

A Jewish good-for-nothing in the poor-house is enough to give the ordinary community the horrors; but it will stand for any amount of silent deterioration. The trouble is that the public gives very little serious thought to social problems. It contributes without knowing what it wants done, without indeed having any definite goal in mind at all. The ignorance of the average man as to what is the real problem of philanthropy is so monumental as to be ludicrous. It often takes the shape of the comparison of the efficiency of societies by the smallness of the salaries paid and the fewness and inexperience of those whose business it is to study the problems of the people. A ten dollar a week clerk paying out money to a "handout" line seems to be the ideal of not a few of those who are "interested in the charities."

This must all change. No intelligent lot of men and women are going on forever treating disease when prevention is at hand. Jewish charity must become active instead of passive, must grow militant, seek out causes and remove them. Jewish contributors must not only recognize the shifting of the point of attack, but must demand that the work go on and meet the poverty current at the fountain head. There must be sympathy with effort no less than with incompetence, and a hand must be outstretched to keep men from falling no less than for uplifting those who have gone down. This would mean, too, a greater personal participation in the service that the strong render the weak, a participation that, except for financial and administrative purposes, is now nothing to boast of.

This is the only way that the question—Are our charities a mere conventional expression of the community's virtuous regard for the poor, or a sincere and living effort to spread light and happiness?—can be resolved in favor of the latter alternative.

Progressive.

An Economic Interpretation of the Constitution

Prof. Charles A. Beard's new work is the first attempt to apply the theory of the economic interpretation of history to the formation and adoption of the Constitution of the United States.

The more important portions of the work are based upon manuscript materials which have not been used before in the study of the Constitution and have been unnoticed by all the scholars who have dealt with this subject. The records of the Treasury Department at Washington have been used for the first time in connection with a study of the formation of the Constitution and Professor Beard has drawn considerable from other little-known records, printed and unprinted, which throw light upon the economic conditions of the United States between 1783-1787.

Protecting the Federation

Denver was confronted lately with an attempt to sell tickets by an unauthorized organization, and the Federation promptly issued the following notice to its constituency. It may be useful as a precedent in other jurisdictions:

"DON'T BUY TICKETS FOR PICNICS OFFERED FOR SALE IN THE NAME OF CHARITY.

To the Jewish Community of Denver:

"It will be recalled that when the Federation of Charities was formed assurance was given that the Federation would undertake to handle every phase of charitable and social service work of our community, and that solicitation through the sale of tickets for balls, bazaars, picnics, etc., in the name of charity would be not only unnecessary, but a hindrance to the work of the Federation.

"It has come to the attention of your officers that attempts to solicit funds by the sale of tickets for a picnic are being made for the alleged purpose of doing relief work. We would urgently request, in view of the fact that the Federation was organized to represent the entire Jewish community in every philanthropic endeavor, and is meeting every proper and reasonable demand upon it, in the best way possible under present conditions, that all persons, whether subscribers to the Federated Charities or not, refrain from encouraging these efforts as such misdirected energies tend to defeat the purposes for which your Federation was created.

"We ask you to refuse to buy tickets which are now being offered in the name of charity."

B'NAI B'RITH ORPHANAGE AND HOME FOR FRIENDLESS CHILDREN

B'nai B'rith Orphanage and Home for Friendless Children of District No. 3, located within a few miles of the city of Erie, Pa., even in its present circumscribed condition, is fulfilling in the largest measure the purposes for which it was founded. District No. 3 comprises the four States of New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania and West Virginia, and the institution, in the completed state it will soon present, will be the realization of sixty-five years of more or less active effort toward the fulfillment. The one thing accomplished in the way of charity in that length of time was the establishment of a manual training school in Philadelphia, the membership of the B'nai B'rith of District No. 3 being assessed for the keep of the school. But the results attained were unsatisfactory, and what of benefit the school offered was purely local. Year after year, and at each succeeding convention of the Grand Lodge of District No. 3, Independent Order B'nai B'rith, suggestions and recommendations for the foundation of a permanent charity were forthcoming, but invariably to remain a left-over topic for the following convention.

The Orphanage, for the time being, is quartered in a spacious brick dwelling house delightfully situated and provides a home for twenty-one children, representing admissions from Wilkes-Barre, Pittsburgh, Sharon, Altoona and Philadelphia, Pa.; Jersey City and Atlantic City, N. J., and Wheeling, W. Va. Miss Nettie Eichenbaum is the matron, with Miss Eva Levy as assistant. Miss Eichenbaum has had a practical as well as theoretical training for the work, being graduated from Pratt School, New York City, in the studies of physiology and sociology, her practical experience being acquired as matron and assistant in several similar institutions. The Orphanage is conducted strictly *kosher* and all that pertains to the physical and mental well-being of the children in every detail of their every-day life is maintained under the intelligent direction and care of the matron. The children attend the district school at Fairview township, situated a short distance from the Orphanage, and

their aptitude and intelligence is evidenced in the stated reports of the teachers, one of the children standing first in the school at the end of the term. The children, those of them of the age and strength, are taught farming at specified hours and manual as well as mental training will be afforded them when the occasion arises. One great advantage of Erie over the other locations for such an institution is the varied manufacturing interests embraced in the industrial life of the city, at least 150 distinct trades or vocations being represented in manufacturing pursuits, and opportunity to learn any one of these will always be open to the boy or girl from the B'nai B'rith Orphanage and Home for Friendless Children of District No. 3.

The farm of ninety-five acres, given by the Jews of Erie, is one of the best situated and most productive in Erie County. It is located at short distance west of the pretty village of Fairview, commanding a delightful view of Lake Erie and in a section bountifully supplied by nature with a charm of landscape and prospect that is unsurpassed along the lower lake regions. Sixteen hundred feet of the farm fronts the Ridge Road, the State highway and the main artery of travel for automobiles between Buffalo and Chicago. The road is paralleled by the Conneaut & Erie Traction Line, a link in the trolley connection between Buffalo and Cleveland. The Orphanage, on the new site, will have every convenience of access and it will offer one of the sights of interest to the auto tourists continually passing over that road from east to west. It is also most convenient to four lines of railroads, the New York Central, the New York, Chicago & St. Louis, the Pennsylvania and the Bessemer & Lake Erie.

The farm is in a high state of cultivation, eighty-five acres of it, ten of beautiful woodland to be preserved in its present state for purpose of entertainment and recreation for the children of the Orphanage. An experienced farmer is in charge, the farm stock being of the best grades, and in two years it will be producing butter, milk, fruits and general farm products more than sufficient for the needs of the institution.

The officers of the Board of Governors are: President, Isador Sobel, Erie; vice-president, Max Rothschild, Pittsburgh; secretary, Mrs. E. P. Marks, Erie; treasurer, Isador Simon, Erie. The Board of Governors numbers fifty-two, twelve members of the board being from the city of Erie, and these twelve governors constitute the local board, as it may be termed, conducting the business of the Home in the intervals of the quarterly meetings of the general board.

NEW BOOKS

EUROPEAN CITIES AT WORK. By Dr. Frederick C. Howe, Director of the People's Institute. Charles Scribner's Sons.

In his latest book Dr. Howe completes a series of municipal studies based upon the assumption that the city is the most portentous problem of the twentieth century. His previous books, "The City: The Hope of Democracy" and "The British City: The Beginnings of Democracy," were studies of the Anglo-Saxon city, while the last book of the series describes the cities of Europe. In the cities of Germany especially he finds confirmation of the title of his first book: that the city is the hope of civilization rather than the despair. In that country cities have been built with full realization of the place they take in modern society and the necessity for controlling their development, to prevent the costs which their coming has involved in England and the United States. He finds that the thing which distinguishes the German city is that it is built for every possible use; with provision for transportation and commerce; that its site is laid out like a private estate; that houses are provided for workingmen and the housing problem is studied and promoted as a conscious part of imperial efficiency. Unlike other studies of cities, this book is built around the conception that the city is primarily a physical rather than a political thing and that the evils of the American city spring from our failure to realize the fact that property must be controlled in the interest of a big city plan, and that the individual owner must be regu-

lated in the interest of the whole. This is the dominant note in this new contribution of Dr. Howe to this problem.

MONARCHICAL SOCIALISM IN GERMANY, by Elmer Roberts. Scribners.

"Monarchical Socialism," a splendid paradox, stands for the combining of apparently incompatible principles in Germany by splendid statesmanship. Germany has gripped, and seems now to control, those great forces of capital and labor, with which we grapple in this country. Her methods of handling railroads, labor bodies, etc., are set down by a deep student of them, Elmer Roberts, in this book. But to many people, the most interesting point in the book will be the way in which it throws out the wonderful statecraft by which the Monarchical Government has actually strengthened itself by a skillful alliance with its natural enemy, "Socialism." As Mr. Roberts says:

"The extraordinary thing about this is the utilization by the monarchists of what one of them has called 'the master force of the age,' to maintain old sovereignties. That which is still considered destructive Socialism in some countries, is appropriated by the crown, and called monarchy in Germany. Every collectivist addition to the responsibilities of the State brings a new corps of employees under the immediate control of the functionaries of government. The monarchy extends its power over the individual fortunes of its subjects. The new ascendancy operates both economically and socially. The employee of any government-owned undertaking feels that he is part of the glittering paramount social institution that commands the world—the world as it is known to him. He is treated by the agents of this remote centralized splendor with mingled severity of discipline and favor. The certainty of employment throughout life, if his behavior and his principles are sound, a pension in old age, a differentiation socially from those not employed by the State, work toward his satisfaction with the order that is. He is probably entitled to wear a uniform, and after an interval of years his sovereign sends him a medal of honor."

Jewish Charities in Dallas

A little over two years ago the four benevolent societies then in existence (two Orthodox and two Reform), realizing the necessity of a concentration of their activities, held a mass-meeting and organized "The Federated Jewish Charities." It was, in no sense, a federation of constituent societies, but a virtual absorption of the same and merging of their cash balances. One central organization for the purpose of doing constructive work and avoid duplication and overlapping of assistance.

Thus we find, that while we have no federation of the Orthodox and Reform societies, we have something stronger, i. e., an actual united and concentrated body, members of both wings serving as officers, directors and on committees. With one exception of a negligible quantity, our philanthropies are united.

Being thus united, the handling of some cases naturally come under severe criticism. The Relief Committee believes that our work should be divided into three categories. The sick, deficient and indigent coming under "Constructive Relief"; the recent immigrant under "Sociological Work," whereas the wandering *Schochet-Hassan-et hoc genus omne* carries with it a "Religious Phase."

Under the first heading we find the greatest difficulty with the sick, either sent here by their friends or coming here on their own accord, under the impression or wrong information as to this climate. The severe hot summers, low altitude, considerable humidity, sudden changes in temperature in winter are not conducive for the sick, particularly the T. B. The local institutions are only for residents. The transient wants to be sent elsewhere, and in the majority of cases their home city leaves us no other option but to send him home at our expense.

While every city has its ever-present transient problem, Dallas, being well advertised as the metropolis of the Southwest, finds that the greatest per cent. of its applicants are of the drift kind, mostly unskilled or a mere "cog in the wheel." Through the energetic efforts of our society, the genus tramp has been fairly eliminated and the individual *Nedoves* col-

lected by the solicitor of charity is being gradually overcome.

In spite of the fact that Dallas is in the main a distributing point, its factories being limited, we are able to absorb our quota of men from the Jewish Immigrants' Information Bureau at Galveston. These, together with others sent to neighboring towns, using this city as a "City Refuge" and the rapidly increasing reunion cases gives us a fair-sized colony.

The *Hassan*, whom we tolerate to some extent, we do not encourage, because it is adverse to constructive philanthropy.

Perhaps the best feature of our organization is the Free Loan Fund. The ability of a reputable citizen to make a loan, endorsed by substantial friends, payable in small weekly installments, gives him the opportunity of being assisted without losing his dignity or self-respect. It is helping the man to help himself. We have so far loaned out over \$5,000, and with but a few exceptions the borrowers paid their notes when due.

As a general result of our organization, we find that instead of a desultory manner of handling cases without investigation, they are referred to the office for action. We seek to obtain for the transient any kind of work, so as to maintain himself, instead of doling out a dollar or two, thereby encouraging him to get "easy money."

I. Lowenstein.

American Correspondent

Rabbi Emanuel Sternheim of Greenville, Miss., has been appointed editor of the American Reviewing Department of *East and West*, India, one of the foremost literary reviews of India.

Rabbi Sternheim will have sole charge of the literary interests of the *Review* in the United States and Canada.

Rabbi Sternheim recently contributed to *East and West* an article on "The Relation of Art to Social Well-being," which attracted considerable attention in Europe and India, and which has also been well received in the States. It will be the subject of a leading article in the *American Review of Reviews* and of notice in the *American Journal of Sociology*.

Some New Work

There has been a number of changes in methods and work among the Baltimore charities in the last few months. New activities undertaken have been the Jewish Court of Arbitration, the Children's Bureau, Hospital Social Service Work, and the establishment of a Personal Service Bureau. There have been besides other changes that may be perhaps worth noting. A Fresh-Air Home is proposed and its realization for next season practically assured.

The Court of Arbitration is now proceeding regularly, and is serving a useful purpose. Its judgments are respected, and there is a growing inclination to come into the Court when summoned and abide by its decision. In the first four months about seventy cases were handled, some very difficult, some quite important, all involving matters on which the contestants had a right to be heard. In no instance has a case that has been handled by the Court of Arbitration been afterwards taken to the law courts though there are a number of instances of the contrary.

The Children's Bureau has not been in operation more than a month, but its work is already felt, and the constituent societies have shown great loyalty to the new agency. The representatives of the Bureau are all young, eager workers, and they will try to establish a standard of child-caring that is worthy of a modern city. The opportunity is here, and the Bureau begins its work under encouraging prospects.

Hospital Social Service, definitely so named, has been done before, but it has

now been organized and placed in the hands of a worker who trained for the position. The work includes dispensary and clinic work, ward visitation, home investigation and after-care.

The Personal Service Bureau is also a development of previous work. The demand for assistance, advice, direction and supervision over men, women, boys and girls has become so large and insistent that notice had to be taken of the increased demand; and a worker and assistants find the call upon their services continual.

The Fresh-Air Home proposed will be a health proposition primarily. It is intended for all classes, who for medical and health reasons require fresh air in summer. In establishing the new home a departure in methods has been attempted. There is on foot a plan to provide not only a sufficient sum for grounds and building, but an endowment fund, the income of which will provide for the permanent care of the Home.

A rearrangement of the forces dealing with immigration has been made, making for greater efficiency, better cooperation and more intensive work with immigrants. By follow-up work, in cooperation with the special departments of the enlarged Educational Alliance, it is hoped to keep in touch with every immigrant until there is a reasonable assurance that he is on the way to self-support and citizenship. Some of this work may be worth speaking of in detail in future issues of JEWISH CHARITIES. At present they are mentioned in outline.

The Jewish Settlement of Cincinnati

ANNOUNCES THE OPENING OF THE

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Course comprises: General Sociology, Applied Philanthropy, Jewish Cultural Subjects, Practical Experience in connection with Jewish Philanthropic Agencies

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ISSUED MONTHLY

TRAINING FOR SOCIAL WORK

The need of a training school for Jewish social workers has been dwelt upon in these columns before, and this need is becoming daily more urgent. As social work, public and private, expands, more people are drawn into the service, and a higher standard of work is almost automatically brought about. In the close network of organizations operating in the social field, if one does not function properly, the others soon feel the break, and the delinquent organization finds itself out of sympathy with the social forces of the community.

To do work properly requires on the part of the worker a knowledge of, and an experience in, the particular activity in which he may be engaged. Nay, more, it requires a knowledge, in theory at least, of the aims and objects, even of the field and scope, of other social agencies. No man or woman, however intelligent and apt, can hope to take hold of an important piece of work on general principles and do justice to his organization and to the purpose it wishes to accomplish. With the demand for workers growing daily and with the no less insistent demand that they be trained for their calling, the need of a training school is not only obvious, but imperative.

In a number of cities this need is being met by the inauguration of training courses in connection with certain lines of work, or in one or two cases, with larger and broader outlook. Baltimore is now in its second season of training in general Jewish social work, and recently awarded certificates to two young women who had completed a

twelve months' course. Philadelphia is interested in training courses for Jewish social workers, while Cincinnati has boldly instituted a Jewish School of Philanthropy. The Cincinnati work seems carefully and comprehensively planned, and is the first adequately to take up the question of training those who wish to devote themselves professionally to the development of social work among the Jews.

In time courses in other cities will no doubt be instituted, if they are not already in existence, and we shall have a number of young men and women getting valuable experience and training in the work of Jewish organizations. We doubt, however, whether the broadest and the most scientific training can be given by any organization as at present constituted. What is needed is a training school of the highest professional standing to which social workers can be sent to complete their studies after they have had the benefit of service in local training classes. It should be the equal of any of our general schools of philanthropy; but it should devote itself to specific Jewish problems as well as to matters common to all social work. Perhaps the school at Cincinnati may become this higher center of training; perhaps the new charity building at Chicago may be in part devoted to this use; perhaps New York, which offers the greatest field for social work, may add this Jewish school to its other educational agencies. But the problem ought to be studied with the idea of putting Jewish social work upon a higher professional plane than it can reach by the present limited facilities.