

R/75/103

UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S HALLOWEEN BENEFIT FOR UNICEF

Children of the United Nations community and their parents - delegates and staff -- will be entertained by the TV star Sonny Fox, a magician and a fire eater at a Halloween Party for UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund, Thursday, October 30, 6 p.m. at the Dag Hammarskjold Auditorium. All news media are welcome.

The event is sponsored by the United Nations Meditation Group, which believes a spiritual approach as well as a political approach is necessary to bring about world peace. Halloween which falls on October 31, has been designated UNICEF DAY in the U.S.

Sri Chinmoy, Director of the United Nations Meditation Group will open the programme with a special meditation for the children. He will also present a check from proceeds of a bazaar sponsored by the Meditation Group to Mr. Henry Labouisse, Executive Director of UNICEF. Mr. Labouisse will also address the gathering.

Twenty-five Halloweens ago, a Sunday School class in Pennsylvania decided that rather than just collecting candy for themselves on Halloween, they would collect coins to help their less fortunate contemporaries in other parts of the world. They brought the proceeds, \$17.00 to UNICEF. Within years, the idea had spread to every one of the 50 states in the U.S. and all provinces of Canada. In 1974, Halloween collections in North America amounted to some \$4,000,000.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Introductu*

MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMUNITY, YOUNG AND OLD, WELCOME TO OUR CELEBRATION OF UNIVERSAL CHILDREN'S DAY AND THE 25th ANNIVERSARY OF TRICK OR TREAT FOR UNICEF.

IN AUSTRALIA ON UNIVERSAL CHILDREN'S DAY, A CHURCH SERVICE HAS BEEN CONDUCTED BY THE CHILDREN THEMSELVES, INCLUDING READINGS FROM BAHAI, CHRISTIAN, JEWISH AND MUSLIM FAITHS.

IN NORWAY THERE ARE CHURCH SERVICES AND IN KENYA SPECIAL PRAYERS ARE OFFERED.

IN TRINIDAD CEREMONIES STRESSING INTER-RACIAL AND INTER RELIGIOUS FRIENDSHIPS ARE HELD.

IN YUGOSLAVIA "AT NOON ON CHILDREN'S DAY 10,000 CHILDREN MEET IN THE MAIN SQUARE OF THE CAPITAL FOR 5 MINUTES OF SILENCE TO EXPRESS THEIR DESIRE FOR PEACE.

IN KEEPING WITH THESE ASPECTS OF THE CELEBRATIONS OF UNIVERSAL CHILDREN'S DAY AROUND THE WORLD, SRI CHINMOY SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR OF THE ~~UNITED NATIONS~~ MEDITATION GROUP *AT THE U.N.* WILL OPEN OUR PROGRAMME WITH A SHORT TALK AND A SILENT PRAYER. *AT T U*

- KEVIN KEEFE

2

SRI CHINMOY, ON BEHALF OF THE U.N. MEDITATION GROUP, WILL PRESENT A CHECK AND SMALL GIFT TO MR. LABOUISSSE, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UNICEF. THE CHECK REPRESENTS THE RESULTS OF A FUND RAISING EVENT FOR UNICEF WHICH SOME OF YOU ATTENDED. IT WAS HELD LAST WEEK IN THE LOBBY OF THE SECRETARIAT AND SPONSORED BY THE ~~U.N.~~ MEDITATION GROUP. *AT THE U.N.*