

SOCIAL SERVICE AUXILIARY

Max Abelman

Brooklyn

In an effort to develop the powerful forces for charitable endeavor that are latent among the Jewish young men and women of our borough, the Organization Committee, consisting of Alexander H. Geismar, Benjamin H. Namm, Harry E. Lewis and Max Abelman, has begun the organization of an auxiliary body to the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities, to be known as the Young Men's and Women's Social Service Auxiliary. This organization will devote itself to the financial support of the Federation, co-operate with the activities of its affiliated societies, social service among the poor, the study of practical philanthropy and the promotion of a broader fellowship among its members.

At the present time there are many Jewish young men and women who are doing nothing to relieve the charitable problems of our borough, and the work has devolved upon a limited "Old Guard" of men and women, most of whom have been shouldering the burden for years. In justice to this old guard of men and women, and in order that the Federation's increasing activities may be properly taken care of, others must come forward and share in the work. It is hoped that through this Auxiliary there will be developed capable candidates for the directorates of our affiliated societies.

OBJECTS AND PURPOSES

The objects and purposes of this organization are:

(a) To unite the Jewish young men and women of the Borough of Brooklyn into an organization for charitable endeavor, especially for doing personal social service in connection with the activities maintained by the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities.

(b) To instill into the minds of the Jewish young men and women of the Borough of Brooklyn a knowledge of their duties and responsibilities toward the Jewish charities of Brooklyn, particularly with a view to instructing them concerning the needs of the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities.

(c) To unite all the Jewish young men and women of the Borough of Brooklyn into a single social organization for a broad and enduring fellowship.

(d) To assist in supporting the affiliated societies of the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities by an annual contribution to the Federation as large as the treasury of the Auxiliary will permit.

(e) By aiding in a canvass for new subscribers to the Federation and helping to find the shirker in the community. It will be a pleasure and a delight to the Jewish young men and women in our borough to know that every dollar raised by this movement for the Brooklyn Federation of Jewish Charities will find its way through proper channels toward such good as helping and relieving suffering to some extent. The slight effort made in getting a subscription will aid in furnishing medical attention for the sick, shelter, comfort and education for the homeless orphan, pure air and life for the consumptive.

PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICE WORK

Our Jewish Hospital is in need of volunteers to care for the families of poor patients and for the patient after leaving the hospital. Our Hebrew Orphan Asylum is in need of volunteers for caring for the orphans after they leave the asylum. Our United Jewish Aid Societies, Council of Jewish Women, Council Home for Jewish Girls (Amalie Seldner Memorial), Hebrew Educational Society, the Training School for Nurses and our women's auxiliaries—all are in need of volunteers to co-operate in various activities.

BIG BROTHER WORK

The Federation's latest activity, which aims to prevent and combat juvenile delinquency by means of individual effort and personal interest, needs volunteers who will interest themselves in the welfare and improvement of boys who have been arraigned before the Children's Court, and in other boys whose physical, mental and moral development has been hindered or endangered by bad environments; also in

those boys who have just left the Brooklyn Cottage of the Jewish Protectory and Aid Society.

To break down all narrow and local district prejudices and barriers and to acquaint all with the general need of the entire borough, and also to familiarize each district with the burdens and needs of another, so that the entire community may know of the problems confronting the various localities.

There are many other activities not mentioned here that the Auxiliary may assume later, such as Big Sister work, and the publication of a bulletin dealing with Jewish charitable matters.

The personal service work of this movement is arranged in two groups. Group "A" as follows: Big Brother work, Big Sister work, hospital social service, personal and social district service, after-care work, and study of Federation problems; Group "B," consisting of membership work, entertainment, propaganda and bulletin and fellowship. Each participating member is expected to serve on one of the committees selected by himself or herself from Group "A" and one from Group "B." Each personal service will be directed by an expert in that particular activity, who will give his or her guidance, direction and experience to a chairman elected from the Auxiliary body who will, with a small committee, co-operate with this director.

A course of lectures will be arranged for on sociological subjects which will be of interest to the young folks.

The membership fee in this organization has been set at \$3 per year, and no applicant is considered a member unless his or her dues are paid. There will be elected a president, first and second vice-presidents, secretary and treasurer, a recording secretary and a social service secretary. The duties of the last mentioned will be to receive reports at proper intervals concerning the work from all of the members engaging in social service work and shall tabulate same, and shall from time to time make concise reports containing the work of this corporation. It will be the duty of the secretary to do all in his power to enlist the members in social service work.

As to the balance of the directors, representatives will be selected from every section of our community, who will be chosen in proper proportions from both the young men and young women members.

BOOK REVIEWS

By Charles S. Bernheimer

NEIGHBORS

The late Jacob A. Riis put together a collection of what are called "Life Studies of the Other Half," under the title of "Neighbors." (Macmillan Co. \$1.25 net.)

He states in his preface that the stories have come to him, besides his own experience, from settlement workers and from the records of organized charity. He rightly says, "They are alive with vital human interest." He has presented them in his simple, quaint and yet highly vivid style. He brings out the realities of the "other half" which he studied so thoroughly and which he was enabled during his lifetime to bring home to the so-called "upper half" with force and influence. The stories include several of distinctively Jewish interest, such as "The Answer of Ludlow Street" and "As Told by the Rabbi."

CHILD LIFE

Dr. William B. Forbush, the author of books dealing with boy problems, is the president of the American Institute of Child Life, whose office is at 1714 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, and whose purpose is "to advise parents in regard to the mental training, moral guidance, health, recreation and amusements of children by means of correspondence, the circulation of books * * * and child study conferences * * *". The Institute has published a "Guide Book to Childhood," which contains references of many sorts in regard to publications dealing with children from these various points of view. It has also published a series of pamphlets dealing with the dramatic instinct in children, the government of adolescent young people and the like.