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CHRIS 'LISTENS' . . . When a child is born deaf, learning to talk becomes a real problem. However, four-year-old Chris Bello is overcoming his handicap; he can now say 25 words and understands about 250.

Boy Born Deaf

'Nothing Can Be Done,' Said Medic, But Parents Got Busy

Four-year-old Chris Bello can say 25 words and understands 250 altogether. His parents, Nicholas and Harriet Bello, 1620 W. 204th st., think that's remarkable. Chris was born deaf and until a year ago couldn't understand a word said to him. Today, he's like any normal boy his age and is treated that way by his two younger sisters, Nancy and Barbara, and his playmates.

When Chris was two years old, the Bellos had an idea something was wrong. A visit to the family doctor confirmed their worst fears.

"Nothing can be done," he said. They would be wise to become resigned to having a permanently deaf boy.

But resignation is not the long suit of either of the youthful Bellos. Nick learned that there was an organization in this town which might help. The organization was the Metropolitan Hearing Center of Los Angeles which is supported by the Community Chest.

A visit to the Center's office disclosed that a lot could be done for Chris. The Bellos learned that there was a school, that

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would accept the boy and help him.

Chris was sent there and given hearing and psychological tests. He'll go to Mary Bennett until he's finished the sixth grade. From there he'll go to Fogarty Junior High School and then to Polytechnic High School. By the time he reaches Poly, he will be capable of doing all of his regular work—along with a classroom of students who enjoy normal hearing.

But one year ago, the Bellos wouldn't have given a red cent for his chances to do that. They know better today and to the agencies which have given them back their boy, in Mrs. Bello's words—the Hearing Center and Mary Bennett School—they'll be eternally grateful.

There are thousands of school children with hearing difficulties who can be saved from becoming permanently hard of hearing if the causes are detected in time.

The Hearing Center offers free, impartial counsel and guidance concerning intelligent selection and use of hearing aids; it carries on a vigorous campaign to educate the public regarding the importance of conserving the hearing of men, women and children through lectures, exhibits and motion pictures. The center also helps parents and guardians with their problems when a child has hearing impairment.

NO CHURCH AFFILIATIONS
There have been but three American presidents without church affiliations—Rutherford B. Hayes, Abraham Lincoln, and Thomas Jefferson.

Alcoholics Anonymous To Hold Open Meeting Here

The public has been invited to attend one of the few open meetings in the history of the Alcoholics Anonymous to be held Saturday evening at the Woman's Club, 1422 Engracia avenue. The program, for which there will be no admission charged, will start at 8:30 p. m.

The Torrance Committee of Alcoholics Anonymous has been actively functioning for over two years. Recently, it was decided that greater good could be effected if the methods and objectives of the group were made public. The only requirement for membership is an honest desire to stop drinking. Alcoholics Anonymous has no dues or fees. It is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization, or institution. It does not wish to engage in any controversy, nor does it oppose or endorse any outside "causes." Primary purpose of its members is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety. Saturday night's speaker will be well acquainted with the problems and solutions of the "three types" of alcoholism.

Services Planned
Beth El Synagogue will conduct traditional services for the Jewish New Year at the Jewish Community Center, located in the Masonic Temple at the corner of Locust avenue and 9th street, Long Beach. Services will be conducted by Rabbi Israel H. Sharfman.

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