



Spotlights

❁ Spring Flowers

No effort was spared to make the annual school outing a trip to remember for all of the Institute's students. Regardless of their handicaps, all of the pupils enjoyed the Carmel and Gilboa Mountain ranges and some of the most interesting sites in the country.

❁ Great Hook-Up

Longtime friend of the Institute, Solomon Caplan of Westcliff-on-Sea, England, has enjoyed hooking rugs for years. On a visit to the Institute years ago while touring Israel, he saw that the students of the JIB excel in their craftsmanship of hooking which can be accomplished with only a minimum of vision. Combining his hobby with the needs of the students, he sends canvas, wool and a variety of arts and crafts supplies often for the enjoyment of the pupils.

❁ Happy Holiday

The Institute helps to make Passover a happier time for over 150 families with one or more blind parents in the Jerusalem area. This year, as in the past, the Institute will give vouchers redeemable for food at local supermarkets as traditional 'kimche de'pescha' or a Passover charitable gift.

❁ Caberet Evening

A successful fund-raising evening brought out the night owls of La Varenne, France for a worthy cause. In a successful fund-raising evening organized by Myriam Nathan and friends in memory of David (Eddy) Nathan, over 300 guests help to promote the Jewish Institute for the Blind and they displayed their talents. The performance was enjoyed by Rabbi Avraham Messas, Rabbi of La Varenne, Rabbi David Messas, Chief Rabbi of Paris and Institute Director Chaim Reshelbach.

(continued from page 1)

responsible position in the stockroom. Although this year most of the students have continued living in the dormitory, it is hoped to arrange for a group living apartment in the future, according to the abilities of the students to function independently with the necessary assistance.

"We are building a model for this transitional program, and although it will need to be adjusted for each student, it will be an ideal program to serve as a bridge between the Institute as an educational facility and the move towards independent employment and living." This encouraging project is a sign of the times for the Institute, and it is an important adaptation being made to continue to best serve the student population of the JIB.



Director's Corner

We are excited to report that the Institute is in the forefront of organizational changes in time for the year 2000. Over the years we have spread out into many areas, and we have extensive projects in the community. We have decided to make administrative changes at the Institute with a Department of Education and Rehabilitation as well as a Department of Community Services. These two departments will be much more effective for administrative purposes and most important, they will be user-friendly.

The Department of Education and Rehabilitation will include the school, dormitories and direct services for our student body (pedagogical and medical services, library and the therapeutic unit). This department will be directed by newly appointed Deputy General Manager Rachel Skrobish, at present our school principal.

The Department of Community Services will include under its auspices the Sports Center and its services, recording studio, rehabilitation industry, and summer programming. Directed by Shabtai Deutsch, the Institute's new Deputy General Manager, the Department of Community Services should be even more open and receptive to Institute and local activities.

In the future, all of these welcome changes will enable me to spend more time in the fields of public relations, budgetary considerations and continually widening our contacts abroad. We are very excited about this division of responsibility and we hope that in the long run, it will enable us to provide better and more comprehensive services. Perhaps this is just the beginning of positive changes that can be made in the year 2,000.

Have a happy and kosher Pesach.

Chaim Reshelbach.
Director