



*Awakening to Life*  
On the Education  
of Blind-Deaf Children  
in the Soviet Union

Alexander Meshcheryakov

Alexander Meshcheryakov (1923-1974) was a pupil of Professor Ivan Sokolyansky (1889-1960), who laid the foundations for the Soviet school of research into the subject of deaf-blindness. In this book, Meshcheryakov presents the summarised results of research and experiments carried out over a period of many years by Soviet psychologists and teachers engaged in the rearing and instruction of deaf-blind children. This serious social problem is discussed with all its psychological, educational and philosophical implications. Individual chapters are devoted to methods of establishing and realising the opportunities for developing the mental faculties inherent in deaf blind children.

While shaping and developing children's mental capacities when chances for communication were so severely restricted and the children concerned suffered from such serious sensory malfunctions, the author took a new look at theoretical problems of the emergence of the human mind.

Meshcheryakov's warmth of heart and dedication will undoubtedly engage both specialists in this field and a much wider reading public.

A short preface by Mike Cole is included in this edition.



ISBN 978-0-9805428-8-2  
Published by the Marxists Internet Archive 2009