rehabilitation of Retarded Children.