In This Issue

The Immigrant and His Community—Page 209.

Americanization in the Y. M. H. A. —Page 211.

The Atlantic City Conference—Page 213.

Coordinating Americanization Programs—Page 215.

Card and Record Forms

The Field Bureau is prepared to supply the following social service cards and record forms, especially adapted for use in small communities.

- 1—Census Cards—for use securing a basis for community planning. Price: 50 cards, \$.35; 100 cards, \$.50; 1,000 cards, \$3.50
- 2—Records for Big Brothers' Association for recording status and development of the Little Brother, including a follow-up entry with reference to the work of the Big Brother. Price-50 records, \$2.50; 100 records, \$4.00; 1,000 records, \$30.00.
- 3—Case Record Card (Simplified)—a substitute for the old-fashioned day book or ledger. Recommended for use in Relief Agencies not ready to adopt the modern complete system of record keeping. Price: 50 cards, \$.70; 100 cards, \$1.00; 1,000 cards, \$6.50.
- 4—Child Record Cards—For use in connection with intensive social service effort with children. Items refer to health, school progress, home conditions, and follow-up work. Price: 50 cards, \$.70; 100 cards, \$1.00; 1,000 cards, \$6.50.
- 5—Community Study Card—To determine the field of religious and educational agencies. Form A, for Young Men; Form B, for Young Women. Price: 50 cards. \$.50; 100 cards, \$.75; 1,000 cards, \$4.00.

Professional workers, Board Members, volunteers, students and socially minded lay citizens are urged to avail themselves of the services offered by the Field Bureau.

WORKER WANTED

(Advertisements \$1.50 per insertion. Address "Jewish Charities.")

WANTED—Trained nurse, Yiddish speaking, with either training or experience in social work. State experience, references, and salary expected. Oscar Leonard, Jewish Educational and Charitable Association, 901 Carr Street, St. Louis, Mo.

WANTED—Experienced young lady as assistant director to take care of the club activities at the Jewish Settlement, Cincinnati. State experience and salary desired. Address L. R., 102 Union Trust Bldg., Cincinnati.

WANTED-Matron for Jewish Convalescent Home. Apply to 731 W. Sixth Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

WANTED—Jewish woman, medical social worker, experienced in hospital social service or social medical case work. Address W. M., Jewish Charities.

WANTED—An experienced and capable Jewish house mother or couple to supervise a small temporary shelter, caring for a maximum of 15 children. For further information address J. A. S., 516 North 4th Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

WANTED—Young women for legal aid, probation, court and child-caring work with dependents and delinquents in Chicago. College graduates preferred. Experience desirable but not essential. Address L. M., Jewish Charities.

WANTED—Visiting housekeeper for field work in Chicago. Also Director for small boarding club for girls. Education and experience essential. Address S. B. P., Jewish Charities,

WANTED—Medical Social Service Worker, in an institution located in Philadelphia. Jewish nurse, familiar with tubercular work, preferred. Address H. A., Jewish Charities.

WANTED—An experienced Jewish Social Worker to supervise a large summer camp. Address C. O., Jewish Charities.

CAPABLE JEWISH WOMAN WANTED, to act as house mother, in an Emergency Sheltering home, where a maximum of twelve children can be cared for. Comfortable living quarters, maintenance, and good salary to competent person. Address United Hebrew Charities, 159 West Kinney Street, Newark, N. J.

Text Book

JEWISH PHILANTHROPY

An exposition of Jewish Social Service in the United States

By BORIS D. BOGEN

Price, Two Dollars

Published by Macmillan Co., New York Order through

"JEWISH CHARITIES"

114 Fifth Avenue, New York City



Published by the National Conference of Jewish Charities.

Issued Monthly at Room 1810, 114 Fifth Avenue, New York.

Entered as second class matter August 22, 1918, at the post office at New York, New York, under the act of March 3, 1879.

Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103 Act of October 3, 1917, authorized on August 22, 1918.

Subscription \$1 per year.

VOL. IX

FEBRUARY, 1919

No. 10

THE establishment of a special Americanization Division under the Department of the Interior is welcomed by the Jewish social worker who has been grappling with this problem for decades. The new conception of Americanization, as a development of the contributions of the immigrant to American life, and as an educational process in native as well as newcomer, has been definitely accepted as the basis of all the work of this new division; it is interesting to note the degree to which this modern conception, formulated with regard to all groups of immigrants, dovetails into the methods of specific Jewish agencies in the field of social service. The preservation of positive national characteristics and the development of a consciousness of ability to contribute to American life is a task that the worker with the Jewish newcomer to these shores will seize upon eagerly. Through the years of Americanization work with his own people, the Jewish social worker has been developing a method and technique which should receive impetus from this new Division. It is to be hoped that there will be a definite attempt to develop a specific Jewish program for Americanization work which, with the cooperation and assistance that the government division offers, should go a long way towards meeting this problem.

Americanization Division has seen fit to establish, among the racial advisors on immigrants hailing from the various European lands, a special Racial Advisor on Americans of Jewish Origin. The objection comes, of course, from among those who disclaim the existence of the Jews as a racial or national entity. Considering, however, that the establishment of these advisors was made purely on the basis of necessity, the objection does not appear insurmountable. Whatever may be the racial, national, or religious bearing upon this problem the fact remains that the Jewish immigrant carries with him a definite historic identity and a social background, distinct from that brought here by the other immigrants, and which must of necessity be taken into consideration if effective programs are to be developed. The advice of Jewish consultants in this field appears not so much a matter of principle, therefore, as one of actual, practical value.

HE extent to which Jewish agencies in the field of Americanization work emphasize their activities in connection with interpreting American life to the immigrant and serving as general personal service organization for him, as compared to the emphasis placed upon the teaching of English, the securing of naturalization papers and similar activities that characterize the Americanization program of other years gives evidence of the extent to which these latter activities are taken over by the public school and other public agency. The Jewish social agency shows its wisdom when it can discriminate between the activities that it may conduct, those that may be taken over more effectively into public hands, those that it must retain and which it alone can carry on successfully and thoroughly. The new specifically Jewish Americanization program testifies to this discrimination.

HE program of the 1919 meeting of the Conference is well under way; the chief problem now at hand is that of securing a large and representative attendance from the far western cities as well as from the eastern coast. As stated elsewhere in this issue, this year's Conference meeting will introduce several interesting innovations, especially with respect to the organization of the program. Moreover this is to be the first of the annual meetings of the Conference, which is to meet annually hereafter. To make this meeting a success the cooperation of the members of the Conference is earnestly invited. Suggestions as to subjects for discussion, methods of propaganda and other matters concerning the task of making this the "biggest and best yet" will be welcomed and appreciated.

In connection with the general propaganda effort for the Conference work "Jewish Charities" has inaugurated an effort to secure 5,000 additional subscribers before the Conference meeting. Ambitious as this program might appear there is little doubt but that, with the assistance of the present subscribers and constituent societies, there should be no difficulty in achieving it. The entire number has been apportioned among the Jewish communities throughout the country on the basis of population, one subscription to each 600 persons; each community can thus ascertain the quota which it should secure to be doing its share. A special effort is to be made to reach interested individuals in small communities, where the monthly appearance of "Jewish Charities" might serve as a definite tie to outside activities.

THE IMMIGRANT AND HIS COMMUNITY

The native American is astounded and disgusted at the apparent lack of interest on the part of the immigrant in American customs, citizenship, and the English language. That aliens should come to these shores, establish themselves here, utilize our free educational institutions for their children, albeit in many cases not over-enthusiastically, and here earn their livings, without exhibiting an ardent desire to identify themselves with American life, and that in many of our foreign neighborhoods we have immigrants of many years standing, comes as a shock and a revelation to the average American. That the immigrant must be urged, argued with and given economic stimulus to come to night schools and to study for citizenship is often pointed out as an argument against further immigration; the immigrant is accused of being a liability in American life and as such, an undesirable. Add to this the labor unionists' plea, that the immigrant lowers employment standards and injures the American workingman, and you have the case against the miserable, toiling, jargon-tongued alien whom fate has cast upon these shores. Now every positive force in our social life is bent on the Americanization of this neglected newcomer, the schools are thrown open to him, social centers plead with him to come to them, the school children are taught to urge Americanization upon their parents and in many wideawake communities every immigrant is honored by a personal visit on the part of a representative of the city's educational forces, during which visit he is urged to appreciate his opportunities and make the best of them. But, after all, does this really reach the heart of the situation, and, when we have at last triumphed and the weary pupil is established in an English class with the prospect of months and months of patient tutelage ahead, can we rest on our laurels and be content? Years ago we did not find it necessary to resort to such measures to assimilate our new material. The newcomer entered into the community, took his place in the economic life, quickly assumed our manners and language, and became a charter member of our national family. But that, one must confess, was before the days of the Ghetto, the tenement house, the sweat-shop and the present-day struggle for mere subsistence.

One need not visualize the dingy, miserable and sordid tenement life into which the immigrant is cast upon his arrival here to realize the extent to which the bright-hued hopes and visions of the new land quickly give place to disillusionment, discontent and disgust. If the immigrant is of the intellectual class, cynicism and rebellion follow. At any rate, with citizenship still years off, and with the vote as some vague power, unrelated, after all, to the vital and immediate problems of poor housing, a job, and the prices of the necessities of life, the immigrant turns upon his dreams of citizenship in the land of freedom and, before knowledge of our language, customs and laws can give him the key to his problems, he either renounces them, or

loses interest in them and devotes himself to the more relevant problem of his daily bread and his family.

The social center activities, the neighborhood life, the lectures and classes and opportunities that ought to dazzle him; fall upon deaf ears; he is busy with practical problems of arithmetic—dividing his earnings into a hundred and one different ways, to meet his needs—and every new effort to assimilate him might be another effort at exploitation. True, neighborhood and public offers to serve him, with advice, free legal service, job hunting and other practical activities might gain his sympathy—if he understands them, is not too busy to avail himself of them, and does not scorn "charity." But the neighborhood life is to him alien, and the miserable conditions about him are things that can be avoided only by escape; there is no idea that by uniting with his neighbors something might be done to change things. This suggests another possibility in Americanization work, and one that seems to touch the core of the problem of reaching the immigrant.

Suppose the immigrant, discouraged and disgusted with his small, unsanitary rooms, were to discover that his neighbors were banded together into a housing committee with some sort of model housing program, with a plan for securing better housing laws, with a plan, perhaps, to get some organization or agency to build a model tenement house in that very block. And suppose that these neighbors were to ask for his support, ask him to become a member of their committee, ask for his suggestions, his name on a petition, his presence at meetings. Would he hesitate long before endeavoring to learn the language that would make it possible for him to take part in these proceedings? And, when, as a member of this committee, he learned the value of a ballot to command the respect of the officials to whom they appealed—would much urging be required to have him file his Declaration of Intentions? Or perhaps it was a cooperative store, or a health campaign that was challenging his attention. Would much argument have to be employed to persuade him of his duty in serving the immediate and vital needs of his own family? Could not the learning of English, the study for citizenship and, most important of all, the realization of what America means, be brought to the immigrant because he realizes their meaning?

The field of community organization as a method of bringing the immigrant into the real America, the America of "constructive discontent" and of cooperative social endeavor is, as yet, hardly touched. It involves, of course, a task of Americanizing the native to the point of seeing the value of this organization for his own sake, and the importance of enlisting the aid of his alien-neighbor. But once you get the immigrant campaigning for a neighborhood movement, the day is saved. And if, in order to accomplish this, you must Americanize our complacent citizen, so much the better for America.

AMERICANIZATION IN THE Y. M. H. A.

Rabbi A. G. Robison, New York.

In discussing the problem of Americanization in the Y. M. H. A. one must keep in mind the field of work that the Y. M. H. A. has taken for itself and the type of young man that generally enters into its membership. The 92nd Street Y. M. H. A. in New York City is perhaps typical of most Associations in our large cities, and here we find that the large majority of its members are either American-born or they came to this country at a very early age. Consequently we have here what might be considered the typical young American Jew. He speaks English with the usual New York accent and with the same degree of incorrectness. He is far more interested in American institutions than he is in Jewish ideals, and he is passionately devoted to the pursuit of pleasure. This is true not only of the vast majority of our born and bred Americans but also for the comparatively few who have come from foreign countries. Because of this situation it seems natural to assume that our problem is one of Judaization as well as Americanization, on the principle that our people will do their best for America when they are true to their own best spiritual and historical ideals, and this can be possible only if our young American Jews are willing and able to carry on the traditions of our faith. While it is necessary to correct certain misconceptions as to the true meaning of Americanism, it is just as important that some attempt be made to make our youth conscious and interested in their Tewish birth-right. With this in mind, a consistent program of Jewish work is attempted in the Association: the methods are those of the social center rather than of the Synagogue or the Temple. Club life, entertainments, and general recreational activities are utilized to this end and only those whose interests urge them to study Jewish affairs are grouped into classes for this purpose.

Our members are Americans, but with many of the superficialities and misun-

derstandings that are often mistaken for true Americanism. First is the belief that Americanism and interest in Jewish problems cannot go hand in hand; the Jewish program of the Association tends to combat this notion. Then there is the large number of young Americans who conceive Americanism as synonymous with fine clothes, loudness, and an interest in sports alone. And there are those who have recently arrived to these shores or have moved up from the East Side, who, in speech and habits, are manifestly still immigrants. In this connection the policy of the Y. M. H. A. is that these conditions can best be corrected by personal contact with the workers, Directors and volunteers and by participation in the general social and educational life of the Association.

The foreign mannered young men who join our membership upon being absorbed into the social life of the Association begin to think in American terms and naturally adopt the manners and habits of their fellow associates. Perhaps the most potent factor for Americanization is the work of the Physical Department of the Y. M. H. A. Here the upright posture and manner of the American is developed by means of formal gymnasium work and athletic contests. It is most surprising to note the wonderful metamorphosis that takes place in the life of a young Russian Iew who joins the gymnasium classes of the Association. Within six months he seems to have been reborn, his whole manner having changed from the drooping, slouching habits of Eastern European life to the aggressive vital bearing of American young manhood.

The Association in general adopts the policy that more can be taught by doing than by talking. That is, if a person actually does American things instead of listening to lectures on American ideals and institutions he is far more apt to become a good American citizen. Act-

213

ing upon this policy, our members are urged to participate fully in every movement of vital American interest. A foreigner who willingly subscribes to a Liberty Loan Bond or contributes in some way in a great American campaign, by that very act becomes more truly and deeply an American in thought as well as action.

To these simple methods the Y. M. H. A. feels that it is making its contribu-

tion to American Life. We are correcting misconceptions of what Americanism means, attempting to abolish the superficialities and froth that is so often mistaken for Americanism, and by making the young foreigner a member of an American Social Group we feel that we are helping him, unbeknownst to him, to become the American youth that will be an asset to his country and his people.

AN AMERICANIZATION PROGRAM

The Jewish community of Boston has taken up the problem of Americanization and, at the request of the Americanization Division of the Committee on Public Safety, has established an Americanization Committee. Four representative divisions are included on this committee, the social welfare groups, and the religious, fraternal and labor organizations. The plan of organization presented by this committee gives promise of an effective and constructive piece of work, and offers some valuable suggestions to other communities contemplating extensive Americanization effort.

The basis for the Americanization work proposed by the committee to be the following eleven phases of activity: English, History and Civics, Naturalization, Economics, Current Events, Hygiene, health and housing, Legislative work, Publicity and Speakers, Industry, Recreation, and Civic Responsibility. To carry out this program five committees were organized.

The first committee is to take up the problem of education, which will cover the work on English classes, History and Civic classes, Naturalization, Economic and Current Events. This committee shall have charge of the Publicity work in the community, and shall be responsible for propaganda concerning the various activities. It is to register the number of those in the community who desire to join classes and shall have charge of the division, location and number of the classes to be established. After the work of ascer-

taining the division and location of the classes has been completed, it is to make application to the proper city and state officials and to all other agencies, for places to conduct the classes and for speakers and teachers.

The Committee on Hygiene, Health and Housing is to secure all available statistics and other information from all agencies, the neighborhood and other sources, and then shall disseminate this information in the community to the end that the living and hygienic standards of the community might be raised.

The third committee is to have charge of the Legislative work, Publicity and speakers. This committee shall create a central publicity and speakers bureau and take charge of all legislative work required.

The Committee on Industry and Labor will have the task of encouraging English and citizenship classes in the factories and stores and shall investigate and take up the questions of financial loss from the time given to these classes. It will also have the responsibility of interesting itself in the immigrant problem as it affects the immigrant upon his arrival at port, and his employment after his arrival.

The Committee on Education and Civic Responsibility shall cooperate with the existing agencies that are now endeavoring to provide recreation to the immigrant and shall attempt to popularize among the immigrants the facilities and opportunities for recreation offered them by the existing agencies.

1919 CONFERENCE

The 1919 meeting of the National Conference of Jewish Charities will take place in Atlantic City, May 27-June 1. It is the—

FIRST FIVE DAY CONFERENCE. A new departure is the plan of having the Conference meeting continue for the five days preceding the National Conference of Social Work. The first three days are to be devoted to the formal sessions, section meetings and reports, while the final two days will be given over for informal meetings, round-tables, and "getting together." This will make it possible for the Conference to take up the discussion of practical problems of method and routine, an opportunity much desired at former Conference meetings. It will allow for more time for the social workers to meet informally to discuss individual programs, and for the Board Members, volunteers, and others to get into touch with the various fields and problems. Another advantage offered by the five day plan is the opportunity of attending the meetings of some of the Conferences related to the National Conference of Social Work, which precede the opening of the big Conference, and also of enjoying the less professional aspects of a spring visit to the "playground of America."

THE SECTIONAL PROGRAM. Another innovation is the division of the program into definite sections, each of which is in the hands of a special committee. The concentration of the program on certain definite problems promises to result in a well-coordinated series of papers and discussions on the phases of Jewish social work of most interest and concern to those attending the Conference such as—

What the new experiments in community organization teach us.

The Health Problem in Jewish social service.

How industrial relations react in Jewish philanthropy.

Family care—the Unit Method in Case work or the specialistic.

The educational problems among the Jews as they relate to social service.

The development of a community child-care program.

A program of reconstruction for Jewish social workers.

Registration, insurance and standardization for the social worker.

How can the message of the Conference be brought to the community and the individual?

Send in your suggestions for round-table discussions now, so that arrangements may be made beforehand.

HOTELS IN ATLANTIC CITY

THE BREAKERS—Headquarters for the Conference—capacity 1,400.

American Plan—Single room without bath—\$6.00 per day.

Double room without bath—\$6.00-\$7.00 per day per person.

Single room with bath—\$7.00-\$10.00 per day.

Double room with bath—\$7.00-\$10.00 per day per person.

European Plan—Single room without bath—\$2.50-\$3.00 per day.

Double room without bath—\$2.50-\$4.00 per day per person.

Single room with bath—\$4.00-\$7.00 per day.

Double room with bath—\$3.00-\$6.00 per day per person.

HOTEL PIERREPONT—Next door to Hotel Breakers—70 can be accommodated at following rates:

American Plan—Single room without bath—\$4.50 per day.

Double room without bath—\$8.00 per day.

Double room with bath—\$10.00 per day.

ROYAL PALACE HOTEL.

American Plan—Single room without bath—\$5.00-\$6.00 per day.

Double room without bath—\$9.00-\$10.00 per day.

Single room with bath—\$7.00-\$9.00 per day.

Double room with bath—\$11.00-\$15.00 per day.

Suites of two rooms (4 persons)— \$22.00-\$26.00 per day. ALAMAC HOTEL-Capacity 400.

American Plan—Single room without bath—\$6.00 per day.

Double room without bath— \$10.00 per day up.

Single room with bath—\$7.00 per day and up.

Double room with bath—\$12.00-\$14.00 per day.

European Plan—Single room without bath—\$3.00 per day up.

Double room without bath—\$5.00 per day up.

Single room with bath-\$5.00 per day up.

Double room with bath—\$7.50 per day up.

GROSSMAN'S HOTEL (KOSHER)—Capacity 250.

American Plan—Single room without bath—\$5.00 per day.

Double room without bath—\$9.00 per day.

Single room with bath—\$6.50 per day.

Double room with bath-\$12.50 per day.

If you desire information concerning rates and location of other hotels, write to the Field Bureau, National Conference of Jewish Charities, 114 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

Visitors and Delegates!

Memorial Day falls within the Conference dates and there will be a great demand for accommodations, so—

Make your reservations immediately

COORDINATING AMERICANIZATION PROGRAMS

The war with its recurring crises in all phases of our national life has thrown into pronounced relief the vital and pressing need for the inauguration of a definite and comprehensive program for the assimilation or Americanization of our foreign-born peoples. In answer to this need the Department of the Interior has established an Americanization Division in the Bureau of Education.

It is the task of this division to correlate and coordinate all national forces both governmental and voluntary in providing to the communities of the Nation a concrete program and practical assistance in carrying it out.

It must be obvious that if our Americanization work is to be worth while or permanent in its effects, we must depend upon the community to apply it. National and State forces can render great assistance but the actual work must be done where the foreign born live.

Another task of the Americanization Division, therefore, is the organization of the States and communities and the preparation of a program fitted to their needs in which all of the many agencies for good of the communities may attack this problem under a unified and trusted command. Wherever possible, existing agencies, both State and local, will be utilized in preference to the creation of new agencies.

The functions of bodies already at work will be preserved but every

effort made to prevent duplication, with consequent friction, through mutual understandings of the field of each. A line of demarcation has already been established by the heads of the Department of Labor and the Department of the Interior regarding the spheres of the Bureau of Naturalization and that of the Americanization Division of the Bureau of Education. The Bureau of Naturalization will have jurisdiction over the necessary work after an applicant has signified his intention of becoming a citizen. The Americanization Division will have charge of the general problem of the assimilation of the races and the general education of the foreign born.

Fred C. Butler, who has had charge of the community problems of the War Department with relation to the production of munitions during the war, has been appointed Director of Americanization in charge of the division. Regional directors will be named to proceed immediately with the organization of the States and through them of the communities.

To this great and important undertaking I invite the attention and whole-hearted assistance of thinking men and women everywhere and especially of those organized bodies—national, State, and local—whose influence and cooperation are so vital and so valuable.

FRANKLIN K. LANE, Secretary of the Interior.

RELATED TOPICS.

While the National Conference of Jewish Charities is at work formulating standards of qualifications for Jewish social workers, developing an insurance plan, and working towards definitely establishing Jewish social work on a high professional basis, a special committee of the American Association for Organizing Charity is investigating the salary schedules in charity organizations and similar agencies, with a view to presenting a definite report at the National Conference of Social Work at Atlantic City in June. The committee would welcome expressions of opinion from those interested in the subject, whether as officers and members of such societies or as workers who receive salaries. Communications may be sent to Miss Wilder. at 105 East Twenty-second Street, New York.

At the Conference on Demobilization held in New York on November 29-30, a committee was appointed to consider the formation of a new national organization in the field of social work, to formulate the national programs and policies in this field. The result of the deliberations of this committee were presented in the January 25th issue of the Survey. The report of the Committee presents a tentative constitution, which declares the name of the organization to be The National Association of Social Workers, with the following objects:

- (1) To organize American social workers for concerted action.
- (2) To study continuously social agencies and social needs with a view to securing a sound basis for such concerted action.
- (3) To promote a better adaptation of social agencies to social needs.
- (4) To contribute to the formulation and promotion of a rational program of social reconstruction and a progressive program of social organization.

- (5) To cooperate with other national groups to these ends.
- (6) To increase the usefulness and advance the standards and ideals of social work.

There are to be four types of members, active members who must be professional workers and whose dues are ten dollars, associate members who are directors or other persons interested in the association, who pay ten dollars dues and who may be present at meetings of the association but have no vote, institutional membership with an annual dues of twenty-five dollars, and to which agencies with workers eligible for active membership may join, and honorary members, those who have retired from social service or whom the association may desire to honor in this way. There are to be annual meetings of the Association, a National Council elected at large, a president, a vice-president, a treasurer and an executive.

Dr. David Neumark, professor of philosophy at the Hebrew Union College, is the founder and editor of the "Journal of Jewish Lore and Philosophy," a quarterly publication which made its first appearance in January.

"It is to be devoted to the cultivation of higher Jewish learning" and "sets out with singleminded purpose to further and to spread the knowledge of Judaism," states the editor, in an article explaining the functions of the Journal.

The Journal purposes to carry out its policy by being always an open forum for religious discussion. No interpretation of Judaism will be denied publication, even though it be in direct opposition to the interpretation for which the editor stands.

The Journal, as a "clearing house" of Jewish wisdom, will aid scholars who are preparing books to treat satisfactorily the side issues which cannot be disregarded nor discussed exhaustively in connection with the main subject. To aid lay-readers, the Journal will publish summaries of scholarly books, and essays, prepared by the authors themselves or reviewers.

ONE OF THEM

ELIZABETH HASANOVITZ

One of Them, by Elizabeth Hasanovitz. (Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston. Price \$2.) Americanization as it reaches the immigrant girl who is drawn into the industrial machinery of the big city and comes to her knowledge of America through it, is the theme of this story of "one of them," who writes obviously for the purpose of propaganda. Upon her arrival in this country she must seek a job, and through this seeking process she discovers America. Her struggles in the garment shops, her protests against the future of sheer drudgery that seemed to engulf her, the new hope she found in the union, and her final determination that only through this means can life be made worth living, form the background for the story. That the writer is an exceptional type, subject to reactions not common among the large masses of her fellow workers, does not detract from the strength of her thesis, in which, of course, she attempts to merge her identity with theirs.

"I often visited the Public Library," she writes. "I was not accustomed to being served so readily and receiving every book for which I asked. . . . It was there that I found my coveted America; it was there that I found freedom and equality." But, as the struggle grows more intense and as little time was left for these excursions into real America, bitterness and self-pity take the place of inspiration.

"In Russia I had time, but no freedom; here I had freedom, but no op-

portunity to enjoy it . . . where was the time for the free schools, for more knowledge, where was there time for the wonderful libraries, for the luxurious museums. . . . If we rejoiced in one thing, we did it at the expense of another. At the expense of our sleep we went to the library; at the expense of a few dinners we went to opera, at the expense of a better room we bought a dress. "

A careful description of the establishment of the famous Protocol in the Dress and Waist Industry, its problems and development, make the book valuable for its bearing on present localized problems, and, to the earnest social worker, there is a tremendous challenge in this story of "an army of girls, who create wealth, ready and willing to do the best for the world; and the world for them?—Nothing."

That the volume is inclined to become introspective, that there is little attempt made to restrain the passionate nature of this autobiography and that in many parts the naive youth of the writer finds expression in melodramatic titles and rhetoric may be admitted. However, when one sees such chapter headings as "The Foreman's Plea," the "Boss's Ultimatum," "A Life Full of Emptiness." there can be no resentment, no intolerance, and little criticism indeed, for with it this new young American gives us a story of Americanization eminently worth while.

"LEARN ENGLISH" CAMPAIGN

The Educational Alliance, 197 East Broadway, New York, started a "Learn English" campaign by the exhibition of placards in Yiddish in cafes, restaurants, libraries, settlements, synagogues and church houses, entrances to moving picture theatres, and wherever non-English-speaking persons congregate. The cooperation is asked of shop and factory

owners. Circular letters to parents will be distributed in the public schools on "Learn English Day." Meetings of the parents will be organized regularly in Public Schools 79 and 97, and classes will be held mornings, afternoons and evenings in settlements and public day schools. Dr. Nathan Peyser is director of the campaign.

LEGISLATION.

The Americanization bill now pending in Congress is one that merits the attention of those citizens who realize the importance of this step. Social Workers are urged to write to their Senators and Representatives, urging the passage of this bill, and to exert their influence that others in their community may do so. A brief summary of the bill, known as Senate Bill No. 5464, follows:

Section 1. Provides that the Secretary of the Interior, cooperating with Federal and other agencies be authorized to undertake the education of illiterates and those unable to speak, read and write our language and undertake the training of teachers and directors.

Sections 2 and 3. Provide for the following appropriations: Five million dollars for the first year and twelve million and a half annually thereafter to help pay salaries for teachers and directors; two hundred and fifty thousand dollars for the year ending June, 1919, and seven hundred and fifty thousand thereafter annually until 1926 to help prepare teachers and directors for the work.

Section 4. Provides that states may secure the benefits of the act by authorizing cooperation and appropriating an amount equal to that allotted by the Government, provided that legislation require not less than 200 hours annually for all illiterate minors unable to speak, read and write the English language until they attain third-grade equivalents, and provided that the money is not used for any other purpose than that specified.

Section 5. Provides that the money authorized be apportioned to the States annually in proportion to the number of illiterates given in the last preceding published United States Census.

Section 6. Provides that each State submit to the Secretary for approval plans and proposals for using the appropriation, including kind of instruction, equipment, courses, methods, qualifications of teachers and directors and the conditions under which work will be done.

Section 7. Provides that the Secretary ascertain each year the States using the allotment and certifying the facts to the Secretary of the Treasury, who shall pay quarterly.

Sections 8 and 9. Provide that the Secretary of the Treasury may withhold money if the conditions of the act are not met and that if any portion of the money is used for other purposes, it shall be replaced and that subsequent appropriations shall be withheld until replaced, also that unexpended portions of the annual appropriation shall be deducted from the next succeeding annual allotment.

Section 10. Provides that two hundred and fifty thousand dollars be appropriated for the fiscal year ending June, 1919, and one million dollars annually thereafter until 1926 for the purpose of administration of the act.

Section 11. Provides that no money appropriated shall be applied directly or indirectly for the erection, equipment, purchase or rental of buildings or for the support of religious or privately owned institutions.

Sections 12 and 13. Provide that the Secretary make an annual report to Congress of all operations, expenditures and allotments, including what has been done by States, and perform any acts and make rules for the proper enforcement of this act.

The 1919 Thrift Campaign which is being inaugurated by the United States Treasury Department is to be based on the idea of making thrift a national habit through the promotion of wise buying, avoidance of waste and intelligent saving. For this purpose the local war savings organizations have been instructed to take up the problem of educating their communities in thrift, budget making and keeping and other related activities.

Current News Notes

The Federation of Jewish Charities of St. Louis recently elected the following officers: Aaron Fuller, president; Aaron Waldheim, first vice-president; Louis P. Aloe, second vice-president; Sigmund Baer, treasurer; Bernard Greensfelder, secretary, and A. Fenchel, financial secretary.

The following additional societies were recently admitted into the Federation of Jewish Charities of Philadelphia: Mt. Sinai Hospital, Eagleville Sanitarium, Hebrew Orphans' Home, Jewish Day Nursery, Associated Talmud Torahs, Jewish Literature Society, Jewish Consumptive Institute, Rebecca Gratz Club, and the Hebrew Free Loan Society.

A unique feature of the annual meeting of the New York Federation for the Support of Jewish Philanthropies was a complete moving picture, which depicted the manifold activities of the organizations supported through Federation. Supplementing the formal report, and serving to make more vivid the actual benefits derived from the immense budgets secured annually, this innovation was of real value, especially in view of the many organizations and the large constituency served by the New York Federation.

At the annual meeting of the Hebrew Free Loan Association of Cleveland the project of building sanitary attractive model homes to be rented out to families of moderate means was presented and urged as an auxiliary activity to the work of the Association. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: N. L. Holstein, president; H. Peskind, first vice-president; S. Garber, second vice-president; S. Weinberg, treasurer: H. E. Eisler, secretary. Board of directors-N. L. Holstein. Sam Garber. H. Peskind, Marcus Feder, Sam Weinberg, M. Weinberg, G. Laufman, Sam Pliskin, H. Kraus, S. Gordon, B.

Arshan, S. Kolinsky, Fred Josephson, Herman Stern, K. Slomowitz, M. Amster, Louis F. Gooel, J. Feuerlicht, M. Savlan, Lloyd Feder, J. Frank, H. F. Klein.

The Y. M. H. A. and Y. W. H. A. of Springfield, Mass., have appointed a joint committee to select a location for the new home of these organizations.

The Jewish Orphan Home Society of St. Louis has just purchased a residence at 3117 Lafayette Avenue, for the purpose of an Orthodox Jewish Orphan Home. The building has beautiful surroundings and contains 16 rooms.

At a meeting of representatives of Jewish organizations in Washington, D. C., a committee was elected to investigate the advisability of erecting an orphan asylum for Jewish children made homeless through the recent influenza epidemic and to look into other important matters pertaining to the plans for housing these children. Rabbis of the congregations in Washington have been urged to work with this committee.

The Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society of America has designated Washington's Birthday, February 22, as "Americanization Day for Jewish Immigrants." The day will be celebrated by meetings and other gatherings in Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Seattle, and Yokohama, Japan, where the society has branches, and in several hundred cities in which the society is represented by national directors.

The Hebrew War Sufferers' Association of Youngstown, Ohio, has renewed its drive for funds to aid the war-stricken Jews of Europe and the East.

In Boston \$100,000 is to be raised for improvements and equipment of the Beth Israel Hospital in Roxbury.

A building fund for the Jewish Home for Mental Convalescents, founded by the late Joseph B. Olidorf in memory of his son, Louis Paul, for which a site has been purchased at Riverhead, L. I., soon will be raised. The officers of the institution, which is non-sectarian, are: Joseph B. Olidorf, president; Rev. Abraham Blum, Samuel Friedman and Samson Friedlander, vice-presidents; Maurice A. Sylvan, executive secretary, and Dr. Jacob Glass, medical director.

The first step toward the sending to Poland of food and clothing for the relief of the starving millions of that country, was taken recently, when there left from Hoboken under the auspices of the Joint Distribution Committee of the American Funds for Jewish War Sufferers, of which Felix M. Warburg is Chairman, and the Polish National Committee of America, of which John F. Smulski is President, the Steamship Westward-Ho, attached to the U. S. Navy, carrying a \$2,000,000 cargo.

The ship is bound for Danzig, a trip that will require from 20 to 24 days, and on her voyage she will stop at Falmouth, England, where she will be joined by Leon Kamaiky and Barnet Zuckerman, representing the Joint Distribution Committee, and who will proceed with her to Danzig to assist in the distribution of the supplies she carries. These supplies have been shipped through the cooperation of the U. S. Food Administration and will be delivered to the representatives of Herbert Hoover, Chairman of the Supreme Council of the Inter-Allied Food Commission. The supplies consist of 3,500 tons of flour, 1,500 tons of milk, 1,000 tons of packing-house products, 500 tons of cottonseed oil and \$100,000 in clothing and shoes the cost of which was met in equal amounts by the Jewish and Polish Relief Committees.

The Jewish Orphanage of Providence will henceforth be known as the Jewish Orphanage of Rhode Island, as the result of a change in the by-laws of the institution.

The Jewish Educational Alliance of St. Louis conducts a milk station on the cash-and-carry plan which sells milk at 12 cents a quart. Since last July, when the milk station was opened, more than 20,000 quarts of milk have been sold.

The Y. M. H. A. in Toronto, Canada, is conducting a campaign to raise funds for a \$300,000 home for the organization.

During the past year 3,513 patients were admitted to the Hebrew Hospital of Baltimore.

The annual meeting of the Hebrew Sheltering Immigrant Aid Society of America will be held at Carnegie Hall, New York, on Sunday evening, March 9th. This gathering marks the tenth anniversary of the amalgamation of the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society and the Hebrew Sheltering House.

A campaign for a fund of \$100,000 to build an annex to the Brooklyn Hebrew Home and Hospital for the Aged has been inaugurated. Within the past few months it has been necessary, because of lack of accommodations, to turn down 200 persons seeking admission to the Home.

The New York office of the Denver Sanitarium (Jewish Consumptives' Relief Society) has removed from 230 Grand Street to 31 Union Square West, Room 1408. The new office is much more convenient for the applicants as well as the many friends of the Sanitarium, who often wish to visit the manager in order to acquaint themselves more fully with the work of the institution.

With the object of developing an active city-wide organization, a Young Men's Hebrew Club has been established in Newark, N. J.

PERSONALS.

A scholarly article by Fred M. Butzel, dealing with the attempt of the various social agencies in the state of Michigan to deal with the problem of feeblemindedness, appeared in the February number of the Jewish Institute News, the official organ of the United Jewish Charities of Detroit. In describing the value of institutional care for the feebleminded, Mr. Butzel writes, "The most hopeful aspect of the entire matter is that when the feebleminded of the same mental age are brought together they are usually very happy and the work and the play which absorbs the energy of children of the same mental age will also satisfy these unfortunates. In the world at large they are constantly in competition with people much better equipped than they and with different interests. In the Homes and Training Schools and colonies they associate with their equals under conditions that develop the best that is in them." The plan under discussion was that of a central responsible institution, with colonies and groups in which feebleminded persons of the same mental age could be cared for together.

Sidney A. Teller, Resident Director of the Irene Kaufmann Settlement of Pittsburgh, Pa., recently assisted in the National Child Labor Campaign that was held in that city. He was on the Executive Committee, in charge of publicity, and also one of the speakers.

The Talmud Torah of Minneapolis has engaged Miss Julia Felsenthal, Superintendent of the Associated Jewish Charities, to organize and supervise its social center activities. An excellent Hebrew School has been housed in the building and the communal activities have been managed, up to this time, by volunteers under the direction of the Ladies Auxiliary.

Mortimer Schiff, chairman of the Jewish Welfare Board's Finance Committee, who is now in France, has authorized the purchase of 100,000 pounds of matzoths for use by Jewish members in the American Expeditionary Forces and Army of Occupation, during Passover week. The matzoths will be especially baked at the Jewish Consistory in Paris and several thousand pounds will be placed on board each transport leaving France during the holiday week.

Owing to the enlargement of the Department of Personal Service of the Irene Kaufmann Settlement, Miss Anna F. Skolsky, formerly of the United Hebrew Relief Association of Pittsburgh has been added to the staff as neighborhood visitor.

During the time that the Morals Court of Pittsburgh was organizing its work, the Irene Kaufmann Settlement was asked to loan Miss Anna B. Heldman, one of its workers, to the court. Miss Heldman gave half-time services, has recently completed her work and is now returned to full time with the Settlement.

Miss Isabelle Nusbaum, formerly a Cottage Mother at Pleasantville, has been secured by the Neighborhood House at Newark, N. J., as a worker there.

Boris D. Bogen, Secretary of the National Conference of Jewish Charities, is now in Poland as a representative of the Joint Distribution Committee, coordinating the Jewish relief work there with the relief work projected by the Hoover Food Commission and the American Red Cross.

The Young Men's Hebrew Association of Richmond, Va., has found a new head in Mr. Bertram Bloch, formerly of New York City and Washington. Long ex-

perience in social work at the Educational Alliance and University Settlement in New York City has equipped Mr. Bloch with the qualities which his latest position require, and he is now busy with a complete reorganization of the Richmond institution, which is soon to move into new quarters.

Miss Flora Lipson, formerly of Newark, N. J., has accepted the task of organizing and directing the social center activities of the Temple Israel Sisterhood, in New York City.

Miss Rebecca Hoffman, who has been in charge of the Immigrant Education work at the New York Section of the Council of Jewish Women Neighborhood House, has accepted the position of director of girls' and women's work at the Educational Alliance of New York.

Mr. Sol S. Kiser of Indianapolis has been elected vice-president of the Jewish Orphan Asylum at Cleveland, Ohio, to fill the vacancy caused by the recent death of Mr. Jacob Furth of St. Louis, Mo.

At the beginning of the month the largest single contingent of welfare workers as yet sent overseas by the Jewish Welfare Board left for France. The unit was made up of the following: Leo M. Serrin, New York City; Paul Goldman, New York City: Maud H. Drucker. New York City; William S. Sindey, New York City; Lenora Liman, New York City; Abraham L. Weinstock, Philadelphia; Lillian L. Jacoby, Pensacola, Fla.; Sara Landman, Cincinnati, Ohio; Julia Rosenberg, Rochester, N. Y.; Louis J. Rothstein, Cincinnati, Ohio; Rebecca Serber Fox, New York City; Rena F. Schloss, Terre Haute, Ind.; Samuel Z. Kaplan, Scranton, Pa.; Harry Rosenberg, Rochester, N. Y.; Wolf Adler, Indianapolis, Ind.; Lawrence I. Michaels, New York City: Sophie Berman, New York City; David M. Satz,

New York City; Edith Odes, New York City, and Adele W. Winston, New York City.

Abraham Rothschild was re-elected president of the Hebrew Benevolent and Orphan Asylum Society of Newark, N. J.

The Jewish Aid Society of Los Angeles has purchased a new building at 242 North Bunker Hill Avenue and is already moved into its new quarters.

Dr. Charles S. Bernheimer, superintendent of the Hebrew Educational Society in Brownsville, Brooklyn, has resigned. He is succeeded by Mr. Irving Goldman. Mr. Goldman is a graduate of the City College of New York. He was formerly chaplain of the Jewish boys at the Brooklyn Truant Home, where he spent more than eight years studying the social problems of the younger folk. He was also superintendent of the West End Synagogue in New York and Sunday School superintendent of Temple Israel.

Henry P. Davison, Chairman of the American Red Cross has authorized the sending of a relief expedition to Poland. Boris D. Bogen and Mortimer Schiff represent the Joint Distribution Committee on this commission and Dr. Bogen has gone on to Poland to consolidate the special Jewish work with the work of the Red Cross there.

THE CONFERENCE SEAL.

The neighborly courtesy of Mark Weinberg, who has a studio across the hall from the Conference headquarters, is responsible for the designing and making up of the 1919 Conference Seal, which adorns the cover of this issue and which is to be used for publicity matter throughout the Conference. The seal is made up in sticker form and will be sent to members wishing to attach it to correspondence.



The Play Ground of America

Atlantic City-All the Time

The World's premier pleasure and health resort and the

Conference City

for

1919 MEETING—NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF JEWISH CHARITIES

MAY 27-JUNE 1

HEADQUARTERS—HOTEL BREAKERS

National Conference of Social Work
June 1-8

National Probation Association
May 30-June 7

Children's Home and Welfare Association May 29-31

> American Medical Association June 9-13

American Academy of Medicine June 9-10

American Association for Organizing Charity
May 30-June 1

Do you know that the support and cooperation of your Board Members will materially increase if they are kept in touch with modern trends in Jewish Social Service?

Is your community awakened to the principles and problems of modern Jewish Social Service?

Do you know a student in Social Service who needs contact with the actual experiences of others in the field?

Haven't you a friend or fellow worker to whom you would like to give the opportunity to secure the broader outlook and invigorating contacts made possible through "Jewish Charities" and conference membership?

If so, cut out the coupon printed below, write in the name and address of the person to whom you wish the membership be given, and mail with a dollar bill to the Field Bureau of the National Conference of Jewish Charities, Room 1810, 114 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

The National Conference of Jewish Charities

Date

191___

I enclose One Dollar (1.00) for Subscriber's Membership Fee to the National Conference of Jewish Charities

Name .

Address_

FIELD BUREAU, Room 1810, 114 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y. NOTE—"Individuals may become subscribing members upon the payment of One Dollar (\$1.00) dues annually, for which they shall be entitled to all the publications of the Conference, but they shall have no vote."

"ALWAYS INTERESTING"-Mrs. Nathan C. Myers, New Haven, Conn.



Vol. IX

March, 1919

No. 11

The Day Nursery
Problems in Child Placing
Settlement Smiles

PUBLISHED BY THE

National Conference of Jewish Charities
114 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF JEWISH CHARITIES, 1919 ATLANTIC CITY, MAY 27th TO JUNE 1st