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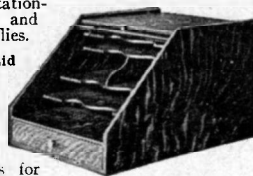
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JEWISH CHARITIES

Entered as Second-class Matter October 31, 1916, at the Post-office
at Cincinnati, Ohio, under the Act of March 3, 1879
Applied for Entry at the Post-office at New York City

Vol. IX

New York, July, 1918

No. 3

Current Topics

Welfare Work in the Camps

War Relief

*Bulletin of
National Conference
of Jewish Charities.*

Address all communications to 114 Fifth Avenue, Room 1810, New York City

JEWISH CHARITIES

BULLETIN OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF JEWISH CHARITIES

Subscription \$1.00 Per Year Room 1810, 114 Fifth Ave., New York City Issued Monthly
Phone, Chelsea 3157

THE MONTH IN SHORT

A REPORT FROM POLAND of Conditions in the occupied territories. Page 49.
ITEMS OF INTEREST concerning the Welfare of our boys in the camps. Page 51.
THE JEWISH WELFARE BOARD sends a commission of three abroad to determine how we can best serve our boys. Page 55.

JEWISH SOCIAL WORKERS' EXCHANGE

Conducted by the Field Bureau of the National Conference of Jewish Charities
Field Bureau, Room 1810—114 Fifth Avenue, New York City.
Provides positions for Jewish Social Workers and assists organizations in procuring qualified candidates for existing vacancies

WORKERS WANTED

ORGANIZATIONS:

When requiring workers, use the Exchange. You will be provided, *Free of Charge*, with a list of available candidates and a full description of their qualifications.

WANTED—Swimming instructor for men's department, preferably beyond draft age. Write particulars, covering age, education, experience, and minimum salary. Philip L. Seman, 1258 W. Taylor St., Chicago, Ill.

WANTED—Jewish woman of education and refinement, experienced in women and girls' problems, educational and recreational, to take charge of Y. W. H. A. Apply J. N. Sokohl, 1205 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans.

MATRON WANTED—New Orleans Jewish Orphans' Home desires to employ matron to supervise moral, physical and educational welfare of Girls' Department. Trained social worker preferred. Applicants should state age, experience and salary expected, and give full references. Send communications to J. K. Newman, Chairman, 212 Carondelet St., New Orleans, La.

MATRON WANTED—To take complete charge of a Jewish children's orphanage home, from 25 to 30 children. Salary \$600 and upwards as well as maintenance. Address T. C., Jewish Charities.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN HOUSE, Milwaukee, is looking for an experienced head worker. Address Mrs. L. Karger, 1316 Cedar St., Milwaukee, Wis.

WANTED—Young man, manager of a self-support fund of a relief society in large city. Address T. F., Jewish Charities.

WANTED—Directress of Social Work. Apply to Dr. Charles S. Bernheimer, Hebrew Educational Society, Hopkinson & Sutter Avenues, Brooklyn, N. Y.

RESIDENT HEAD WORKER wanted in small Jewish institution in New York City, caring for delinquent girls. House accommodates only eighteen. Worker must have experience along these lines, good references, and a knowledge of housekeeping. Apply by letter. F. V. M., Jewish Charities.

YOUNG energetic woman, wanted to assist in child caring institution in Winnipeg, Canada. Trained worker preferred. Applicants please state age, experience and salary expected. Address Louis Greenberg, 1280 Main St., Winnipeg, Man.

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DO YOU WANT A POSITION? If so, register at once with the Exchange. Send for particulars and application form.

SUPERINTENDENT—Man with years of experience as principal in modern Hebrew schools; good executive, a fluent speaker in English and Yiddish. Desires to obtain a position as superintendent of a small orphanage or home for the aged. Wife to act as matron. Address L. A. M., Jewish Charities.

STEWARD AND MATRON—Couple desire position in any charitable institution. Twelve years experience with modern institutions; superior reference. Write S. W. L., care Dr. P. I. Amsher, 320 S. Fifth St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

SOCIAL WORKER—Experienced in educational, relief and delinquency work, 37 years old, doctor of medicine and lecturer, wants a position in the North or West, to suit his abilities. References will be sent to any Board looking for such a worker. Address P. M. L., Jewish Charities.

JEWISH CHARITIES

THE IMPORTANCE, desirability and necessity of the work of the Jewish Welfare Board in the United States Army and Navy are fully recognized. The progress made by the organization, since its recent conception, is remarkable. The fact that Chester Teller, a professional worker of renown and ability, is the executive head is a guarantee of modern and efficient methods of organization.

But the problems involved in the activities of the Welfare Board are exceedingly complex and manifold. On one hand, the major part of the program is of a purely religious character. The Jews have their own differences in this respect, and how to reconcile these differences is a serious question. The note of compromise, sounded by the participants in the discussions on this subject at the Central Conference of American Rabbis in Chicago, emphasized only the existing difficulty. Our religious leaders will have to handle the subject and reach some satisfactory arrangement. They are the proper and only people to be vested with this important phase of the work.

It is different with the social service side of the proposition. This requires a distinct point of view and should be discussed aside from the religious aspect. In this respect, the Jews of the United States have been found unprepared to answer efficiently to the unusual call for service. Our experience is limited. Organizations previously in existence cannot be adjusted to the new needs. Professional social workers are few in number and their training does not meet the present requirements. We must build anew and build from the very beginning. To agree on the principles and determine on the conduct of the course we are to pursue, is most important.

In what particular should the work of the Welfare Board differ from that of the other welfare agencies working in the same field and with which it is to co-operate to the fullest possible extent? How are we to avoid the danger of duplication of effort and in what respect are we to supplement the activity of the Y. M. C. A. and the Knights of Columbus? These and many others are important queries.

The consensus of opinion of those who have had an opportunity to observe the work in the camps and cantonments is that the personnel of the workers is, comparatively speaking, very satisfactory. They are devoted, intelligent, enthusiastic and self-sacrificing in their endeavors. But the entire problem is new and there are only a few who are capable of evolving their own program and following their own principles in the course of their duties as welfare workers. It is gratifying to learn of the establishment of a special training school. This is bound to be of great benefit.

A definite policy, concrete in its application is necessary. This is a practical problem. It requires professional handling; it points to consequences of great import to the entire American Jewry; it implies responsibility, prompting serious consideration.

The sending of workers abroad opens a new phase of the problem. The first group consists of Rabbi H. G. Enelow, a prominent religious teacher, a man of the highest character and a student in advanced ideals of social service; Rabbi Jacob Kohen, representing the orthodox element, and Mr. Isaac Siegel, the New York congressman, a prominent and popular political leader; Mr. Jacob Billikopf was unfortunately prevented from going. The absence of a social worker in the first commission is deplorable and indicates the direction for improvement that the work of the Jewish Welfare Board requires.

THE WAR CHEST MOVEMENT, primarily intended as a centralized collection agency for funds for various war welfare activities, demonstrated the possibility of extending this plan to include all existing philanthropic agencies. Detroit, Columbus and Toledo are pioneers in this new enterprise. The Jewish organizations are included in the plan, and as far as the amounts raised are concerned, the results are encouraging. It is interesting to contemplate upon the possibility of the spread of this movement and the ultimate effect it will have upon the work of specific Jewish organized effort. There seems to be no valid reason why the matter of collection of funds could not be accomplished through a general, centralized agency. After all, the collection of funds is only one of the advantages of a federation. The intrinsic value of it is that it makes for unification, co-ordination of efforts and standardization of the various functions of philanthropic agencies.

The Boston Plan is a complete demonstration of this new tendency. No matter whether the money is collected through a specific Jewish Federation or a general central agency, the evaluation, direction and control of philanthropic activities may still remain a legitimate function of a specific Jewish agency.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The headquarters of the National Conference of Jewish Charities at Baltimore, Maryland, and the Field Bureau formerly located at Cincinnati, Ohio, have been removed to 114 Fifth Avenue, Room 1810, New York City.

WAR RELIEF

AMERICAN RELIEF IN POLAND.

An advance report of the observations on his tour through the occupied districts in Poland has been received from the Netherlands Branch of the Joint Distribution Committee of the American Funds for Jewish War Sufferers from Dr. Albert Van Raalte, special representative of the Committee, who was sent to investigate the distribution of relief funds in the occupied districts.

Dr. Van Raalte, a noted Hollander, visited Kovno, Wilna, Grodno, Bialystok and Warsaw. The Jewish population is virtually entirely dependent upon American contributions, the suffering and want are terrific, and Dr. Van Raalte finds that it will be necessary for American Jewry to contribute for years to come, even after the conclusion of peace, to the relief of the sufferers. "Improvement in conditions," he declares, "cannot be expected until some time after the conclusion of peace." Dr. Van Raalte in his report says in part:

"The greatest want I found in Wilna and Bialystok. It was assured from all sides by the military authorities, as well as by the various members of the respective local committees, that nearly the whole of the population of these places is in need of assistance. In Bialystok it is approximated to reach 70 per cent., and in Wilna from 80 to 100 per cent.

"Improvement in conditions cannot be expected until some time after the conclusion of peace, when trade and traffic will become normal. But even then, the distress will only be diminished if the Jews adapt themselves to the new conditions.

"In any case, regular relief, at least for another few years, will be absolutely necessary, and the American Jews will have to fulfill a sacred duty in continuing to collect large funds for the relief of the Eastern-European Jews, if they do not wish to allow the great masses to perish and in that way that portion of the Jewish people representing the conveyor of the typical Jewish culture.

"To one of the questions put up by

your Committee, viz.: 'What happened when the American relief money did not arrive?' I received from various sources the following reply, that is characteristic of the prevailing conditions: 'More people die than otherwise!'

"The Yeshivoth,' so indispensable to Jewish culture, are in a very unsatisfactory state. Most of the pupils are wholly destitute and insufficient attention is paid to the relief of these institutions, and likewise to that of the rabbis (many of whom have taken refuge here). I have called the attention of the Central Committee at Wilna to this fact, and requested them to instruct the respective local committees accordingly.

"To fight the spotted typhus epidemic, principally prevailing in the large towns, the population should be supplied, above all, with linen; America or Holland should, therefore, do their utmost to send as quickly as ever possible, underlinen, sheets and pillow cases to Warsaw and Wilna.

"If there be complaints now and again against the acts of the committee, still there never has been any real complaint as to the financial administration. On the contrary, people are convinced that all relief money has been solely distributed among those in need of it.

"There is still food to be had, but clothing and boots cannot be bought any longer by the great masses. Thus, the distress manifests itself chiefly outwardly, in the rags that thousands of people are clad in, and also in the tatters which they use as footwear. In this connection the poverty has increased enormously, and that is why I strongly plead for a good supply of clothing and boots.

"It is quite certain, too, that the book-keeping in Warsaw, under the personal supervision of Dr. Nathanson, is very exact, though I had too little time to go into this. The distress is very great in Warsaw, with its large Jewish population. Above all, the health of the Jewish population, and especially of the children, is most saddening: for instance, 40

per cent. of the children in a 'Home' I visited are consumptive. The physicians regard this as a result of the lack of footwear, and if your committee were to send some wagons of children's wooden shoes, it would be doing very useful work.

"Mutato mutandis (more or less), everything I have reported to you about Ober-Ost (occupied districts) applies to the state of affairs in Poland. Food is distributed at a low price, but in too small quantities for the maintenance of life, and the 'free' victuals are terribly dear (the most of them are only to be obtained by way of the so-called 'clandestine trade')."

"In Poland, too, the situation during the time no American money arrived was worse than either before or after.

"In Lodz the misery is increasing every day now that the factories have closed down owing to lack of raw materials, requisition of machines, etc., whereby the great mass of working people have lost their means of existence. Fortunately, the committee in Lodz—which is very representative—regularly received more money than earlier, so that the distress can now be relieved to some extent.

REFUGEES FROM JERUSALEM.

The identity of 151 American citizens compelled to evacuate Jerusalem with the Turkish forces at the time of the occupation of the city by the British, has been made known through communications received from the Branch of the Joint Distribution Committee of the American Funds for Jewish War Sufferers at Damascus, and transmitted through the Swedish Ambassador at Constantinople.

Among the group whose names are now given are merchants, clerks, professors, artisans and students of the Rabbinical Schools. The ages of the men range from 17 to 50. These refugees have been cared for through funds advanced by the Damascus Branch and will be refunded by the Joint Distribution Committee and from the American funds raised for Jewish war sufferers.

The names are herewith given of eighty-three American citizens out of a total of 151 and who are the heads of families, the others in the number being principally children:

Elyahn Salomon, Wlamelech Sachs, Osher L. Rubin, Abram Rokach, Eliezer Robach, Eliezer Cohn, Alexander Gratsch, Eliezer Rivlin, Abram Weis, Awigder Lempert, Abram Hoshstein, Osher Harrison, Aba Goldberg, Abram M. Shapiro, Abram F. Gudewitz, Bezallel Rothschild, Banganim Mutte, Beril Lewy, Gerson Shlomo Herison, David Zallewitz, Salomon White, Salomon Rivlin, Sew Shapiro, Chaim Mendeldohn.

Moshe Rabinowitz, Mordchay Mottes, Michael Feder, Moshe Pashik, Meyer Goldstein, Mordchay Shapiro, Moses Reichtaller, Meyer Slaman Lewin, M. Kantarowitz, L. Benziman, Mechemya Berman, Nathan Natkin, Naftolic Porush, Sender Rubinowitz, Feivel Lanvil, Fiter Winkler, Zevy Kantarsi, Kopel Zevy Shapiro, Kopel Shapiro, Kalmen Lewin, S. Kalman Cohn, Reuben Margowsky, Ris Magino, Samuel Cohn.

Samuel Gratsch, Shlomo Weinberg, Simon Werner, Samuel Steinberg, Shabsy Judelewitz, Moses Bermann, Benjamin Gravewitz, Baruch Usiel, Chaim Garfinkel, Chaim Meyer Lillental, Chaim Cohn, Tuwye Leinpert, Yonah Lapin, Isaac Yoffe, Isaac White, Joseph Chanchashwily, Jesaya Harris, J. L. Monester, Jacob Sibald, Jacob Lieberman, Jossef Lewy, Jossef Lewinsohn, Isaac M. Lillental, Josef Sief, Josua Sief, Josua Herison, J. Hersch Lauwil, J. S. Lewinsohn, Israel Moses, James Ginin, M. J. Salomon and Moses Saulsohn.

*Send all communications to
our New Address, Room
1810, 114 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.*

WELFARE WORK IN THE CAMPS

The Reorganization Committee of the Local Board for Jewish Welfare Work, under the leadership of the new chairman, former Ambassador Abram I. Elkus, is formulating a definite, concrete plan for correlating all Jewish war activities into this organization. On this committee are ex-Ambassador Elkus, ex-officio chairman; Dr. Leon L. Watters, Mrs. William D. Sporborg, Simon Gottschall, Miss Sarah X. Schottenfels, Felix M. Warburg and Judge Irving Lehman.

The work of the organization will include the establishment in New York City of a central hospitality house with numerous branches in different parts of the city, where enlisted men from over all the country may stay while on furlough or passing through the city. There are now fourteen information bureaus in the city conducted by the organization, but the time has come when the activities must be broadened. The necessary funds have already been raised. The work will be similar to that of the Y. M. C. A. and the Knights of Columbus, and while all soldier boys will be welcome, the idea is to reach the Jewish boys especially.

The Jewish Welfare Board is considering a plan to erect an auditorium at Camp Upton (Yaphank, Long Island), N. Y., to seat 1,000 persons, and a hostess house to provide kosher food for orthodox Jews. This cantonment is new and has been since its establishment the training center for more Jews than any other in the country, and the Welfare Board has been pressed for social accommodations for them.

Following a report to the Jewish Welfare Board that many of the young men in service were disturbed over conditions at home, the Committee on Personal Service plans to visit the home of every Jewish soldier and sailor whose family is said to be in distress. The families in need will be placed in charge of the Red Cross, with which the Jewish Welfare Board is working in closest cooperation. Families not requiring finan-

cial assistance but in need of other aid will be cared for by the Committee on Personal Service. To do this work a large corps of volunteers will be necessary. With this required assistance in view, a course of lectures and instruction in field work for efficient service has recently been completed in New York City.

The Jewish Welfare Board, whose headquarters are at 149 Fifth Avenue, New York City, has been officially recognized on the same basis as the Y. M. C. A., and will co-operate with the Y. M. C. A. and Knights of Columbus in France, so that the most desirable results may be attained. The workers will be sent to billets, trenches, hospitals, and even into "No Man's Land," following the flag.

The Jewish Welfare Board, United States Army and Navy, is in immediate need of 100 workers for overseas service.

The possibilities for national service at the front challenges the best talent of the leaders of education and industry.

As fast as present field workers develop the necessary qualifications for overseas work, they will be sent abroad, but the need is for more than are at present available, and the need is immediate.

Every person sent must be in accord with the war policy and principles of the United States and believe thoroughly in the aim and the necessity of the war.

The War Department of the United States has given this Board franchise to become an auxiliary corresponding to the Young Men's Christian Association and the Knights of Columbus, to minister to the spiritual, mental and moral welfare of the men of our faith called to the colors. The extension of our work abroad must appeal to American Jewish citizens as no other call for civilian service at this moment.

No man of draft age will be considered, applicants must be between 31 and 50, and in extremely exceptional cases over 50. Native Americans preferred.

EXCERPTS FROM REPORTS

The attention of Jewish social workers is called to a splendid description by Morris D. Waldman of the Boston Plan of Federation, in the Menorah Journal, April, 1918. Mr. Waldman is now issuing a supplementary statement on the Further Progress. Seven organizations hitherto not among the constituent societies of the Federation were granted adequate appropriation.

An extensive program for saving the mother and child is now being introduced. The Children's Bureau is energetically working on the provision of good homes for dependent children. Reforms are being introduced in the child-caring institutions.

Steady progress is being made in the direction of religious education. The school in the Home for Jewish Children has been reorganized with a view to making it a model for the other schools in the city. Two kindergartens have been started. The aggregate attendance of all schools has been increased by 50 per cent.—the total now being nearly 2,300. More important still, a training school for teachers has been opened with a faculty of five and two occasional lecturers.

The development of the district service is gratifying. The Welfare Centre in the South End is "making good" with the people of the neighborhood. They have come to regard it as their own, and it is already beginning to appear as the concrete expression of democratic neighborhood life. Apart from the better service rendered to families in need, in which some of the best people in the neighborhood actively participate, the Welfare Centre is arousing in the people neighborhood life. The house is becoming not only a bureau of information and advice but a meeting place and centre for all sorts of neighborhood organizations and movements, such as public park concerts, Americanization work, Zionism, etc.

The second Welfare Centre has been secured in Roxbury and is now being renovated and furnished and will soon

be opened. Others will be established in rapid succession in Dorchester, Jamaica Plain, West End and East Boston. Thus very quickly the responsibility for family care and outdoor relief is being relinquished by such organizations as the United Hebrew Benevolent Association and is being assumed by the district centres.

The increase in expenditures on behalf of the needy families, as shown by the following comparative figures for the first four months of this year and last, is not only due to the increase in the cost of living, but indicates the generous advance made in relief standards.

Expended during the first four months 1918.....	\$20,739.30
Expended during the first four months 1917.....	10,276.30
Increase in expenditures in 1918 over 1917.....	\$10,463.00

The Jewish Communal Register edited and published by the Kehillah (Jewish Community) of New York City contains a fund of information and data concerning the Jewish communal life of New York City. As stated in the preface its purpose is two-fold—to help the individual Jew and the Jewish community to see themselves as they really are in relation to each other and to add to the progress of the general community and of the country as a whole, by furnishing the proper materials for a true understanding of the efforts the Jews are making in the foremost city of America, to contribute their share to the fulfillment of the best ideals of American life.

To insure completeness all available material has been divided into the following parts: Religious, Agencies, Educational Agencies, Recreational—Cultural Agencies, Economic Agencies, Philanthropic Agencies, Correctional Agencies, Research and Co-ordinating Agencies, Central and National Agencies, and National and International Agencies.

A large number of appropriate illustrations, together with introductory articles to the various parts and sub-divisions, prepared by prominent Jewish workers complete the volume.

CURRENT TOPICS

A cash-and-carry community kitchen in St. Louis Jewish district, where Jewish housewives and factory workers can get ready-cooked meat that has been slaughtered and prepared for the table in the orthodox Jewish manner, is a new feature of the educational department of the local food administration in the Jewish Alliance Building, Ninth and Carr Streets. The educational department is running a community kitchen and public cafeteria at 1729 South Seventh Street. The Carr Street kitchen is to be strictly kosher, its ranges being presided over by orthodox Jewish cooks, and all food prepared there being handled in strictly ritualistic manner. Traveling canteens, to provide nutritious and inexpensive noontime luncheons for workers in the neighboring factories will be maintained in connection with the kitchen. The kosher kitchen is opened mainly as an experiment to ascertain the degree of enthusiasm with which the housewives of that district will welcome the opportunity of buying cheaply and without trouble ready-cooked meals with which to feed their families. Should it prove the success the kitchen already in operation on the South Side is, other kitchens will be opened in different closely settled neighborhoods of the city. The kitchen project, besides being initiated by the food administration, is endorsed by the city Health Department as an aid to the general health of the closely settled districts, and by the fuel administration as a means of saving coal through centralized cooking.

The New York Community (Kehillah) was reorganized at a convention held in New York City. The following were elected to the Executive Committee of the Kehillah: Dr. H. J. Epstein, Hon. H. M. Goldfogle, Isadore Herschfield, Rabbi S. L. Hurwitz, Israel Lack, Leo Lerner, Adolph Lewisohn, Dr. J. L. Magnes, Rev. H. Masliansky, Jacob Massel, Dr. H. Pereira Mendes, Dr. P. A. Siegelstein, Felix M. Warburg.

The war hospital unit sent abroad in May by the Mount Sinai Hospital, New York City, has been established in a monastery near the front under the designation, United States Army Base Hospital No. 3. On its staff are twenty-six trained women who volunteered for the service, and 150 enlisted men. The hospital has room for about 1500 patients.

Each of the thirteen ward buildings has accommodations for about 115 men, and is fitted with modern sanitary equipment.

Jewish social service in San Francisco, now being rendered along extensive and efficient lines, promises to be broadened materially in its scope and made more effective through the formation of an organization of all of the Jewish social workers of the city.

The new organization is to embrace both professional and volunteer workers from various Jewish organizations, working among all classes and confronting social problems of a diversified nature.

It is expected that this new step will bring about an effective interchange of views and opinions between the workers on many phases of communal activity and will assure closer co-operation among those dealing with families requiring financial, social or other forms of assistance.

The movement to form this organization was launched by I. Irving Lipsitch, superintendent of social service for the Federation of Jewish Charities, upon his return from Kansas City, where he attended the National Conference of Jewish Charities.

More than 150 professional and volunteer social workers attended the initial meeting in this city when plans were formulated for the formation of their organization. I. W. Hellman, Jr., president of the local Federation of Jewish Charities, presided over the meeting.

A committee consisting of Mr. Lipsitch, Morgan A. Gunst and Miss Ethel R. Feineman was appointed to draft definite plans for the new organization, which is regarded as a big forward step in local Jewish social service activities.