

leave a situation alone. They will be concerned to see that no child is hurt, that a peace ethic reigns in the classroom, and that children are actively taught tolerance. They will respect the right of the child to take natural breaks for rest, exercise and relaxation, joining the group when ready.

They will encourage choice of activity from a wide range of materials - the only strictures being that materials used are replaced ready for the next person.

Conclusions.

The work of Maria Montessori has often been misunderstood or misinterpreted. She had to leave Italy during the Fascist

regime, as to teach children to think for themselves was not a popular idea. Her ideas are still being questioned and sometimes her philosophy is lost or diluted because of a lack of understanding of the basic principles on which she worked.

The close integration of theory and practice and the resources for learning which each student builds up during the training, offer another approach to training.

It was the hope of Maria Montessori that *'new children'* would provide for *'the emergence of the New Man who will no longer be the victim of events but, thanks to his clarity of vision, will become able to direct and to mould the future of mankind.'*

CONFERENCES OF INTEREST.

OMEP - Greece. Regional Meeting. March 26-20 1995. Athens, Greece. Self Expression and Communication in Early Childhood. **Contact:** Alkistis Kontogianni, OMEP Greece, 16 Aristippou, Athens 10675.

Early Childhood Educators of British Columbia Conference 95. Together: 25 Years of Stories to Tell. Celebration of the growth of diversity in Early Childhood Education. Whistler, B.C. Canada. **Contact:** ECEBS C/O Events by Design, #801-325 Howe St. Vancouver B.C. V6C 1Z7

Annual Study Conference ACEI. Our World Nurtured by and for Children. April 12-15 1995. Washington DC. **Contact:** ACEI 1141 Georgia Av., Suite 2000 Wheaton, MD 20902.

30th Annual Conference Ass. for the Care of Children's Health. May 28-31, 1995. Multi-based conference. **Contact:** ACCH, 7910 Woodmont, Suite 300 Bethesda, MD 20814.

XX1st WORLD ASSEMBLY & CONGRESS OMEP. See page 48 for latest details.

4th World Conference on Women: Reaching out to the Youth. Sept 1995. Beijing, China. Focus on the changes in women's lives. **Contact:** Youth Forum for Beijing, UN HQ. Room S-955, New York, NY 100017. Fax 212-963-4556.

Early Childhood Group of the International Standing Conference on the History of Education (ISCHE) Sept 9-12 1995. Bamberg, Germany. **Contact:** Dr G. Erning, Otto Friedrich Universitat, Postfach 1549, D-8600.

CHILDREN'S ART FROM XXth WORLD ASSEMBLY, ARIZONA 1992.

The exhibition has been used and will be displayed again at the **International Museum of Folk Art, San Diego, California, October 8th -December 31, 1994.** A cross cultural display of antique and contemporary dolls and toys will incorporate the exhibition from the Congress. The emphasis of the exhibition is on the creative energy of children throughout the world. **Contact:** P.O.Box 533, LaJolla, CA 02038, USA.

In celebration of the **XX1st Congress of OMEP, Yokohama, Japan, August 1994,** 10 pictures from the exhibition, representing children's art from the Asian Region have been made into colourful notelets, available this summer in Japan. **Contact:** Dorothy Sailor, 2255 Skyline Drive, Fullerton, CA 92631, USA.
