

BENEFIT BAZAAR FOR UNICEF

On Thursday, October 16, the United Nations Meditation Group held a bazaar in the staff lounge of the Secretariat for the benefit of UNICEF. Items on sale included potted plants, books, records, trinkets, homemade cookies, cakes and preserves. Everything was completely sold out by 3:00 p.m. and the profits—\$500—were later presented to UNICEF Executive Director Mr. Labouisse by Sri Chinmoy at a function later in the month.



U.N. staff members enjoying side-show entertainment at bazaar sponsored by U.N. Meditation Group (photo by Ben Lieberman)

Following is a letter received from UNICEF. (See also letter reproduced on page 41)

TELEPHONE PLAZA 4-1234

CABLE ADDRESS UNICEF



UNICEF

UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND · FONDS DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENFANCE
UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK

20 November 1975

17/66 DPR/UN

Dear Mr. Chinmoy,

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It is with great pleasure that I enclose herewith UNICEF's official receipt for the contribution of \$500.00 which was so generously donated by the United Nations Meditation Group. It is indeed gratifying to know that our U.N. colleagues have throughout the years continued to support the work of UNICEF by sponsoring such events as the Bazaar held in the Secretariat Lobby on 16 October.

On behalf of the Administration of UNICEF, I would appreciate your conveying to the Meditation Group our deep gratitude not only for the contribution but also for the time and effort put into making the Bazaar such a success.

Sincerely yours,

Sven P. Blackberg
Comptroller

Date: 19 November 1975



Receipt No. D 14560

THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND
UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK

gratefully acknowledges your contribution of

*****FIVE HUNDRED AND no/100***** Dollars (\$ 500.00*****)

for use in its work in improving the welfare of children throughout the world

To:

The United Nations Meditation Group
c/o Sri Chinmoy

(30)

Treasurer
UNICEF

James F. O'Brien

UNITED NATIONS DAY CELEBRATION



Irving Konopiety of the U.S. Committee for UNICEF thrilled youngsters with his fire-eating performance at the UNIS United Nations Day Celebration, in which the U.N. Meditation Group was invited to participate.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF
UNICEF'S
"TRICK-OR-TREAT"

On Thursday, October 30, children of the United Nations community and their parents were entertained by TV star Sonny Fox, Ashrita the Magician, Mrs. Linda Serlin of UNICEF and others at a Halloween party for UNICEF in the Dag Hammarskjold Auditorium. The event was co-sponsored by the United Nations Meditation Group and UNICEF.

Sri Chinmoy opened the programme with a short song and then spoke to the children:

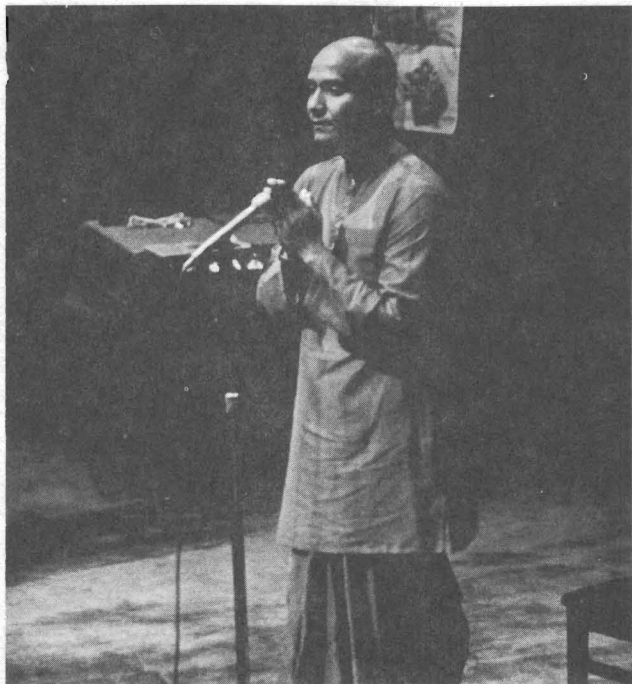
Sweet children, dear young friends, my heart is all joy and pride to be in your loving company. I wish to tell you that I have hundreds of friends. Most of them are grown-up people. But I treasure the company of the children much more than I treasure the company of my grown-up friends. Why? Because you are all heart; you are all joy.

My young friends, do you know that there is a person who loves you infinitely more than your best friend loves you? Do you want to know his name? His name is God.

Do you know there is a person who loves you infinitely more than your dear parents love you? Do you want to know his name? His name is God.

Do you know there is a person who loves you infinitely more than you love yourselves? Do you want to know his name? His name is God.

Do you want me to prove it? It is very easy to prove. Your best friend never feels that you are as



Sri Chinmoy meditates before addressing the children (photo by Ben Lieberman)

great as God. But God always feels that you are as great as He is.

Your parents never feel that you are as good as God. But God always feels that you are as good as He is.

You never knew that you are another God. But God knows that you are another God and He all the time tells you that very thing. But in order to hear His Voice, you have to pray lovingly every morning and every evening. Please ask your parents to teach you how to pray. If you pray daily, I assure you one day you will hear God's Voice. And then what I have just told you, you yourselves will be able to hear directly from God.

Sri Chinmoy then presented Mr. Henry Labouisse, Executive Director of UNICEF, with a gift and the proceeds from a bazaar held earlier in the month for UNICEF by the United Nations Meditation Group.

Sri Chinmoy: Dear Mr. Labouisse, most respected spiritual brother, with my heart's utmost humility and devotedness, on behalf of our meditation group I wish to present you this small gift as a token of our deepest appreciation and admiration



Sri Chinmoy (right) offers presentation to Mr. Henry Labouisse, Executive Director of UNICEF (left) (photo by Ben Lieberman)

for your most significant contribution—not only to your country—but to the world at large. As a most distinguished political figure, as a lover of your great country and as a lover of mankind, you have done something that is most illumining. And I am sure that by the infinite Grace of the author of all Good you will be doing infinitely more than what you have been doing for us, your brothers and sisters.

Here we are in the company of the sweet children. Children are tomorrow's pathfinders, the harbingers and fate-makers of tomorrow's world. I am extremely grateful to you, for you are elevating and illumining the consciousness of children's lives. Your service to the children, your service to your country and to humanity are ever imprinted on the tablet of the God-loving, and God-serving and aspiring humanity.

The following is Mr. Labouisse's address to the children:

I want to say a very, very few words because you have a lot of fun coming. Some of you young children won't believe me when I say that when I was much, much younger than the youngest one here, I used to go around and collect for Halloween. We have been doing that for many, many, many years. We made noise, we made mischief, we did lots of things we should not have done.

About twenty-five years ago a young group of children in Philadelphia decided they wanted to get dressed up as witches and hobgoblins—like all the costumes that you have on. They went out and decided they would collect something, not selfishly for themselves, but so they could give it to somebody, and they gave it to UNICEF. What they collected was \$17, and that was twenty-five years ago.

Last year, instead of \$17, children like you in this country and in Canada in one day collected \$4 million dollars for UNICEF. Now that's an enormous number of pennies and nickels and dimes and quarters, and that's a huge, huge amount. It could probably fill this room. Four million dollars is about four percent of what UNICEF is spending this year. In other words, you children collected in one day last year four cents of every dollar that UNICEF is spending for children of the world.

Now, what will one dollar do? One dollar will buy enough vitamin A to protect forty children in one year from blindness caused by malnutrition. One dollar will buy enough vaccine to inoculate ten children against polio or sixty children against tuberculosis. One dollar will buy three boxes of chalk so that teachers can go and write their lessons on the blackboard. One dollar will buy fifty pencils and erasers. And when you raise up five dollars, this five dollars will buy enough baby fish to put in a pond to produce protein food for many, many children in villages in many countries of this world. So it is a wonderfully important thing that you children are doing. Remember when you go out that you are doing this for children who come from many lands of the world. You come from many lands of the world, so it for your cousins, your friends. So it is a great thing that you are doing

and I want to thank each and every one of you for what you are doing.

And I also would like, Sri Chinmoy, to express our very deep gratitude to you and your meditation group—and not only for this very wonderful gift that you have collected for us. You can imagine how many children will benefit in the world from this gift.

“Trick-or-Treat” started spontaneously twenty-five years ago. And this is also spontaneous. This is a spontaneous thing that has been started by this meditation group; it commemorates twenty-five years of “Trick-or-Treat” and it’s also a tribute to all of the world’s children.

And I want to just say how happy I am to be able to be here to participate in this and to thank you. I am grateful to you and all of your colleagues. And now I think it’s time to get along with your programme.

Following are the two sing-along songs which the children joined in singing with Mrs. Linda Serlin, who played the guitar accompaniment.

IT'S A SMALL WORLD

It's a world of laughter, a world of tears
It's a world of hopes and a world of fears
There's so much that we share
That it's time we're aware
It's a Small World after all.

There's just one moon and one golden sun
And a smile means friendship to everyone
Though the mountains divide
And the oceans are wide
It's a Small World after all. (*repeat*)

I'D LIKE TO TEACH THE WORLD TO SING

I'd like to teach the world to sing in perfect
 harmony
I'd like to hold it in my arms and keep it company

I'd like to build the world a home and furnish it
 with love
Grow apple trees and honey bees and snow-white
 turtle doves

I'd like to see the world for once, all standing hand
in hand
And hear them echo through the hills
For peace throughout the land

CHORUS

That's the song I hear
Let the world sing today
A song of peace that echoes on
And never goes away.



Mrs. Linda Serlin of UNICEF singing with children
at Trick-or-Treat function (photo by Ben Lieberman)

**UNICEF****UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND · FONDS DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENFANCE**
UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK

November 10, 1975

Dear Sri Chinmoy,

This is just a note to tell you again how deeply grateful we in UNICEF are to you and the United Nations Meditation Group.

The Benefit Programme in the Dag Hammarskjold Auditorium on October 30 was a real inspiration to us all, and I am sure that it meant a great deal to the children who participated. It was indeed very thoughtful on the part of those who sponsored the gathering, including Ms. Agatha Pratt, Mr. Kevin Keefe and Ms. Merri Weisbrot, to commemorate 25 years of "Trick or Treat" in this manner.

I also wish to express our heartfelt thanks to you and to the many others in the Meditation Group for the contribution of \$500, derived from the proceeds of the Bazaar the Meditation Group sponsored on 16 October. An appropriate receipt will be sent to you in due course.

I hope that you will convey our appreciation and thanks to all the members of your Group.

Sincerely yours,


Henry R. Labouisse
Executive Director

Sri Chinmoy
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