

Work in Montgomery

The United Hebrew Charities is an organization that has been in existence since 1882, and was then organized for the purpose of "relieving the needy." From that day the United Hebrew Charities has done very able work along lines that were then indicated. The dues of the members were \$3 per year. The association followed these lines very closely until a few years ago. The membership was not large, but there were always sufficient funds to care for those who applied. When outside organizations entered our city for the purpose of soliciting funds, someone in the community would take it upon himself to make the rounds of the city, until the community was thoroughly canvassed.

As is well known to all, there were not the large and frequent calls thirty years ago that there are at the present time. Today the organizations in the larger cities that are doing work of a national character send their field secretaries to the smaller communities that have a fair Jewish representation for the purpose of gathering money. The results were frequently not what they should have been. Then, at times, there would be special appeals to our people, like the appeals in behalf of the sufferers from massacres, and other appeals of a similar nature. We soon discovered that the organization we had was not sufficiently organized in order to carry out all the work that was expected of it. When I came to Montgomery as the rabbi of this community, I immediately advocated the system of giving according to one's means, regardless of dues. After two failures to organize an effective charity organization, we finally succeeded in establishing an association that has funds amply sufficient to take care of its poor and dependents, and at the same time notify all of the institutions that were wont to send field secretaries to do so no longer, and that we would give them their annual contribution from the Jewish citizens of this city. We have been amply repaid for our efforts.

As an instance of the splendid management of our officers, I wish to point out that recently the general citizenship of the city organized an Associated Charities. The

United Hebrew Charities notified the Associated Charities not to solicit from the Jewish citizens, but that when the time came we would give them 10 per cent. of whatever they collected, although we formed but 4 per cent. of the population. The plan was accepted with general satisfaction to all. We now have an institution that we believe ought to exist in all cities in which there is a community of the size of that of Montgomery.

We are helping to support no less than eleven outside charities, look after all our local affairs and often assist many of the *schnorrers*, who, through the "generosity" of other cities, are from time to time sent to us.

All of the associations which we help now have a fixed sum upon which they can depend and save the traveling expenses of their field secretaries.

B. C. Ehrenreich,
Secretary.

Unique Plan of Reaching the Consumer.

The Jewish farmers residing in Hurleyville, Sullivan County, New York, are busy putting in their machinery in their new creamery building, and before the end of this month the creamery will be in full operation.

While there are hundreds of co-operative creameries in the State, this creamery is going to be run entirely on a different plan. The motto of this creamery is "From the Producer to the Consumer." The motto will appear on every package of the butter, cheese and other products sold by the creamery. In addition to this there will appear the trade-mark, consisting of a plow encircled by the words, "Federation of Jewish Farmers of America." This trade-mark is the emblem of the Federation of Jewish Farmers of America, which has headquarters at 189 Second Avenue, New York, N. Y., and which is the national organization of Jewish farmers in this country. While this is the emblem of the Federation, the trade-mark is only permitted to be used by those local organizations belonging to the Federation who are producing sanitary products.

How a Small City Did It

On January, 19, 1914, a meeting was held in Elks' Hall, Mt. Vernon, N. Y., to inaugurate a campaign of two weeks to raise \$20,000 to erect a new Y. M. H. A. building. The building will be ideal, being unusually commodious and comfortable. There will be a separate building to house the gymnasium, bowling alleys and roof garden; a basket-ball court of official dimensions and the equipment will be of the latest and fullest sort. The most important feature will be the bowling alleys, which the members have been looking forward to for some time. There will be a swimming pool. In fact, when completed, the building will be one of the most complete in the country.

The campaign was planned very carefully, and no details were missed. Mr. Louis Epstein did Trojan work as the head of the Envelope Committee; prizes were offered to those bringing in the greatest number of envelopes containing contributions. The first day marked very generous donations from everyone visited, and the committee was able to report \$5,050 as raised.

After one week's work the committee announced that \$16,125 had been collected, leaving only \$3,874 to be collected to complete the sum needed. A team composed of Y. W. H. A. members was organized, with Miss Roseff at its head. A number of prizes have been offered to the younger members, and keen rivalry existed among them. Dr. Shiman's additional \$1,000 was added to the receipts. Besides money, many persons contributed rugs, books, etc., for the new building. The campaign was extended for a few more days, in order that the workers could see some uninterviewed people.

At the final meeting of the Y. M. H. A. it was announced that there was still a small amount to be collected, but that the Envelope Committee still had to make its report, and it was expected that this committee would bring in quite a nice sum of money for the cause. The general committee was quite disappointed in the failure of the general community to come forward with their support, and sent out an appeal to all the Mt. Vernonites. The \$20,000 is almost an assured thing and plans for the building are being made. When completed

it will certainly prove to be a pride to all and will fully compensate all those who contributed, inasmuch as it will be the most complete building of its kind in the country.

NEW BOOKS

THE MEDICAL INSPECTION OF GIRLS IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS. By Catharine Chisholm. Longmans, Green & Co.

This book was written to explain the methods and aims of medical inspection in higher schools and will be useful to the authorities of secondary schools for girls, and all who are responsible for the upbringing of young people.

SOCIOLOGY AND MODERN SOCIAL PROBLEMS. By Charles A. Ellwood. New York: American Book Company. \$1.00.

This is a revised and enlarged edition of Professor Ellwood's book. It ought to be useful to students of social problems. Besides the introductory chapters in regard to theories, it discusses such practical problems as the growth of population, poverty, pauperism, crime and immigration. For a text-book the author shows too great a partisan leaning. Instead of being satisfied with presenting the arguments *pro* and *con* in regard to immigration, he emphasizes the arguments for the restriction of immigration. It is therefore apparent he intends to influence students of the subject in favor of restriction. He consequently lessens the value of his work as a text-book.

YOUR CHILD TODAY AND TOMORROW. By Sidonie Matzner Gruenberg. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co. \$1.25 net.

Mrs. Gruenberg presents in simple language with apt illustrations the relations of parents and children and the problems involved in the training of the children. Her book is practically a summary of discussions of every-day problems affecting children in the home. These discussions are calculated to help parents and teachers to think of their responsibilities and work out the problems as they arise from day to day. There is considerable in this book that will aid adults in meeting difficulties which occur in their contact with the manifold activities of children. C. S. B.