

for the right kind of nursing service. Dr. Graham Taylor spoke of "Dr. Sachs, a Civic Asset." Mr. Sherman C. Kingsley spoke of "Dr. Sachs and the Anti-Tuberculosis Crusade in Chicago." Victor Olander of the Chicago Federation of Labor spoke of "The Laboring Man and Tuberculosis." Resolutions, stating the purposes of the Committee of One Hundred, which has been organized in Chicago to carry on a finish fight to the end that the interests of the sanatorium may be conserved and that politics and spoils be banished from it, were presented. Dr. Emil G. Hirsch was unable to address the meeting on account of the funeral of a friend. About seventy civic and philanthropic organizations of Chicago united in the call for the meeting.

Mr. Olander in his auditorium address said of Dr. Sachs: "A few weeks ago Dr. Sachs sent out a warning against conditions that were developing and in order that there might be no question as to his sincerity and honesty of purpose he sent with that message his resignation from what he considered to be a place of the highest honor. Of course, he was not thinking of himself. His every act proved that. His whole thought was for others. What was the response? A shout here and there. Yes, more frequently a whisper or just a glance from those who ought to have rallied to the support of the things which he stood for. Among his enemies, and they are in high places, careless tongues uttered the words which contained the greatest tragedy, the most awful wrong of the present moment—he had no cure. Was this a blow at one man? No, it staggered hundreds and thousands who had assisted and had faith in the sanatorium and similar institutions of its kind. Hope was taken from them. How many lives are going to pay the penalty for that? Dr. Theodore B. Sachs, a true physician, understood the true significance of the blow. The response to his first message had not been sufficient. Why? If asked himself the question, what answer could he give that would be delivered in a way that would attract sufficient attention from you and me? Well, he wrote another, and into the page penned the supreme sacrifice. He fell, weakened by the strain, a suicide. No; we have no right to say that. He gathered

strength, and standing on the hilltops kindled with his own body a signal fire that called you and me to action. Neither he nor his act need any defense. I will leave that question with you. If you don't understand that message and what it meant, and what his act meant, then read it again. You should have something to learn of what some men can do when needs must, and I just leave that question with you. Can you and I be worthy of the sacrifice?

Touro Hall Sewing Room

Mrs. Arthur Loeb

Philadelphia

The work of the Touro Hall Sewing Room is a continuation of work started in 1915 under the auspices of the Emergency Aid by a special committee of Jewish women and of which adventure we hope to make a permanent workroom.

The object of the Sewing Room is to help deserving women from becoming charity recipients. The organization is supported by voluntary contributions entirely. Only such women are employed who are not able to secure factory positions owing to their age or inefficiency. The women work five days a week from 9 o'clock A. M. until 4.30 o'clock P. M. and receive besides the \$3.75 weekly a warm lunch daily.

Garments are made gratis, provided materials are furnished by the organization desiring such articles. Under garments, bloomers, blouses, baby outfits, aprons, plain house dresses for women and children, surgical aprons for many institutions, including the Juvenile Aid Society, day nurseries, hospitals and foster homes, are manufactured at the workrooms.

There are sufficient material and orders on hand to keep the Sewing Room open during the summer. The enterprise has been so generously encouraged by the Jewish community that available funds will probably make the venture a permanent one.

Mr. I. Loewenstein has severed his connection as assistant secretary with the Federated Jewish Charities of Dallas, Texas. All mail should be addressed to the society, so as not to conflict with his personal mail.

HOUSING AND EMPLOYMENT OF IMMIGRANT GIRLS

Helen Winkler and Elsa Alsberg

Council of Jewish Women, Department of Immigrant Aid

The Immigrant Aid Work of the Council of Jewish Women answers two distinct needs. It offers: (1), *Protection*, and (2), *Friendly Aid and Guidance* to unprotected Jewish girls and young women, both at the port of arrival and at their ultimate destinations.

The protective side of the work has for a long time been particularly emphasized. At the ports, agents of the Council speak to the Jewish girls and young women in their own language, help them to understand what the Government requirements are, help them to locate baggage, to find friends, to communicate with friends or family while in detention quarters or in the immigrant hospital. At their final destinations the immigrants are again immediately visited by the local Council's friendly visitors. This first visit concerns itself with the proper housing, either with near relatives, with friends or in an immigrant girls' boarding home.

Up to the present time one very vital phase of the protective work for immigrant girls, namely, their proper housing, has not been sufficiently emphasized, although this first step of the immigrant is acknowledged to be of the utmost importance to give her a fair opportunity in this country.

In all large cities, where many immigrant girls have no homes with near relatives or friends, small immigrant girls' boarding homes are of paramount importance. In such immigrant girls' homes a girl secures at minimum cost not only clean and wholesome surroundings and nutritious food but finds herself among those whose friendly interest and counsel will help her obtain a fair start in this country. Under present conditions, and because the earning capacity of the average immigrant girl is small, she can secure for herself lodgings only among people who, like herself, are usually foreigners, almost as ignorant of the laws and customs of the country as she is and who have no sense of obligation toward their lodger or any true conception of her needs. Such a haphazard boarding-house usually lacks on the physical side the simplest requirements of light, air, cleanliness and food

sufficiently nutritious, and on the social side it nearly always lacks opportunity for privacy and a place other than the half-bedroom in which to visit with friends. All committees working with as well as for immigrants recognize the pressing need of establishing such immigrant girls' homes as an indispensable factor to foster wholesome living among girls not yet three years in this country, with little knowledge of the language and living conditions.

That good housing makes for good citizenship is a statement too obvious for argument. A further need for such small immigrant girls' boarding homes is the fact that these would logically be the best nuclei for vocational service, the need for which is now universally recognized. Properly directed then, the immigrant girls' home develops into a center for vocational guidance and becomes at the same time a good employment agency and may furthermore extend its activity into the educational field by conducting classes in English and civics under public school supervision. Some immigrant girls' homes have already been established that offer classes also in English and civics to neighborhood mothers, thereby at least partially overcoming that pitiful condition now existing between the younger and older generation where we find on the one side an unjustifiable arrogance and on the other that helpless resignation due to sheer ignorance of language, which after all is the safest of sign-posts.

After ascertaining that the immigrant girl is properly housed, the next step is to help her to secure immediate employment—to make her economically independent. Very little effort has been made by organizations doing work for and with immigrant girls to do more than to help the girl to secure an immediate "job," unless, indeed, she herself asks for further guidance in this direction. While it is undoubtedly necessary to secure immediate employment for the immigrant, the necessity for looking more closely into the needs, capacities and skill of the individual girl should be emphasized. Possible future unemployment, unwholesome employment or the higher

standard of living acquired in this country making greater demands upon the girl are likely to result either in ill health and consequent dependence or in moral and social degradation—evils both to the girl and to the community in which she lives.

A great many of the new arrivals find their first employment in the shops in which the relatives or friends with whom they live happen to be working. The kind of work into which the immigrant girl thus accidentally falls may be quite unsuited to her talents or inclination or she may even have skill acquired abroad in some industry in which she finds no opportunity to place herself upon arrival in this country. To get her employment then and place her where her talent or skill can be used to the highest advantage means to increase her earning capacity and her economic value to the community. Again, looking at the employment from the girl's point of view, it is necessary to consider whether she is temperamentally suited to do work requiring some initiative or whether she will be happiest in a daily routine which does not require any special mental alertness.

Furthermore, when guiding the girl to find employment, it is necessary to consider future opportunities which a particular position offers. If the working season is short, even though the wages may for that reason be high, the position is not always a desirable one, especially as it is always the unskilled alien, ignorant of English and totally strange to her surroundings, who is the first to be "laid off" in "slack season" and the last to be "taken on" when the busy season reopens. Moreover, whereas a small wage may be adequate when the girl enters upon her first employment in this country, unless there is an opportunity for advancement in wage the girl will legitimately soon be looking for another position, because, as her standard of living rises, there is need for a parallel advance in earning capacity. In many industries in which the lowest wages paid for unskilled work are comparatively large, it is because there is no opportunity for the employe to increase her earning capacity; while, on the contrary, the industries which offer good opportunities for advancement do not usually pay a high minimum wage. And, again, even if there is no opportunity for an increase in wage,

it may still be advisable for an immigrant to accept the offered employment in a trade that will minimize the possibility of unemployment in the "slack season."

As this article concerns itself particularly with the protection and friendly aid offered to unprotected immigrant girls, it will not discuss that phase of employment that considers the physical side of factory conditions, such as sanitation, light, air, humidity, dangers to health due to the nature of the industry, as well as the questions of a "minimum wage" and trade unions. This phase of labor is of equal importance to all employes, whether immigrants, naturalized or native born.

Closely related to the question of placing immigrant girls in suitable employment under healthful conditions and with an opportunity for industrial advancement is the question of vocational training. The girl who has acquired special skill in any one trade is least likely to be out of employment, to earn low wages or to be forced to work under unhealthy factory conditions. It is therefore important that the friendly visitors, to assure the welfare of the unskilled immigrant girl, make every effort to secure for her some kind of vocational training, either through public trade schools, vocational classes in private organizations, in institutional training schools or through apprenticeships.

It is recognized that in most large industrial centers there is great need for increasing both the number and efficiency of vocational schools, but on the part of organizations working with immigrants there is not a keen knowledge of local trade conditions and needs so necessary for the friendly visitor who guides the immigrant girl to find employment. The friendly visitor, therefore, contents herself frequently with securing any immediate occupation for an immigrant girl because she can do no better, not possessing the detailed knowledge of local trade conditions and of the demand and supply of labor in different trades and at different seasons of the year in the same trades and what opportunities for advancement or the acquisition of skill are offered in each trade.

The Department of Immigrant Aid of the Council of Jewish Women, through its seventy-four Sections (local organizations

in seventy-four large cities throughout the country), is now undertaking a careful research in the various cities of the trades largely employing Jewish immigrant girls in order to obtain necessary data of trade conditions, which, when sifted and tabulated, will be passed on to the seventy-four Sections for their information. This information will be of valuable assistance to the friendly visitor in guiding girls to find suitable employment and will indirectly tend to create a better balance between supply and demand of the various trades in each city and may also relieve local trade congestion by stimulating travel to cities that offer the best industrial inducements as well as good living conditions. It is hoped that this research will be so far advanced at the conclusion of the war to equip each Council Section to care more efficiently on the industrial side for the Jewish girls and young women who are expected in large numbers when immigration is again resumed.

If, however, the immigrant girl is to get a fair opportunity to advance industrially and socially, according to her inherent capacity and acquired skill, it is imperative that she obtain as quickly as possible a knowledge of the English language and of American customs and institutions. In competition with the English-speaking employe, she must be able to understand orders given in English by her "boss," to read signs of warning in factories and streets, printed police and safety regulations, quarantine placards in the tenement house in which she lives.

As soon as the friendly visitor, therefore, has seen that the girl is properly housed and able to support herself, she seeks to connect her with a school or class where she can learn English. Under present conditions, by enrolling her in a public night school for adults, the conscience of the friendly visitor is usually satisfied. As a matter of fact, however, a large percentage of these girls drop out of their classes very soon after enrollment.

Various factors contribute to the very short attendance at school, such as change of employment from day to night work or to employment in a different locality, change of teachers, discouragement over slow progress, unavoidable for the reason that the

classes are open to newcomers throughout the whole term and are, therefore, ungraded; added to this, the night school student from a day of labor must usually submit to an equipment designed for young children and not for adult needs. The tired condition of the girl after a full day of work makes her physically unequal to undergo the added fatigue of the classroom instruction for two hours at night. Besides, many of these girls working for low wages are compelled to use the evening hours to do their own laundry work and cooking and help relatives with housework after factory hours. Is it then to be wondered at, having also a natural desire for wholesome recreation, that the girl does not go to school at night to study under a teacher who has usually been teaching most of the day and is consequently as weary as the pupil?

The friendly visitor then, aiming to bring the immigrant girl under the best Americanizing influences as quickly as possible, is beginning to recognize the fact that the public night schools, as at present conducted, only in a very small measure (as the percentage shows) meet the need of teaching English and civics to the average immigrant girl. In many localities the boards of education themselves recognize the necessity of connecting the education of aliens with the factories that employ them, while private philanthropic organizations, carefully studying the individual needs of the alien girl, prefer to direct her now to private classes, either in settlements or working girls' homes, in which the board of education in many cities is willing to place teachers and where the immigrant studies under congenial social conditions.

These agreeable social conditions react pleasantly upon the girl, relieving the strain of study and inducing a wholesome change of occupation, which she regards as recreation. It holds her interest, stimulating both her ambitions to achieve and her energy to work.

In all the recent discussions about regulating immigration and the need for a better assimilation of the alien, the large fact of the personal responsibility of every American for every alien must be given the most prominent consideration. Private philanthropic organizations, like the Council

of Jewish Women, as the organic expression of the individuals comprising them, are recognizing their responsibility more fully to meet those needs of the immigrant girl, which, because they have thus far not been adequately met, have lessened her opportunities for quick assimilation. The aim of these organizations now is to emphasize in their activities the housing of the immigrant girl, the need for better vocational guidance and training and to develop a

A COMMUNAL CENTER WHICH AIMS TO BE DIFFERENT

William Fishman
New York

Considerable interest has been aroused in Jewish circles by the recent announcement in the New York papers that plans are under way for the erection of a monstrous building in one of the most fashionable sections of the city, to be known as the Jewish Center.

The location will be at 135, 137 and 139 West Eighty-sixth Street. The idea was conceived several years ago by Mr. Joseph H. Cohen, who is president of the Beth Israel Hospital, and some of his friends, who are co-operating with him in this undertaking.

In certain respects this Center will be totally different to anything of its kind that has been previously planned, yet it will embrace many activities of existing institutions.

The one main feature that will distinguish this new Center from all others is that it will be strictly Judaic in all its atmosphere, yet it will not lack the social and educational features of our American institutions.

Its activities will not attract the youth alone, but will appeal to Jews and Jewesses of all ages, a truly Communal Center, where children and their elders can join each other to further the one thought: "What it means to be a Jew."

The atmosphere of the undertaking will combine the ancient traditions of Judaism with the modern democratic spirit of good fellowship. The aim of the founders of this movement is not to serve the old ancient customs, but to present them in such a manner that the children and youths of the vicinity will eagerly seek the building.

more satisfactory system of education in English and civics for the alien in order to give her every opportunity to establish herself in her new environment with the least possible hindrance and delay. This aim, persistently pursued, will at the same time enlarge the horizon of the girl's intelligence, enabling her to take hold of the larger possibilities, economic, political and social, which the country affords her.

Everything therein will recall their ancestors and act as an impetus for the furthering of their religious belief. The result can only be that in place of the indifferently religious inclined youth of today we will have better Jews and Jewesses.

Nor will this be a purely philanthropic institution. On the contrary, contributions will not be accepted from those who do not expect to derive some benefit from the various activities to be carried on in the building.

Among other features, this new center will boast of the only Jewish kindergarten in the city of New York, a Talmud Torah, where eminent Jewish teachers will instruct the young people; a lecture hall, where Jewish and kindred subjects will be discussed and where plays and entertainments of a religious nature will be produced. For those seeking health and recreation there will be a fully equipped and up-to-date gymnasium and swimming pool, as well as dancing under proper supervision. A dietary kitchen, under strictly kosher rule, will cater to the tastes of both old and young.

Truly said: "That this Communal Center will be different from all others." It is to be a haven of delight for the young and those of mature years who care to keep the spirit of true Judaism alive in its broadest scope.

It will have a purpose, an ideal, for all that are attracted to it—and where that exists and is combined with the spirit of ambition, energy and fellowship success must necessarily follow.

DELEGATES TO CONFERENCE

The following delegates have signified their intention to attend the Indianapolis Conference:

Minnie F. Low, Chicago.
Julian Rosenwald, Chicago.
Aaron Cohen, Pittsburgh.
Fred N. Butzel, Detroit.
Judge Julian W. Mack, Chicago.
Bernard Greensfelder, St. Louis.
Dr. Lee K. Frankel, New York.
Cyrus L. Sulzberger, New York.
Max Herzberg, Philadelphia.
Max Senior, Cincinnati.
Abel Davis, Chicago.
Julia I. Felsenthal, Minneapolis.
A. S. Newman, Cleveland.
Isidore Kadis, Savannah.
Oscar Leonard, St. Louis.
Julius Goldman, New Orleans.
Boris D. Bogen, Cincinnati.
Charles Strull, Louisville.
David M. Bressler, New York.
Morris D. Waldman, New York.
Rev. Sidney E. Goldstein, New York.
Louis H. Levin, Baltimore.
Myra Kraus, Baltimore.
Freda Rothholz, Baltimore.
Charles I. Cooper, Pittsburgh.
Max Abelman, Brooklyn.
J. K. Hexter, Dallas, Texas.
Bertram Benedict, Syracuse.
Cecil B. Wiener, Buffalo.
Mr. and Mrs. Sol Selig, Philadelphia.
Zena Blanc, Philadelphia.
Marion A. Win, Philadelphia.
Leon Volmer, New Orleans.
Maurice B. Hexter, Milwaukee.
A. Saltzstein, Milwaukee.
Seraphine Pisko, Denver.
Dr. Charles S. Bernheimer, Brooklyn.
Dr. Charles D. Spivak, Denver.
Garfield A. Berlinsky, Denver.
Samuel Grabfelder, Philadelphia.
Rudolph I. Coffee, Chicago.
Chester J. Teller, New York.
Louis D. Marks, Cincinnati.
Bess Glassman, Louisville.
Hortense Breckler, Louisville.
Mrs. M. A. Kaufman, Philadelphia.
Dr. Leon N. Adler, New York.
Benjamin Schloss, New York.
Dr. William S. Friedman, Denver.
Mrs. Eva Coons, Philadelphia.
Clinton O. Mayer, Philadelphia.
Samuel S. Fleisher, Philadelphia.
Solomon Selig, Philadelphia.
Aaron D. Faber, Philadelphia.
Jacob Gimbel, Philadelphia.
Louis Wolf, Philadelphia.
Joseph H. Hagedorn, Philadelphia.
Sophie Hersch, St. Joseph.
Rev. Louis Bernstein, St. Joseph.
Arnold Deutelbaum, Chicago.
H. Joseph Hyman, Columbus.
Rev. Emil Leipziger, New Orleans.
Mrs. R. S. David, Denver.

Joseph S. Jaffa, Denver.
Gustave Hochstadter, Chicago.
James Witkowsky, Chicago.
Toby Rubovits, Chicago.
Mrs. Samuel Hoffman, Chicago.
Mrs. Joseph Fish, Chicago.
Mrs. Julius Stone, Chicago.
Mrs. Isadore Natkin, Chicago.
Max Shulman, Chicago.
Philip Seman, Chicago.
Jacob M. Loeb, Chicago.
James I. Davis, Chicago.
Benjamin Davis, Chicago.
Rebecca L. Hefter, Chicago.
Jennie Norden, Chicago.
Irene Kawin, Chicago.
Ethel Kawin, Chicago.
Rose Zwihtsky, Chicago.
E. Trotzkey, Chicago.
Reba Shaeffer, Chicago.
C. A. Graves, Chicago.
Mary Lanser, Chicago.
Sarah Altman, Chicago.
O. G. Finkelstein, Chicago.
Bernice Wertheimer, Chicago.
Celia Rakofsky, Chicago.
Helen R. Friend, Chicago.
Ethel Davis, Chicago.
Irma Simon, Chicago.
Frances Taussig, Chicago.
Sara Bregstone, Chicago.
Gertrude Bregstone, Chicago.
Ella Kahn, Chicago.
Michael Freund, Chicago.
Hattie Rosenstock, Chicago.
Sarah Blumenthal, Chicago.
Clara B. Hoffman, Chicago.
Luba Lazareff, Chicago.
Harry L. Jackson, Chicago.
Rev. Isidor Levinthal, Nashville.
Helen Fleisher, Philadelphia.
David Goldsweig, Dayton.
Rev. David Lefkowitz, Dayton.
Emanuel C. Hilb, Dayton.
Minnie D. Isaacs, Louisville.
Mrs. Solomon Schoenfeld, Little Rock.
Mrs. Ernestine B. Dreyfus, Kansas City.
Blanche J. Hart, Detroit.
Fay Biederman, Des Moines.
Mrs. S. Weinstock, Des Moines.
B. Ginsburg, Detroit.
Judith Ginsburg, Detroit.
Jacob Brown, Detroit.
Joseph L. Selling, Detroit.
Walter A. May, Pittsburgh.
Ida Schott, Cleveland.
Walter Leo Solomon, Cleveland.
Mrs. Julius Fryer, Cleveland.
W. Goldhammer, Cleveland.
I. Irving Lipsitch, New York.
Miss Ruth Berlozheimer, Chicago.
George Ellman, Memphis.
Mrs. Alex. Block, Memphis.
Miriam Goldbaum, Memphis.
Helen Grodinsky, St. Paul.
A. Sigmund Kanengieser, Newark.