

Mental Health and Addiction Services for the State of Connecticut from 1991 to 2000. He was also the Sterling Professor Emeritus of Pediatrics and Psychiatry in the Child Study Center. Named a Sterling Professor in 1970, he was the middle of three Sterling professors who led the Center. The most recent was Donald J. Cohen who succeeded Dr. Solnit as chairman of the Center in 1983, and who died last October.

Al arrived at Yale in 1948 as a psychiatric resident and in 1950 became the first trainee in child psychiatry in the Child Study Center. He was born in 1919 and grew up in Los Angeles, California, attended the University of California in Berkeley and San Francisco, and received his medical degree in 1943. After pediatric training in Long Island College Hospital, he entered the U.S. Army and served as a psychiatrist during his two-year commitment. He joined the faculty of the Child Study Center in 1952 and became a full professor in 1964. Like his predecessor, Al came to his leadership position at the Child Study Center with a broad background that also included a masters degree in anatomy and a year as a resident in communicable diseases. He also had begun psychoanalytic training in the New York Psychoanalytic Institute from which he graduated in 1955.

Al's tenure as chair of the Center was infused with his distinctive energy and broad vision, he was a man of remarkable stamina, arriving at Center long before his colleagues and continuing to work late into the evening, a characteristic that was enduring from his very first years at Yale through the day before this death. Long concerned for the needs for poor and underprivileged children, he had been working as consultant to various school districts and many child-serving such social agencies in the New Haven community and the state. In the late 60's, he worked with the state government of Connecticut to develop new department of juvenile delinquency, the Department of Children and Youth Services, and to build a separate state psychiatric hospital for children.

In his effort to bring the Center into the community, Al built bridges throughout the university and the city of New Haven. Among those initiatives was his collaborative work with the law school. Trained as a child and adult psychoanalyst he cared deeply for children caught in the turmoil of the foster care system, or complicated custody situations. With his close colleagues, Anna Freud and Joseph Goldstein, he set the standards for an informed, collaborative interface between the legal system and child development experts on behalf of children. His books, *In the Best Interests of the Child* and *Beyond the Best Interests of the Child*, are recognized classics in the field of child mental health. Throughout his career—even up to last week—he was regularly consulting with colleagues and trainees about how to think about complex questions of adoption, custody, and child placement. His perceptiveness in these often difficult areas was legendary and much respected by judges and child psychiatrists alike. Other of his scholarly contributions, set forth in seventeen books and over two hundred papers and chapters, set the tone of the emerging field of child psychiatry.

Al maintained strong and close ties to pediatrics and to pediatricians. He established a long-standing collaborative group involving both child psychiatrists and practicing pediatricians that has met monthly for over forty years to discuss the common clinical ground between the two disciplines. He developed the concept of the 'vulnerable child' that detailed the effects on parents and children of neonatal or very clearly serious illness or threatened illness. With his close colleagues, Sally Provence, Julius Richmond,

and Irving Harris. Al also began the organization Zero To Three that defined the field of infant psychiatry.

Al was a recognized and prodigious leader in the world of child mental health and child psychoanalysis. He was president of the American Psychoanalytic Association from 1970 to 1971; of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry from 1971-73; and of the International Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Allied Professions from 1974-76. In the latter organization, he remained an active, contributing member of the leadership and was intimately involved just this past week in developing a new training agenda to bring international child mental health scholars together. He was editor of the *Psychoanalytic Study of the Child*, a position he assumed in 1971 and through which he turned the journal into one of the leading publications in the field. Al was an international leader in psychoanalysis. He was actively involved with the Yale Press and with the Muriel Gardiner Seminar for Psychoanalysis and the Humanities. Both of these efforts reflect Al's broad intellectual interests and his ability to span fields. He was an enduringly curious scholar and enjoyed most bringing individuals from different disciplines together to encourage cross-talk and interdisciplinary understanding. He was masterful in his ability to detect even the faintest possibility of common ground among apparently disparate points of view and for bringing these groups together.

Many individuals in the field of child psychiatry, and more broadly child mental health, attribute their careers to Al's ability to see their potential and make connections that put them in the right place at a critical time for their personal development. He worked often quietly behind the scenes to help young faculty members find sufficient help and resources to start their research or to feel sufficiently grounded so that they could flourish. He stayed in touch with his patients for years, long after they were adults and parents, even grandparents, themselves and he never ceased to be their physician, always available and sensitive to their needs.

Though an emeritus professor, Al Solnit was by no means retired. He was mentoring, guiding, and caring every hour of the day. He was a vital, present member of the Child Study Center's leadership and carried the wisdom afforded by living the history of a place. His untimely, unexpected death cuts short a continuing vigorous life with mentoring and leadership yet to give.

I know you join me in extending sympathy to all of his colleagues in the Child Study Center and to his wife Martha, his children David, Ruth, Ben, Aaron, and their families.

Al Solnit was a vital citizen of this medical school and university. We shall miss him and do our best to carry out his constant imperative that there is always more to be done on behalf of the world's children.—David Kessler, M.D., Dean, Yale School of Medicine.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting treaties and sundry

nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:50 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3130. An act to provide for increasing the technically trained workforce in the United States.

H.R. 4481. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, relating to airport project streamlining, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4878. An act to provide for estimates and reports of improper payments by Federal agencies.

H.R. 5017. An act to amend the Temporary Emergency Wildfire Suppression Act to facilitate the ability of the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into reciprocal agreements with foreign countries for the sharing of personnel to fight wildfires.

H.R. 5063. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a special rule for members of the uniformed services in determining the exclusion of gain from the sale of a principal residence and to restore the tax exempt status of death gratuity payments to members of the uniformed services.

At 2:14 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that it has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate.

H.R. 4635. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to establish a program for Federal flight deck officers, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 3130. An act to provide for increasing the technically trained workforce in the United States; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 4481. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, relating to airport project streamlining, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 4878. To provide for estimates and reports of improper payments by Federal agencies; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 5063. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a special rule for members of the uniformed services in determining the exclusion of gain from the sale of a principal residence and to restore the tax exempt status of death gratuity payments to members of the uniformed services; to the Committee on Finance.

#### MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 4635. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to establish a program for Federal flight deck officers, and for other purposes.