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# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor from the Settlement Point of View.

Number 69—Vol. VII

Seventh Year

Chicago, April, 1902

## THE MICHIGAN CONFERENCE ON RURAL SOCIAL PROGRESS.

This meeting, which was in form a joint session between the Michigan Political Science Association and the Michigan Farmers' Institute, and in spirit a conference of all who are interested in rural life, for discussing rural progress, was held February 25-28 at the Agricultural College, near Lansing, Mich.

### FINE PERSONNEL OF AUDIENCE.

The aim had been to bring together not only farmers representing the various agricultural organizations of the State, but pastors of country churches, rural teachers, county commissioners of schools, etc. The farmers were there, hundreds of them; but the other classes were not so well represented, which was, in fact, the one disappointment of the meeting.

Several of the speakers remarked privately upon the earnestness and intelligence of the audience. And well they might, for the farmers present were a body of picked men and women, most of them members of the Grange, or farmers' clubs, and representing nearly every agricultural county in Michigan. The students and faculty of the Agricultural College and several members of the University faculty helped to make an exceedingly fine audience.

We shall not attempt to report the last half of the meeting, which was devoted to technical farm topics, such as sugar beets, etc. There were five sessions in the joint meeting proper, and an endeavor was made to cover the economic, the educational, the social, and religious interests of the farmer.

We give no apology for making considerable use in this report of the exceedingly well-written and appreciative report of the meeting which appeared in the M. A. C. Record, the official paper of the Agricultural College.

### THE ECONOMIC VALUE OF INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION.

This topic was handled in an able paper by President J. L. Snyder, of the Agricultural College. Dr. Snyder defined industrial education to mean technical training for industry. After giving a brief history of the land-grant colleges, which have originated in the last half century, and which fully embody the idea of industrial education, Dr. Snyder proceeded to show the direct

connection between national progress and technical training. "No nation," said he, "can afford to import articles which her own artisans can manufacture." The excellence of goods offered is directly dependent on the training of these artisans. England's commerce began to fall off as soon as the articles she exported were found to be inferior in quality to those made elsewhere. Superiority is brought about only by application of science to the processes of manufacture. Mr. Carnegie was the first man to employ a trained chemist in connection with the management of a blast furnace. Rapidly in every department of industry a corps of trained specialists has been added as an indispensable part of the working force, to direct processes, to improve methods, to solve problems of handling, and to discover new properties and invent new uses for by-products. "It is the young, technically trained men that are causing this country to forge ahead. It is impossible to exaggerate their importance to the industrial development of the country. Thus, for instance, dairy schools have been of immense utility to certain sections of the country. In Wisconsin, as the result of dairy instruction, the dairy interests of the State have increased 25 per cent."

The increased value of the product turned out is still more important than the quantity. Here Dr. Snyder indicated the great work that the agricultural experiment stations have done. He showed how the Babcock test for securing the actual amount of butter fat in the milk has improved the quality of the dairy herd, how the beautiful fruit orchards of the Michigan west shore are due to the invention of spraying as a method of fighting destructive insects and fungi; how the beet-sugar industry originated in the work of the experiment stations.

President Snyder noted the wonderful industrial progress of Germany in recent years, and recalled the fact that this success is generally attributed to Germany's splendid system of industrial education.

### PROF. HENRY C. ADAMS, ON "HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE PEOPLE."

He spoke of the fact that Michigan has given to "education" a very comprehensive meaning, including not only the technical and general education of the school, the college, and the university, but the idea of popular education as well, as illustrated in our system of farmers' institutes.

teachers; fourth, the county agricultural school. I do not claim that these movements will solve the problem, but I do claim they are helpful, and that they can be done, for they are being done."

THE RURAL SCHOOL PROBLEM IN MICHIGAN was presented by Prof. Delos Fall, Superintendent of Public Instruction of Michigan. He urged a liberal education for the country boy.

This liberal education he defined as a good high school education. "The demands on our children," said he, "will be those of the middle of the twentieth century, and a high school education is the very least equipment we can afford to furnish them with to meet these demands."

Professor Fall then presented his argument on expense. For only one-sixth of the country pupils the farmers are paying in non-resident tuition to high schools \$88,000. Add to this for transportation, extra clothing, board, and books, an average expense of not less than \$100 per year per pupil, and you get a large sum. Suppose we cut this in two and allow \$50 to sustain a pupil one year at a city high school. Multiply the 17,000 non-residents by 50 and you get \$850,000. Add to this the \$88,000 and we have nearly one million dollars, if you add also the school tax paid at home. This sum alone would suffice to maintain the country high school at your own home.

Then consider how for no added expense the high school would be brought within reach of the other five-sixths not here reckoned in.

Another advantage would be the change in the character of the high school. The city school attempts impossible things. It does not serve its purpose.

We must have radical changes in the city high school, and the rural high school will be the means of bringing about a nearer approach to the ideal of true education. The rural high school will be of such a nature that the non-resident tuition will go in the opposite direction from that now found.

Superintendent Fall emphasized the necessity for consolidation shown by Mr. Harvey, giving examples from his own experience. Of eight districts in Berrien county, none had an attendance of over thirteen; one registered six pupils. The average was eight.

Professor Fall stated that his ambition is to be known as a strenuous advocate of the policy of providing the opportunity for a high school education for every boy and girl in Michigan, especially in the country.

#### THE GROWTH OF FORESTRY SENTIMENT.

"The Forestry Question" was the subject for an entire session. In the absence of Hon. Gifford Pinchot, of Washington, Professor George B. Sud-

worth, of the United States Bureau of Forestry, read a paper on the growth of forestry sentiment in this country, of early attempts to accomplish something definite in this line, and described at length the present large plans and thoroughly scientific methods of the Department of Agriculture in forestry work.

The problem of forestry as related to Michigan was discussed by Hon. E. A. Wilkey and Hon. Charles W. Garfield, members of the State Forestry Commission; by Professor C. A. Davis, of the newly established Department of Forestry in the University of Michigan; and by Dr. A. C. Lane, State Geologist.

Mr. Wilkey explained what the commission was doing in the matter of a forest reserve. This reserve consists of 47,000 acres in twelve townships in Crawford and Rosecommon counties. In it are the headwaters of the most important river system in the State, 700 to 800 feet above the level of the lakes, and hence most important for water power. The rivers are the Thunder Bay, the Au Sable, the Tittabawassee, the Muskegon, and the Manistee. He showed the importance of such reserves through the present condition of the Kalamazoo River—much shallower and more variable than in former years. The commission has still comparatively little power to control these reserves. It is desired that the people be educated to demand larger control from the legislature. To show what can be done in a comparatively short time he showed a section from a cottonwood tree grown on a huckleberry marsh in 25 years. The tree was 81 feet high and 36 feet to the first limb. It grew in thick timber.

Professor C. A. Davis pointed out that one-sixth of the area of the State is now held for delinquent taxes and is worse than idle. It is a menace to other property, and is wholly unproductive.

Mr. Garfield said that it is worth while to grow timber on poor land, and the commission is trying to set an example on its reserves. We must make these six million acres of delinquent land produce something. The millionaires should endow pieces of land where nature can grow forests and manage them. The people should stand by the Forestry Commission in its efforts to solve this problem.

In the discussion, which was the most animated and interesting ever seen in Michigan on this subject of forestry, it was brought out that the Carolina poplar would produce in fifteen or sixteen years seven feet in circumference four feet from the ground; that it cost the State yearly \$66,367 to advertise these delinquent lands; that a tree

planted begins very soon to yield money return in the shade for stock, the shade increasing the flow of milk in the dairy herd; that the State encourages planting trees on the road by an allowance on the road tax; and that in eighteen years sugar maples will yield returns in sap.

#### THE NEED AND POSSIBILITIES OF FARMERS' ORGANIZATIONS.

This subject was treated in a paper by Hon. George B. Horton, master of the State Grange. It may be of interest to know that under Mr. Horton's ten years of leadership the Grange in Michigan has grown in number of Granges from a little over 200 to nearly 500, and from about 10,000 members to some 27,000.

Mr. Horton very earnestly emphasized the need for farmers' organizations on the basis (1) of the maintaining of a sufficiently high standard of social attainment to make and keep the farmer the peer of the best of our people; (2) of an intellectual training for his business and for the exigencies of public affairs; (3) of knowledge of the business and markets of the world such as will enable him to obtain more of the possibilities and enjoyments of life; (4) of such influence upon the body politic as will banish fraud, and encourage legislation that gives the greatest good to the greatest number. The farmers constitute 40 per cent. of our population and should have proportionate influence in legislation. Nor should such influence be feared, for the farmer is by nature patriotic, conservative, and wise.

Mr. Horton described how the Grange seeks to secure these ends and how it works out its principle. He also paid a tribute to the farmers' clubs and stated that these two farmers' organizations are working in harmony and for common ends. They are in no sense partisan bodies, being very careful not to get involved in political quarrels. Nor do they meddle with sectarian questions, though their influence is for better morals.

Mr. Horton, however, does not favor the centralization of schools as advocated by Superintendents Harvey and Fall, and took occasion to present very vigorously the other side of the case. He thinks the movement for centralization is likely to destroy interest among rural people in their schools and to be more expensive than the present plan.

#### THE CHURCH AS A CENTER OF RURAL ORGANIZATION.

This subject was assigned to Graham Taylor and the M. A. C. Record reports it as follows:

"One of the most remarkable addresses of the whole meeting was delivered by Graham Taylor, professor in Chicago Theological Seminary, and of Chicago Commons Social Settlement. He

spoke from a conviction born of direct, living contact with the most hopeless problems of social life.

"Dr. Taylor commenced by denouncing the 'fatal facility with which men forget the purpose and reason for the existence of established institutions.'" The institutionalism which substitutes means for ends and subverts the ends in slavishly serving the means is the very insanity of history. Examples were found in commercialism, which, substituting competition for co-operation, sacrifices the many to the few and brings about the death of trade; in the schools and universities, which, making knowledge an end instead of a means and apotheosizing culture for culture's sake, fail to minister to the life of the people. Next in meanness to an aristocracy of wealth is an aristocracy of intellect too often prevalent among half-cultivated people who "fall short of knowing enough to know what is yet to be known."

Dr. Taylor then traced the history of the church, which seeks to build itself up out of a community instead of seeking to build up the community out of itself, thus creating the paradox of a community of Christians not being a Christian community.

"Dr. Taylor then traced the history of the church, beginning in New England, as the center of every community, and of its whole life. He showed how the problem had been changed by immigration and migration, until the country church was left to one side of the stream of human activity, cut off from the masses (1) by the diversity of language; (2) by diversity of traditions; (3) by multiplicity of sects. Forty-four per cent. of forty and more townships in Vermont (Vermont, the most American of all the States) never go to church, while in that same State the churches were spending \$1.50 for each man, woman, and child of the population.

"Country life suffers from lack of social life. This it is the church's function to provide. It should have (1) a vision of its social functions; (2) a far-sighted view of denominationalism; (3) a power of generating public spirit, the spirit of cross-bearing.

"In discussing these social functions Dr. Taylor insisted that the church should master the facts to be dealt with. In this connection he showed two charts made by young preachers (one in a city, the other in the country), recording the actual facts of the neighborhood—recording, for instance, the number of people in each block (2,500 inhabitants in one block on one map), the location of each saloon, etc. He showed the varying methods of real service by which the saloon appeals to its community, the educative position

of the theaters in the slums, etc., etc. "We must get more worldly, not less so."

"He laid great emphasis on the evils of denominationalism, showing the demand for centralization. "The division of the forces of righteousness is the greatest bar to progress. We can't pray alike, but we can have the co-operative unity of the spirit." The final test of the usefulness of the church is the attitude of denominations toward each other.

Without Professor Taylor's permission we want to quote a comment from the Michigan Farmer, of Detroit:

"Dr. Graham Taylor, of Chicago, easily carried off the palm as the most entertaining orator of the whole meeting in his address upon the above theme. His clear understanding of the economic principles of educational, social, and political organizations and institutions appealed strongly to the appreciation of the representative farmers and taxpayers to whom he spoke."

K. L. Butterfield and R. L. Melendy discussed the subjects of the afternoon.

#### DEPENDENCE OF AGRICULTURE ON TRANSPORTATION.

Judge Prouty, of the Interstate Commerce Commission, had this theme, and his vigorous condemnation of modern railway methods as to freight-rate making was fully appreciated by the audience of farmers. Judge Prouty said that "among the factors of great interest to this country the farmer stands first, the railroad second." He then proceeded to show the relations between these factors. "The railroad," he said, "determines the profit to the farmer of his commodity. As an illustration of this point, the statement was made that one dollar a ton has been charged by the railroads for transporting hay from Michigan to Boston. This being an excessive rate, makes the raising of hay by the Michigan farmer, for transportation, unprofitable. Again, by reason of a just freight rate, Nebraska creameries can compete in the Lowell, Mass., markets with those of St. Albans, Vt. Hence freight rates determine prosperity. The farmer, unlike other classes, cannot combine. He is at the mercy of corporations."

The speaker referred to the combination effected by the Great Northern, Northern Pacific and Burlington roads. Seventy-five per cent of the business of the first two named is competitive. By combination a higher rate will be charged and poorer service rendered, although the promoters claim that the freight rates will be lowered. It stands to reason that combination is brought about for the increasing of revenues. Revenues are increased by higher rates, not by increase in

business or by decrease in expenses. "Law," said the speaker, "is powerless to prevent combination, but it can adjudge rates and can do so because the railroad is a public servant."

#### THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND THE FARM.

Secretary of Agriculture James Wilson made his first address before a body of Michigan farmers, with the above topic as his theme. He explained clearly and fully the leading functions and the methods of the department. Probably many intelligent people have not the slightest notion of the great strides the department has been making and the great work it is doing. It is impossible to give in limited space an adequate resume of Secretary Wilson's interesting address.

#### DEPENDENCE OF AGRICULTURE ON THE HOME MARKET.

Prof. E. D. Jones, who came this year to the University of Michigan to take charge of the courses in higher commercial education, read one of the meatiest papers of the entire program. He discussed the many losses that accrue to society through the exchanging of certain products between distant markets, especially of the raw material. He urged that so far as practicable, communities would work up the raw material and ship as manufactured goods.

As far as the farmer is concerned, the local market is a great factor in stimulating a more extensive agriculture. Local industries not only help the villages, but they help the farmer. He thinks that our country towns can manufacture lace, Hamburg edging, Plauen goods, carved furniture, bric-a-brac, etc. In fruit regions canning factories may be built to absorb the surplus. In natural dairy sections, creameries should be numerous, and the beet sugar industry is a capital illustration of just this sort of union between the prosperity of the town and the development of better and more profitable farming. Almost every village has within it the capacity to make a product that will be admired throughout the country and will make it the Mecca of some craft. The geography of skill, experience, genius and perseverance is not like the geography of coal and iron, and no community need despair of its future. Our villages stagnate with an abundance of unused labor talent. The village is a great unused American force.

#### CONFERENCES OF FARMERS, TEACHERS AND PASTORS PROVIDED FOR.

A resolution was unanimously adopted asking the officials of the Agricultural College, the Farmers' Institutes and the Political Science

Association, to take steps to organize future conferences, both state and local, where the object shall be to bring together farmers, rural teachers and pastors for the purpose of discussing rural social progress.

Thus it seems quite certain that the fruits of this splendid meeting will not be lost. This is believed to be the first attempt on record to accomplish this federation of rural social agencies, and its promoters, are chiefly anxious that it may simply be the forerunner of numerous and better meetings of a similar purpose.

The hearty co-operation of President Snyder, of the Agricultural College, and Prof. C. D. Smith, of Farmers' Institutes, is cordially acknowledged, but the credit for the program belongs chiefly to Prof. H. C. Adams, and the results of the meeting are a tribute to his interest in practical movements.

Mere than that, the meeting is significant as illustrating the new interest that is being aroused in the rural problem. The papers by Dr. Cooley and Dr. Jones are indications of a mere beginning in a scientific study of rural sociological and economic questions.

The impression that the meeting left upon the audience is also worth noting. The farmers appreciated the idea upon which the program was based and cordially commend it. The professional men present were equally impressed. And it is safe to say that such conferences as these are entirely practicable, if wisely planned and conducted, and there can be no question as to their value.

K. L. B.

#### THOREAU'S "WALDEN" ESTIMATED BY HOWELLS.

I have not read the story of his hermitage beside Walden Pond since the year 1858, but I have a fancy that if I should take it up now, I would think it a wiser and truer conception of the world than I thought it then. It is no solution of the problem; men are not going to answer the riddle of the painful earth by building themselves shanties and living upon beans and watching ant-fights; but I do not believe Tolstoy himself has more clearly shown the hollowness, the hopelessness, the unworthiness of the life of the world than Thoreau did in that book. If it were newly written it could not fail of a far vaster acceptance than it had then, when to those who thought and felt seriously it seemed that if slavery could only be controlled, all things else would come right of themselves with us. Slavery has not only been controlled, but it has been destroyed, and yet things have not begun to come right with us; but it was in the order of Provi-

dence that chattel slavery should cease before industrial slavery, and the infinitely crueler and stupider vanity and luxury bred of it, should be attacked. If there was then any prevision of the struggle now at hand, the seers averted their eyes, and strove only to cope with the lesser evil. Thoreau himself, who had so clear a vision of the falsity and folly of society as we still have it, threw himself into the tide that was already, in Kansas and Virginia, reddened with war; he aided and abetted the John Brown raid, I do not recall how much or in what sort; and he had suffered in prison for his opinions and actions. It was this inevitable heroism of his that, more than his literature even, made me wish to see him and revere him.—W. D. HOWELLS in "Literary Friends and Acquaintance."

### HOW MICHIGAN'S AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE UNIFIES AND ENRICHES RURAL LIFE.

BY C. D. SMITH, DIRECTOR OF THE EXPERIMENT STATION.

The Michigan Agricultural College, nurtured, as it is, alike by the general government and appropriations by the state, does not content itself with the work it does for such young men and women as can leave their own homes for either a four-year course at the college, or for the brief stay necessary to take the special courses. Through the Farmers' Institutes it reaches a large number of farmers once each year, calling the people together in small audiences in the country schoolhouses, grange halls and churches to listen to discussions of agricultural topics and of social topics as well, and to take part in such discussions. One idea followed out in these Institutes is to bring together in harmonious action the various forces now engaged in the betterment of rural life. The Grange and the Farmers' Clubs have their part in the program, in the preparation for the meeting, and in the discussions. The country church is recognized, often by holding the meeting itself in the church, by calling on the pastor to discuss the part played by his local organization in enriching life and suppressing moral turpitude, and by placing on the program topics relating to the relation of the church to the community. The schools are recognized by placing on the program topics relating to rural schools, to be discussed by county superintendents or other school officers, followed by other citizens especially interested in the topic. Finally, in all Institute work, the family is regarded as the unit of society, and

questions relating to home life are taught from every platform; what reading should be found in the home; how to encourage habits of industry in the children; the creation of an ideal other than purely utilitarian, and similar topics give rise to animated discussion at many Institutes.

The round-up or closing Institute of the series is held by the Agricultural College. The railroads express their appreciation of the value of the meetings by granting all Institute workers half-fare rates to all the meetings, and extend the same concession to the public generally in attending the closing Institute. At this Round-up Institute there was held, this year, a joint meeting of the Michigan Political Science Association and the Michigan Farmers' Institutes. The theme was the unification of the forces engaged in the betterment of rural life. The program was heartily received by the host of farmers present. More than one citizen long past middle life and living in an isolated community came to me at the close of the Institute and almost in tears expressed his gratitude that there had been revealed to him aspects of his own life that had theretofore been withheld from him.

The Institute movement is not the sole expression of the extension work of the college. There is organized a system of reading for the country home by which the best books are nominated and means provided for their purchase at low rates. Further, the state, by special appropriation, provides traveling libraries which go to communities where half a dozen apply, and there remain for three months. The number of these libraries now scattered over Michigan is slightly over three hundred. The circulation of the books is very large, and the amount of good accomplished beyond calculation.

The general government furnishes to each state a fund to be spent in performing experiments with farm crops and animals, and studying insects and fungous diseases. That fund goes to the Agricultural College in Michigan, and there are forty thousand families now receiving the bulletins which give the results of the experiments conducted at the college and elsewhere by this fund.

Such are, briefly stated, the various forms of the extension work of the college whereby the institution strives to help adult citizens in their own homes. At the college the young women are trained in household duties, cooking, sewing and domestic science generally, with a strong admixture of domestic art. They are trained to be good wives and good housekeepers at the same

time they are educated in the languages, music and the sciences. Space forbids details, but the import of the movement can scarcely be comprehended by the citizen to whom its very existence is new.

To the young men a training somewhat similar is given, the idea being to train the mind and hand together at the same time that the studies in language, the sciences and the humanities are being pursued.

## THE HESPERIA MOVEMENT—ITS ORIGIN AND PURPOSE.

D. E. McCURE, CHIEF CLERK, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, LANSING, MICHIGAN.

The movement was organized in the autumn of 1892. The writer, who is a granger, met with the Hesperia Grange and submitted a plan whereby the teachers and grangers of Oceana and Newaygo counties organized a joint association to meet the second Thursday of the following February. The initial meeting grew out of a correspondence with Mr. and Mrs. Scott, members of the Hesperia Grange, to whom much credit is due in the organization of the Hesperia movement. At Hesperia is a large rink which the owners have made over into an opera house, and in this building the annual meetings of the association are held.

### SOCIAL BASIS FOR RURAL IMPROVEMENT.

In my visits as commissioner of schools to the districts of Oceana county, I discovered that in neighborhoods where the rural folk met together for social and intellectual purposes, where there are a few good books circulating through the community, conditions were much better socially and intellectually than in communities where such conditions did not exist.

Oceana county was organized into several districts, each having a local teachers' and patrons' association, each having a lecture course, and through the educational sentiment developed by these associations came the district school library. The Hesperia movement has a larger organization combining Oceana and Newaygo counties. Hesperia is situated in both counties. The annual meeting occurs in February, commencing usually the second Thursday, and continuing in session until Sunday night. The evening sessions are given up to lectures by distinguished speakers of state and national reputation. The day meetings are employed in addresses, papers and discussions upon subjects pertaining to home, school, farm and civic life, interspersed with music and recitations. On Sunday all village and country folk, together with the stranger "within the gates," attend union meetings at the place of meeting.

## "THE BIG MEETING."

When I state the fact that Hesperia is a village of seven hundred souls, situated twelve miles from a railroad, and that I have audiences numbering fifteen hundred interested, inspired people at the "big meeting," there may be some who will doubt, but, doubter, attend the meeting and see for yourself.

Col. Francis W. Parker, now of blessed memory, Dr. Arnold Tompkins, "Will Carleton," Hamilton Wright Mabie, Byron King, Rev. J. Morgan Wood, Principal W. N. Ferris and Hon. H. R. Pattengill, who have addressed the "big meetings," say there is nothing equal to it in America for inspiration, social and civic uplift.

Hon. H. R. Pattengill, the best state superintendent, so far as the rural school interests are concerned, that Michigan ever had, and Principal W. N. Ferris, of the Ferris Industrial School, Big Rapids, helped create educational sentiment which helped on the "big meeting." Mr. Pattengill made twenty-eight and Mr. Ferris thirty-one addresses in the rural lecture courses of Oceana county within the eight years that I was commissioner of schools.

The foundation purpose of the organization was a closer communion, sympathy and co-operation of all the educational elements of the rural communities. As the movement took hold upon community life, the horizon lifted, and libraries for district schools, clean schoolyards and school-rooms, a larger use for education, a surer and longer tenure of service for teachers, with better wages, a socializing of rural conditions, were stars shining ever in the heavens of hope. These conditions, in some measure, have been realized, and are being realized. The inspiration, the song sung, the oration given at the "big meeting," have sunk too deep into thousands of care-burdened lives to be effaced. Many counties in Michigan have adopted and are adopting the movement, and it has made its way into many states, "has become national," as State Superintendent Fall says.

## A CIVIC-CENTER BUILDING NEEDED.

The movement has reached a point now where we need a building which shall be dedicated to the civic, spiritual, intellectual life of the community. A committee, of which Mr. Neal McCalum is chairman, has been appointed to investigate and make recommendations as to such a building.

No extension movement, university or otherwise, will prove adequate to the social, civic, intellectual and spiritual life of rural communities, since the force that socializes must be in

the midst of the community—must be a part of its very life. The extension movement is an admirable means to help raise the level of rural community life. The end to be reached, that we desire to reach by the Hesperia movement, is a building in which may be developed to a high degree the social, civic, spiritual and intellectual life of the community. This factor in community life is not intended to displace any church or secret fraternal organization, but is one around which all parties, all creeds, all societies, can rally.

The community shall own this building. It shall be the home in which all that is best, all that makes for happiness, all that broadens and deepens life's best impressions, all that makes government stronger, men less self-centered, life sweeter, may be developed. The Hesperia movement is doing this now. The movement is not a dream, not a theory, for it has passed beyond these into reality.

## SERVICE THE WATCHWORD OF PROGRESS.

What do the philanthropical library, social settlement movements, supported by the immensely rich, portend? Translated into the life of the twentieth century, they mean that there shall be no standing in the future social life of this nation for the vulgarly rich. *I serve* is the keynote of the new-old gospel. The world yearns to-day for an education of service, a religion of service, a living of service. Wherever vice, ignorance, crime predominate in communities, the cure is not for the good people to move out, but for more good people to move in. The world is coming to see that Emerson was right when he said: "A vulgar community is one whose poetry has not yet been written, but which you shall presently make as sweet as any. A social being, the normally organized man returns to society with usury the gifts wherewith he has been by society endowed." And this truth will be the starting-point of the ethical teaching of the coming years.

Personality cannot live within itself, to perish with the individual life of man. And so, little by little, age by age, society, which has created man, is by man transformed. Of supreme importance in this work is the influence of those few transcendent minds whose genius pierces the unknown; of those pioneers of thought and conduct who dare to stand alone in untrodden ways; of those devoted lovers of their kind, who, often in obloquy and pain, reveal the possibilities of a spiritual life.

It is chiefly through these that the mass of humanity is lifted in some small degree above the plane of physical necessity into the freer air of liberty and light.

## ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD WORKERS OF NEW YORK.

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION  
BY MARY KINGSBURY SIMKHOVITCH,  
248 East 34th Street, New York.

### Classes for Neighborhood Workers.

The attention of the Association of Neighborhood Workers was called in December to the need of some definite training for settlement workers, both resident and non-resident. After a good deal of discussion it was finally decided to confine our efforts this season to getting up a lecture course with class features, and a course in elementary handicrafts.

The lecture course will be given by Mr. Robert A. Woods, of the South End House, Boston, and will be held at the West Side Neighborhood House.

Morning Class, 10:30 A. M.—Tuesday, April 1; Thursday, April 3; Tuesday, April 8; Thursday, April 10; Friday, April 11; Tuesday, April 15.

Evening Class, 8 P. M. (Repetition of morning course.)—Tuesday, April 1; Thursday, April 3; Monday, April 7; Tuesday, April 8; Thursday April 10; Monday, April 14.

#### SYLLABUS OF COURSE.

- I. "The Weak in the Struggle."—Minimizing waste in production—The causes of poverty and pauperism and how they may be attacked—Shutting off the contagion of pauperism and degeneracy.
- II. "The Aristocracy of Labor."—How to stimulate, safeguard and provide appropriate opportunity for ability and genius—Public importance of preventing the waste of ability—Educational reform.
- III., IV., V., "The Middle Class of Labor—the Working Class Proper."—(This class is not accessible primarily by its necessities, on the one hand, nor by its ambitions, on the other. It is accessible on the basis of its loyalties.)
  - (1) Trade Unionism, (2) Socialism, (3) Politics, (4) Nationality, (5) Family and Neighborhood Ties, (6) Religion.
- VI. "The Settlement."—An instrument cleverly designed to secure access to this little-known, but vitally important social stratum. Its policy as to instituting or co-operating with organized charity (1), with educational institutions (2), with working-class organizations (3)—The new tasks which it would place upon the municipal administration—Its influence toward the reorganization of neighborhood life—Its influence toward democratic social relations throughout a city.

#### REFERENCES.

Mr. Woods requests all persons attending the classes to do the following reading, especially the selections marked with the asterisk:

- I. Charles Booth, \*"Labor and Life of the People," Vol. I. Part I.  
Warner, "American Charities."
- II. Marshall "Principles of Economics," Vol. I., Part VI.  
Bliss, "Encyclopædia of Social Reform."  
Articles on Education, Industrial Education.  
U. S. Labor Bureau, 1892, "Report on Technical Education."
- III. Hobson, "Evolution of Modern Capitalism."  
Trant "Trade Unions."  
Schæffla, \*"Theory and Policy of Labor Protection."
- IV. Kirkup, \*"History of Socialism."  
Russell, "German Social Democracy."  
Webb, "Socialism in England."
- V. Jane Addams, \*"Ethical Survivals in Municipal Corruption."—International Journal of Ethics, April, 1898.  
"The City Wilderness."  
Albert Shaw, "Municipal Government in England—in Continental Europe."
- VI. Ruskin, \*"Unto This Last."  
Woods, "English Social Movements," Chapter III.  
Coit, "Neighborhood Guilds."  
"Philanthropy and Social Progress."

THE COURSES IN ELEMENTARY HANDICRAFTS are to be given at the School of Ethical Culture, 109 West Fifty-fourth street. Ten lessons each in Basketry, Cord Work and Raffia, Bent Iron and Clay Modeling, at cost of course per person, \$6.50.

Each of the above courses will be given if six or more pupils are assured. These courses will be arranged for the afternoons, two or three lessons a week, as desired.

If these courses prove popular the association expects to enlarge the plan next season.

### Child Labor.

Friends of the movement for the establishment of juvenile courts will deplore the appearance in a recent issue of the *Juvenile Record* of a leading editorial calculated to alienate the largest possible number of allies and friends of such courts.

This publication (\*) flies at its masthead the assertion, "We advocate the establishment of a juvenile court in every State in the Union." It is, therefore; particularly unfortunate for it to print as a leading editorial an article offensive not alone to the trades unions the whole country over, but also to the National Consumers' League, with its many branch leagues, and to all those numerous workers in the settlements who have long been patiently striving to protect the all too brief childhood of the boys and girls of the working class.

After a few more such articles the unhappy dependent and delinquent children in whose interest

\*The *Juvenile Record* is published at 25 West Twenty-fourth street, New York; 79 Dearborn street, Chicago, and in Portland, Ore.



this paper is professedly published, and who are the beneficiaries of the juvenile courts, might well pray, "Lord! Deliver us from our friends!"

The leading editorial in the February issue rests upon the brutal and belated theory that society can permit young children under the age of fourteen years to maintain adults by wage labor. A semblance of humane intent is maintained by proposing that the young victims shall be selected by a judge.

Happily, we have a warning example in the experience of Wisconsin, where the child labor law has been vitiated ever since its enactment by this odious provision. There a judge may "exempt" a child from the protection which the law affords other children, if the family is poor. No judge has time to serve as investigator of the economic conditions of hundreds of poor families, and to ascertain how far the poverty may be due to causes for which the net result is that the calendar and docket are always so crowded that the judge relies upon the deputy factory inspectors for the facts in the case. The deputy factory inspectors are thus diverted from their legitimate duty of visiting factories to the wholly irrelevant task of investigating questions of pauperism. The number of children exempted from the protection which the law should scrupulously give to the most defenseless grows constantly greater; the granting of exemption to one shiftless family becomes a reason for granting it to others.

#### Suburban Sanitary Inspection.

The Civic Sanitation Association of Orange, N. J., has appointed a woman sanitary inspector. Territorially the inspection will center in Orange, but embrace the adjacent districts of the Oranges. The work of the inspector will be, first, systematic investigation of sanitary conditions in the districts concerned, including attention to individual complaints and insistence upon effectual action by the local boards of health, when injurious conditions are found to exist. Second, securing the co-operation of tenants in maintaining public health by exercising their rights as citizens to demand a proper system of public sanitation by the individual care of their own premises.

The position of the inspector is unofficial and the salary is assured by private subscription. Her office will be in some central building of Orange.

The Civic Sanitation Association is an active organization of prominent residents of the Oranges.

Miss Helen Thompson, agent of the New York Charity Organization Society, and a resident of the Friendly Aid Settlement, a graduate of Vassar of the class of 1899, has been chosen to fill this position.

#### Barnard Sociological Club.

The interested student of sociology with leisure to continue his study after leaving college turns about in some uncertainty to know where to put his energy. The settlement offers a practical field and he eagerly embraces the opportunity to test his theories. But the settlement is a bewildering mass of needs, which offers little opportunity for anything but acting quickly and continuously. The relation of things and the broader view is so often lost to sight in the necessity of the moment.

It was somewhat with these thoughts—the search for a supplement to settlement work—that a little club of Barnard graduates was formed a year and a half ago to try, if might be, to build up a lasting organization by the undertaking of some piece of work.

For several months the members floundered about, finding invariably that the work they most wanted to do was already being done more effectively than they could do it by some other agency. The first light came when the club was allowed the privilege of sending delegates to the Association of Neighborhood Workers. Here it came in touch with all of the more important social problems of the city. Finally a plan was suggested by the president of the association which seemed eminently suitable for the club members to undertake. This was the bringing out of a guide to the social activities of Greater New York—not a duplicate in any way of the Charities Directory, but a readable description of what typical social activities may be seen in New York and how and when to see them. This handbook would address itself especially to strangers coming to New York and anxious to see something besides the theaters, desirous of getting an insight into the various church, school, and settlement activities and to see something of the way in which the city cares for its sick and its mentally and morally defective.

This "Social Baedeker" would describe, for instance, what could be seen at some large settlement on one of the evenings when things were "in full swing," and what other places of interest in the neighborhood might easily be visited the same evening. Such a guide the Barnard Sociological Club hopes to bring out in the coming year. A book of this nature would of necessity require frequent re-editing, but this would be a small matter.

We have dwelt at some length upon this undertaking because it seemed not unlikely that there might be other groups of students in other cities who might find such an undertaking extremely useful. As for the persons engaged in such a work, it would be hard to overestimate its value

as a means of placing them in immediate touch with the resources of their own city.

CERISE CARMAN.

### New York Labor Notes.

#### TWO BAD LABOR LAW AMENDMENTS.

For three weeks past a strong effort has been on foot to stop the passage of two very objectionable amendments to the New York labor law. One, and the most serious, is a Senate bill introduced by Mr. Marshall in the interests of candy manufacturers, which would free women over twenty-one years of age from any limitation of the hours of their work in factories. The attorney who drafted the bill and others interested in it state that it was not meant to increase the hours of labor, but merely to allow women to work by night or by day within the ten hours a day at present allowed by law. Whether those concerned were really unable to see the effect that would be produced by their very clearly worded bill or whether they were desirous of withdrawing with some pretense at decent intentions it is impossible to say. Protests were sent to all the members of the committee that had the matter in charge, and, through many prominent individuals and through the settlements, to individual members of the Senate and the Assembly. The labor people were also stirred up in the matter, and sufficient pressure was brought to bear within a week of the time it was taken in hand, to cause the passage of a motion to reconsider the bill on the day after it was passed by a unanimous vote of the Senate. The motion was tabled, and the chances are that it will not come up again; but if it does, it will only be defeated, as we are most definitely assured by Senator Grady, who entered the motion to reconsider. It was most astonishing that neither the labor people nor those persons interested in the conditions of working had any knowledge that such a bill was on the stocks until it was taken up by the Consumers' League nearly a fortnight after the bill was referred to the committee. The newspapers took the matter up with warmth and nearly all gave space to the objections to such a bill, which would have put New York far behind in its factory legislation and have left us where we were before the laws of 1899.

The other bill attacked was introduced in the Assembly by Mr. Fowler, and simply removed all butter and cheese factories from the category of factories, thus freeing them from all factory inspection whatever. It is not likely that a bill so obviously drawn in the interest of a special industry would be allowed to pass when once attention has been drawn to it. The replies made to the protests against this bill have, however, been

most amusing. The chairman of the committee has written in the most patronizing style that he has no doubt the worthy ladies know a great deal about city conditions and needs, but that butter and cheese factories are to be understood only by those born and brought up in the country, as is the case with himself. He evidently thinks the protest made is purely on account of the women and children, and states definitely that none are employed and that the reason for the proposed bill is that the milk *must* come in early from the farms, so that it is absolutely necessary to open the factories before 6 o'clock. Unfortunately for his case, he overlooks the fact that even city-bred people may be familiar with the labor law and know that if his statement is true that no women or children are employed, nothing in the law would prevent his opening his factories at any hour he pleases or running them day and night. Also, unfortunately for his cause, in his desire to emphasize his right to be accepted as an authority in the matter he inadvertently states that he is personally the treasurer of a cheese factory, which seems to vitiate his value as an unprejudiced witness. The proposer of the bill is equally ingenuous and more logical in his statement, made more than once, that the factory inspectors are a great nuisance, coming around all the time and making them do unnecessary things, and that they are going to get rid of them. As a matter of fact, if the factories employ no women and children, the only effect of the factory law upon them is to insure to the employees proper protection against fire and accident and to enforce proper sanitary conditions. We are given to understand that this bill, too, has been practically disabled.

SUSAN WALKER FITZGERALD.

### Tree-Planting in New York.

The treelessness of New York has been noted by almost everyone who has seen its streets.

The writer well remembers the picture, seen years ago in an old magazine, of the proud East Side boy "who knew where there was a tree."

He also knows of an old up-state Methodist preacher who had been sent to New York by his church to work in the West Side tenements. He had been married over fifty years ago underneath a bough of apple blossoms, and had never failed to bring to his wife each year the very first blossoms he had seen. He moved to New York, and, having no trees in sight, went to the country at the time he felt that the blossoms had come, only to find apples half an inch in diameter. When he was mildly derided for not knowing when the apple trees bloomed, he said: "How could I know

that it was spring here in New York? The only thing I had to guide me was the way my feet felt."

To give people some other way of knowing that spring has come there has recently been formed, under the auspices of the Tree-Planting Association, a special department known as the Tenement District Shade Tree Committee.

The leading spirit in the movement has been Mr. Datus C. Smith, the chairman.

At the outset the committee was told that trees would not grow in New York streets, but this objection was overcome by pointing to the fact that at least a few trees did live.

Then, having located such trees, their species and surroundings were carefully noted, and a decision was reached as to what kind of trees should be planted and how the planting should be done.

On these points the opinions of experts in the Department of Agriculture were obtained.

This spring the committee will content itself with planting about fifty trees in front of churches and settlements in the tenement regions.

Next year, however, there will be a movement to secure the consent of property holders on entire blocks, so that instead of a tree here and there, whole rows of trees will adorn "the brick-walled streets."

ARCHIBALD HILL.

(NOTE.—Mr. Siebrecht, who has planted many trees for the association, recommends the North Carolina poplar, the German linden, and the soft-wood varieties of maples as the best trees for city planting. The cost of planting the trees in New York ranges from \$10 to \$20.—Ed.)

### New Neighborhood Club.

A Neighborhood Club has been formed on the Middle East Side, which meets at the home of the secretary, Mrs. Herbert Parsons, 112 East Thirty-fifth street.

The object of this club is to co-operate with the forces working in the interest of the neighborhood, which is a singularly varied one, extending from Fifth avenue on one side to East River on the other. The plan of the club is to have three reports at each meeting. At the first meeting reports were made on the Tree-Planting Association, the new Kip's Bay Nursery and the Seventh District of the Charity Organization Society. Any neighbor is eligible to membership, but is expected to show some practical interest in some one of the organizations or activities engaged in neighborhood improvement. The organizations represented in the membership include the churches, schools, clubs, settlements, charities, nur-

series, etc., as well as the local work of such general societies as the Consumers' League and the Woman's Municipal League.

### The City Club.

"The City Club of New York has for ten years stood for the conviction that the government of the city must be separated at all points from national party politics. Its constitution requires that it shall take no part in State or national politics, except so far as the interests of the City of New York may be involved in the election of the two branches of the State Legislature and the passage of State laws."

As a result of this position, consistently maintained, the City Club has been the starting place of much non-partisan and effective work for the betterment of municipal conditions. The Citizens' Union, which now represents the idea that municipal administration is business and not politics, and which now constitutes an independent party, with a place of its own upon the ballot, had its origin in the City Club, and its most active workers are members of both organizations. The practical working of the club appears under various aspects. One of its essential committees is the Committee on Legislation, which restricts its inquiry to legislation which affects the City of New York. This committee of some twelve members receives directly from its agent in Albany every bill which affects the municipality in any way. These bills are distributed from the office of the secretary of the club to that sub-committee of the Legislation Committee to which has been assigned the department to which they belong; as, for instance, tenement houses, franchises, and other significant divisions of the general subject. At its weekly meetings the committee hears a report from its sub-committees, opposes or approves the bills, and if the matter is of signal importance places a printed statement of the City Club's attitude, through this committee, in the hands of every member of the Legislature, the newspaper representatives at Albany, and the heads of departments in the City of New York. So valuable has this work been found that during the administration of Governor Roosevelt public acknowledgment was made by him of the influence exerted by the City Club in discriminating between good measures and bad and in keeping a watch upon legislative procedure.

The City Club, through its Municipal Government Committee, takes up grievances and matters of local importance which arise in the ordinary process of municipal administration. It originally brought the charges against the District Attorney of the County of New York upon which, through a long series of weeks, hearings were held before

a commissioner appointed by the Governor. Although the incumbent of that powerful office was not removed upon the charges made by the City Club's committee, it has been generally conceded that his subsequent removal was made possible by its exhibit of the administration of the office. The club thus becomes a powerful ally for municipal administration when it is conserving the interests of the city, and a critic and opposing force to such administration when the city's interests are disregarded.

When the Ramapo water deal was only delayed by the single vote of the Comptroller of the City of New York in the Board of Estimate and Apportionment and the city was by this single vote saved temporarily from committing itself to an extent of two hundred million dollars upon an impossible proposition, it was the City Club which first came to the reinforcement of the Comptroller in his opposition to this nefarious scheme. The club had already made careful inquiry into the water waste in the City of New York and had printed a report upon the matter. The Merchants' Association made an invaluable report upon the same subject later on, which resulted in the killing of the Ramapo scheme; but an examination of the lists of both organizations will show that the same public-spirited citizens were active in this matter, and constitute, whether in one association or another, whether in the City or the Reform Club, the body of loyal, chivalrous, and disinterested citizens who have made possible the rescue of the City of New York from the Tammany rule of the past four years.

The City Club is not simply a political club with a permanent headquarters, but it is also a social club, distinguished from other social clubs by the fact that it is organized round an idea. It is assumed that every man who comes into it is interested in the discrimination of the interests of the city from partisan interests. The result is that many young men who are just beginning to feel the value of citizenship and its responsibilities are found working side by side with such veterans of New York political life as Wheeler H. Peckham, John E. Parsons, R. Fulton Cutting, and others whose names appear as the vanguard of every advance movement for the betterment of conditions in New York. So completely is the matter of party allegiance subordinated to the interests of the city itself that it often happens in the work of a committee that the chairman of the committee does not know the party to which the members of his committee severally belong, and has been able to make the best possible answer to a charge of party motive by polling his committee when

such a charge has been made and finding that the majority occupied a position temporarily opposed to that which the charge covered.

The club is about to build for itself a beautiful new clubhouse in the club center of New York, on Forty-fourth street, near Fifth avenue, and has every prospect of moving into its new quarters within a few months, with a membership of 800 men devoted to the interests for which the club stands. It is proposed to secure in addition a large non-resident membership, which will, for the City Club, as has been the case with the Reform Club, establish sympathetic relations with many centers where is presented the same problem of the separation of municipal from partisan issues. As Lord Rosebery pointed out in a recent address, and as every worker in municipal politics is convinced, the municipality is the real center of power in a government such as ours, and presents a field of study of absorbing interest and of growing importance. It may be that the multiplication of such clubs as the City Club in the cities of the country will hasten the time when politics shall take its proper place as a science worthy of the attention of the intelligent, rather than as a game played by the designing upon the stupid.

THOMAS R. SLICER.

The Association of Organized Work with Boys announces a public conference on "Summer Camps and Outings for Boys" for Tuesday evening, April 8. In addition to the program an exhibit of photographs, printed matter, and equipment illustrating camp work will be given. Inquiries for particulars as to place and other details should be addressed to Dr. Elias G. Brown, 481 West 145th St., New York City.

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## COLLEGE SETTLEMENTS ASSOCIATION.

### STANDING COMMITTEE.

*President:* KATHARINE COMAN, Wellesley, Mass.

*Vice President:* MARY K. SIMKHOVITCH (Mrs. Vladimir G. Simkhovitch), 248 East 34th St., New York City.

*Secretary:* MABEL GAIR CURTIS, 829 Boylston St., Boston.

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*Fifth Member:* HELEN ANNAN SCRIBNER (Mrs. Arthur H. Scribner), 10 West 43d St., New York City.

### SETTLEMENTS.

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Philadelphia—433 Christian Street.

Boston—91 Tyler Street (Denison House).

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### RESIDENTS OF COLLEGE SETTLEMENTS.

At the meeting of the College Settlements Association, Oct. 12, 1901, Mrs. Helen Annan Scribner, a member of the executive committee, read a paper on "Residents of College Settlements." It was afterwards printed in the annual report. Her words are so interesting and suggestive that we have thought that it might not be amiss to pass them on to an enlarged circle of readers. Accordingly the following condensation is here presented:

"The head worker and the residents have been and always will be the main spring of the settlement, and it is through their inspiration that the settlement work lives.

"It has seemed wise to attempt to muster our forces to find out if possible how many have dropped from our ranks. We all know how difficult it is to measure and value an experience in our own lives at any time, how impossible it is to measure it when it is near at hand, but how sometimes when we obtain the proper focus through the lapse of years, we can see and understand more clearly. So it has seemed that possibly former residents would have some message to send across the decade to those doing settlement work now or taking it up for the first time; or in other words, that the past experience might enlighten the present.

"Unfortunately it has not been easy to reach all the former residents.

"Nevertheless, however imperfect the results I have to offer may be as scientific data, I think you will agree that they are of interest.

"In looking over the file of reports in an attempt to gain some objective view of the development of the settlement movement, it seemed to me that the ebb and flow of workers in our settlements as shown in the lists of residents was suggestive. The small number of pioneers, the rapid increase in the number of those seeking residence in the third and fourth years—the third report giving 80 as the number of applications for residence in one settlement during the year—the gradual loss of undesirable notoriety and corresponding gain in solidity and strength, shown forcibly in the decrease of the number of applications and the increase in the number of permanent workers—20 being now regarded as large for the yearly number of applicants—these superficial signs help us to realize that the settlement movement has passed through phases that have tested its strength. to emerge an accepted and potent factor in our social life.

"Of the 169 residents that have sent replies to a circular sent to all whose addresses could be obtained, 100, or nearly 60 per cent were college women.

"Out of 169, 50, or over 29 per cent, have lived in more than one settlement, and the records range from residence in two settlements to the record of one resident, a former 'scholar,' who has spent from six months to a year and a half in six different settlements. This, it seems to me, shows an encouraging vitality and flexibility in the settlement life, provided of course that the term of residence in each settlement does not become increasingly short, of which I think there appears to be no danger. And naturally those who become permanent settlement workers eventually remain in one chosen settlement, and their experience in other settlements cannot fail to be of value.

"According to the answers given in response to the question, 'What is your present occupation?' we learn that of former residents 37 are teachers, 3 being college professors, 6 are physicians, 4 are nurses, 27 are occupied in home duties, 26 have no occupation, and 29 form a miscellaneous group.

"One resident has given us the curious bit of information that in certain occupations the fact of having lived at a settlement is a powerful recommendation, though many employers do not know what it means. Further:

"Forty-four are occupied in philanthropic or settlement work, and 37 are, in addition to other occupations, doing philanthropic work, or are in touch with settlement work, making a total number of 81, or nearly 48 per cent, that since their first residence have continued the work begun in

the settlements. Of this number 23 have held the position of head worker, of whom 15 at present are head workers.

"Bearing in mind for the moment how diverse the lives of our residents have been since first living in a settlement, their testimony to the value of their settlement experience in its influence on their subsequent work will be of interest. Of the total number, 169, only 2 answered negatively, 9 were doubtful, 44 left the question unanswered, and of these many were women at present engaged in settlement work, and therefore unable to measure the value of the experience on subsequent work; 114, or over 67 per cent, answered in the affirmative, rendering the 'yes' emphatic in the majority of cases by some such expression as 'decidedly.' One hundred and six expressed a wish to live again at a settlement, but of these 44 did not plan to do so. Sixty-three, or nearly 37 per cent, however, stated that they definitely planned to live again at a settlement.

"In view of the interest that is being taken at present in the effort made to connect the theoretical work in the colleges in economics and sociology with the practical work of the settlements, it has seemed well to inquire if many of our residents have done work in these studies.

"Of the total number, 169, 40 answered 'no,' 19 left the question unanswered, 110 answered in the affirmative, and this number includes all those that have mentioned some reading as the extent of their study. Of these 110, 34 may be eliminated as having by their own statement given too superficial attention to the study for their opinion to be of statistical value. This leaves 76, or about 45 per cent, as the number that have carried on some study in one or both of these branches systematically, either through independent reading or through courses in college. Of these, 56 are of the opinion that settlement work is helpful in these branches of study, many expressing themselves emphatically, saying 'settlement work is a necessary part of the study,' 'very helpful,' etc. Nineteen, however, gave no opinion, and one answered negatively.

"On the other hand, of the 76 that have carried on some systematic study in sociology or economics 44 were of the opinion that the study was definitely helpful in settlement work—one adding that it was 'subjectively helpful,' others that it was 'helpful in shaping the work,' that it was helpful as a 'question raiser,' that it was 'helpful in giving proportion to settlement experience.' Twenty-one gave no opinion, 2 believed the value indirect, and 9 gave a negative opinion.

"Making allowance for cases where the study

was carried on subsequent to residence in a settlement, so that it was impossible to express an opinion as to the value of such study in settlement work, nevertheless there is undoubtedly evident some uncertainty as to the practical value of such study. Personally, I have little sympathy with such a feeling, but there is this much to be said in answer to this expression of uncertainty: We know that it is only within the last few years that in the academic courses in sociology and economics the study had been extended in its practical work beyond the classroom.

"Many of our residents in the past have not had the benefit of this broader method of study. As to the feeling expressed on the part of a few that the academic mind is often a hindrance in the formation of friendships and in the practical everyday life of the settlements, it seems to me we must answer that such a result is the fault, not of the academy or college, but of the mind that lacks flexibility and adaptability in using the knowledge it has acquired. As our headworkers have so often said, the value of a resident, as the value of any individual in any sphere of life, depends in the last analysis upon force of personality. And that sociology itself teaches.

"It is only fair to add, however, that when the number of those that have been students of economics and sociology has been narrowed down to the select few that have lived longest in the settlements, and at the same time have carried their studies the furthest, they agree unanimously as to the interdependence and supplementary value of settlement work and economic and social studies.

"It is estimated that from 1,000 to 1,400 people come to a settlement in an average week. Whether or not such knowledge is to be turned to account in any special line of study, will naturally depend upon the choice of the individual, but that it is infinitely broadening and enlightening to the correct and intelligent living of the average life will be admitted, I think, by all.

"And it is this idea expressed in various ways that has been given most generally in answer to the question, 'In what respect has your experience at a settlement been most valuable?' One resident writes that 'the settlement experience was of more value educationally than any year at college.' Another says that the value is 'to help gain normal estimates and proper proportions.' Another resident writes that it has been most valuable 'in the broader understanding of life and its meaning. I look back upon the two years and more that I spent in a settlement as the happiest and most satisfactory years of my life.'

"As Miss Addams has so adequately expressed it, \* \* \* we grow more and more discontented with a mere intellectual apprehension, and wish to move forward from a limited and, therefore, obscure understanding of life to a larger and more embracing one, not only with our minds but with all our powers of life."

"That many have attained this, according to their own testimony, through settlements it is gratifying to learn, for though we know well that sacrifice is the fundamental law of life, and that no man entirely escapes it, we also know, however paradoxical it may seem, that the man or woman who is to continue to be of benefit to his fellowmen must move forward in self-development as well, for in life there is no standing still."

### The Consumers' League in the Colleges.

It is interesting to notice the strongholds which Mrs. Kelley is making for the Consumers' League. On January 20 she spoke at Wellesley College. Mr. John Cummings read a paper treating of the sweat-shop-question from an economic standpoint. Mr. Morris Rosenfeld read some of his poems, which were written while he was a worker in a sweat-shop in New York's Ghetto. Mr. Wiener, of Harvard University, introduced Mr. Rosenfeld. On January 31 and February 1 there was an exhibit of goods, bearing the Consumers' League label, in the Phi-Sigma Society house.

### A Social Gospel from a Swedish Homestead.

We would call attention to a book entitled "From a Swedish Homestead," by Selma Lagerlaf, translated by Jessie Brochner and published by McClure, Phillips & Co., 1901. The simple, child-like, vital religion of such stories as "Our Lord and St. Peter," "The Peace of God," is both refreshing and inspiring. "The Empress' Money Chest" is a sermon preached before a body of workmen who were in the midst of a strike, and who were quite willing to hear the Rev. Father provided he would not mention the name of God. The entire collection, whether dealing with so-called secular or religious topics, is quaint, unique and forceful.

"I believe that the great men don't change. Away with your Napoleons and your Marlboroughs and your Stuarts. These are the days of simple men who command by force of character as well as knowledge. Thank God for the American! I believe that he will change the world and strip it of its vain glory and hypocrisy." Winston Churchill, of Abraham Lincoln in "The Crisis."

### THE WORLD AS SEEN THROUGH OUR SMOKE AND DUST.

BY JENNIE MOTCH, A YOUTHFUL RUSSIAN SEER-SINGER DWELLING AMONG US.

The world is beautiful and fair;  
 Though there be troubles, evils there.  
 A goodly part of it, is sad,  
 And just as much of it is bad;  
 The greatest part, though's full of beauty,  
 For there's the sense of love and duty.  
 There's death and sickness, evil passions,  
 Injustice, falsehood and oppression;  
 But there is life and light and reason,  
 The change of Nature every season,  
 And, even if darkness comes with night,  
 The sun is there to bring back light.  
 And what if people sometimes err,  
 Their conscience prompts them to forbear.  
 When measured, good is more than had;  
 And this alone should make us glad.  
 If there be still the wrong of yore,  
 The right is gaining more and more,  
 The future tempts us to progress,  
 The ignorance is growing less,  
 And day by day we come to learn  
 That what we want we have to earn.  
 Not money earning do I mean,  
 But raising our pure selves within;  
 And when the soul within is pure,  
 For the sore outside there's a cure.  
 Self-preservation, sparing others,  
 And holding mankind sisters, brothers,  
 The chance for deeds of love and duty,  
 Is one that fills the world with beauty.

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# The Commons.

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor from the Social Settlement Point of View.

GRAHAM TAYLOR, - - - - - Editor.

Entered at Chicago Post Office as Second-Class Matter, and Published the first of every month from CHICAGO COMMONS, a Social Settlement at Grand Ave. & Morgan St., Chicago, Ill.



## EDITORIAL.

### THE ALDERMANIC ELECTION IN CHICAGO.

For the seventh year the Municipal Voters' League was in the field, but this spring the earlier and stronger for having kept its offices open and its force at work all winter. It was thus in position to influence the party nominations more effectively than ever before. The result is apparent in an increased number of good nominees, especially in wards which needed this help to avoid the scandalous nominations which the party machines have been accustomed to foist upon them. It has a great record to show for its small investment of money and its large expenditures in volunteer work. Seven years ago not one-third of the City Council were even suspected of being in it to serve public interests. Now not one-third of the aldermen are suspected of holding office for personal gain, or of promoting private interests at public expense. The League's ante-election charge to its great jury, in view of the traction and other incalculably important interests involved, puts the case just as it stands:

"The city is to be congratulated upon the continuing improvement in the quality of aldermanic candidates and upon the increasing dignity and power for good of the City Council. With each successive campaign the thinned ranks of the old disreputables are materially reduced. Ward after ward is being redeemed from the 'hopeless' column.

"A few more years of struggle will see the extermination of the race of aldermanic boodlers. Cut off from their base of illegitimate supplies by the non-partisan organization of the Council committees they cannot stand against a relentless, persistent war year after year. As the last strongholds of the gang are being stormed the fight is waxing fiercer; and at this election, with few exceptions, the discredited survivors of a once defiant majority are fighting desperately with their backs against the wall.

"Whether this question is to be settled wisely and fairly for all the great public and corporate interests involved depends upon this election. Upon

it especially depends the preservation of the people's rights and in large measure the future of Chicago. Whether in indorsing the upright or in rebuking the unfit, whether the situation in any ward appears critical or not, the value to the community of every vote should now be felt. No man holding lightly his privilege and his duty at this juncture is worthy of his citizenship."

The returns as we go to press show the election of 28 candidates endorsed by the League, and the success of only eight whom it condemned. In the new council there will be 55 members approved by the League and 15 who are there against its protest.

In our Seventeenth Ward, the better element in the Democratic party, backed by the joint action of the Municipal Voters' League and the Community Club of Chicago Commons, were able to furnish and nominate as good a candidate as the ward ever had the privilege of voting for. This cheering result is for a second time due to the co-operation of these two non-partisan organizations. Last year our Republican alderman, John F. Smolski, began his able and honorable career in the City Council with the majority of nearly 1,300 votes, when his ward gave the Democratic mayor a majority of over 608 votes. This year our Democratic candidate, Mr. Wm. E. Dever, overcame this aldermanic majority, being elected over his Republican "gang" competitor by 1,819 votes.

In these encouraging results we are beginning to reap the advantage of having a permanent civic center at the settlement, manned by a non-partisan social and political club of both older and younger men whose rooms are always open and whose organization is continuous and ever ready at hand for loyal civic service.

The referendum vote in Chicago's municipal election for municipal ownership of street railways was 124,594 in favor and 25,987 against the proposition, the proportion being substantially the same on the lighting plants. For direct nominations at primary elections 125,082 were cast in favor and 15,861 to the contrary.

### FALLEN IN THE FIGHT FOR DEMOCRACY.

Chicago has lost two men of heroic mold, Francis W. Parker and John P. Altgeld. Very different in temperament, method and sphere, they alike had convictions and the courage of them, in the face of whatever opposition or criticism they had to



meet. However faulty in judgment they may both be conceded to have been, no man who knew either of them for a moment doubted their sincerity, or their willingness to suffer personal loss and to dare the disaster of temporary defeat in his cause, which each believed would triumph in the end. Both were intensely democratic in spirit and aim; the teacher making his school a little community of interdependent equals, the politician ruling party and state by and for the majority of the mass. Both were intolerantly, and to a fault, disrespectful and iconoclastic toward mere conventionalism, and that conservatism which is conservative for the sake of conservatism.

In their dramatically strenuous struggle for their ideals they each appealed to the loyalty of the common people. From the people came the support which kept Colonel Parker in his place at the Cook County Normal School for seventeen years, in every one of which the most determined official effort was made to dispossess him. The hearts of the common people never failed to respond to Altgeld, their unfailing friend and advocate, however they withheld their approval of some of his acts, or at times their support at the polls. Again and again they rallied to him and greeted his public utterances with something of the same unanimity with which they elected him Governor of Illinois. At their death, friends and opponents, followers and dissenters, vied with each other in personal and public recognition of that heroic devotion to high ideals of democracy which distinguished the one as an educator and the other as a politician.

Stricken while eloquently defending the forlorn hope of the South African Republics, Mr. Altgeld was followed to his grave by thousands of men representing bench and bar, trade and craft, turn-vereins and labor unions, poor and rich, foreigners and native-born, radicals and conservatives, while from utterances as extreme as Clarence Darrow's and from words as sound and sweet as Jane Addams' the last tribute of the people's devotion fell upon his funeral bier.

From eastern universities and the national capital, from western colleges and teachers' associations, from the academic cloister, Jewish synagogue and Christian churches, tokens of highest recognition and tenderest devotion fell as thick and fast upon Colonel Parker's casket as the flowers from the hands of school children, which buried their friend and "emancipator" from their sight. The "school of education," which Mrs. Emmons Blaine founded at the University of Chicago in devotion to his educational ideals and to give him the untrammelled opportunity to realize them, will stand as the very arch of Francis W. Parker's tri-

umph. His death at the first flush of his victory, and so shortly before he could have left the impress of his genius upon the outer and inner structure of the great school, falls nothing short of a tragedy. Loyalty to his lifework, as well as to the generous hand which together gave it being, cannot fail to make the School of Education incarnate and perpetuate the spirit of Francis W. Parker. Meanwhile parents of some of the children he taught, and teachers whom he trained, have united to make the "Francis W. Parker School" on the North Side of the city, worthy of the name and memory of its founder.

Our readers will await the next issue of the Commons in May with special interest when they learn that it will be largely devoted to an illustrated description of the Hull House Labor Museum. No more uniquely constructive and fascinating feature has ever characterized settlement work than this highly original project of Miss Addams, which is appealing as powerfully to other people's interest as it does to her own social imagination. Her forth-coming volume from the Macmillan press on "Democracy and Social Ethics" is anticipated with keen pleasure by all who know of her personal contribution both to the ideal and practice of democracy.

Two small volumes of large import demand at least editorial mention, in lieu of the extended review of them, which must be reserved for our next issue. Mr. Charles Mulford Robinson, member of the Architectural League of America's National Committee on Municipal Improvements, has furnished a rarely suggestive and comprehensive handbook entitled "The Improvement of Towns and Cities; or the Practical Basis of Civic Aesthetics" (G. B. Putnam's Sons). The volume cannot fail to be of the most inspirational and practical sort of help in stimulating and guiding the everywhere increasing interest and activity in the enrichment and beautifying of city and town life.

"The American Farmer" is all the more interesting because written by an avowed socialist for the "Standard Socialist Series" published by Charles H. Kerr & Co., Chicago. Its author, Mr. A. M. Simons, combines with his social idealism not only practical experience in farm life and work, but industrious research in the economic and social literature of agriculture. Mr. Simons, who is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, is editor of the International Socialist Review, and is also engaged in work upon agricultural industries for "The Economic Year Book" and its bulletins, now being prepared under the supervision of William English Walling and John R. Commons. (Bliss Building, Washington, D. C.)

## THE MONTH AT CHICAGO COMMONS.

The event of the month has been the vigorous and effective campaign waged in ward politics by our Seventeenth Ward Community Club. It was the most potent force in defeating our old "gang" alderman and electing the honorable and capable workingman lawyer, William E. Dever, as the Democratic associate of the forceful and aggressively honest Republican alderman, John F. Smulski, who last year owed his nomination and, in no small part, his election to this club. We began early by trying to influence the nomination. The "First Gun of the Campaign" was fired from our auditorium. Campaign literature was devised, addressed and mailed to thousands of voters in several languages. The club marched in a body, headed by its transparency, from its rooms in the settlement to the halls where from eight hundred to a thousand men were gathered at a time. Small groups and individuals were visited. Speakers from the settlement, the club and their friends outside the ward were sent forth nightly. The appeal throughout was made straight to the conscience and civic patriotism of the most cosmopolitan population in the city. In response to the announcement "Election Returns Received Here," "Everybody Invited—Refreshments Served" the club and many other citizens had the satisfaction of congratulating each other, their ward and the city upon the triumph of their non-partisan and patriotic cooperation.

Mr. Raymond Robins of Chicago Commons has been chosen to succeed Mr. Robert Hunter in the superintendency of the Municipal Lodging House of the City of Chicago, which the latter leaves to take the head-works of the University Settlement of New York City. Mr. Robins brings to his important work the training of a lawyer and a varied experience in municipal affairs at San Francisco. His share in bringing order and law out of the chaos from which the mining camp at Nome, Alaska, developed into a city, also fitted him to bring system out of Chicago's demoralizing and vacillating policy in dealing with hordes of homeless men. Equipped with adequate and sanitary dormitories and backed by police power, the new municipal lodging house is amply justifying its establishment under the joint action of the city administration and the City Homes' Association.

**Married.**

Rawson—Clawson. At Chicago Commons, March 20th, by Rev. James Mullenbach, Dr. Vance Rawson to Miss Carrie Clawson.

At home, 639 Washington boulevard, Chicago.

**For Our Summer Campaign.**

To open our little playground to the hundreds of children who are waiting for their right to play in it we need the assurance at once of the incidental expense involved in keeping it open. Including the constant service of a director of play, it will cost to maintain our playground only thirty-five or forty dollars per month. No one who knows our ward and its children will begrudge this investment, especially in view of the influence our settlement playgrounds are having in securing the small parks and municipal playgrounds in the densely populated districts of Chicago. Who will help right away?

**BOYS AND GIRLS CAMP IN THE PENNY MEADOW AT ELGIN.**

We are glad to announce to our neighbors and outside friends that the beautiful Penny Meadow at Elgin, Ill., has for the fourth season been placed at the disposal of Chicago Commons for its Boys and Girls' Camp. Our equipment provides good shelter for fifty boys or girls at a time. Including transportation, thirty-six miles and return, it costs only two dollars to give each boy or girl a two weeks' share of summer sunshine, fresh air and free life at Camp. Additional to what the children can pay, we need at least \$600 to maintain Camp Commons, and \$400 more for day outings to the parks and suburbs and for the transportation of women and children to the country homes that are opening to them.

The residents and many of the clubs and classes of Chicago Commons will be at home to their friends May 8th and 9th, afternoon and evening, to exhibit the winter's work in Kindergarten, Manual Training, Cooking, Carpet-weaving, Gymnasium, Fine Art and Educational Classes; thus also showing the new building equipment in actual operation.

**The Commons**

Is devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor from the Social Settlement point of view. It is published monthly at Chicago Commons, a Social Settlement at Grand Ave. & Morgan St., Chicago, Ill., and is entered at the Chicago Postoffice as mail matter of the second (newspaper) class.

**The Subscription Price is Fifty Cents a Year.** (Two Shillings, English; 2.50 francs, French—foreign stamps accepted.) Postpaid to any State or Country. Six copies to one address for \$2.50. Send check, draft, P. O. money order, cash or stamps, *not above 5-cent denomination*, at our risk.

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# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor from the Settlement Point of View.

Number 70---Vol. VII.

Seventh Year.

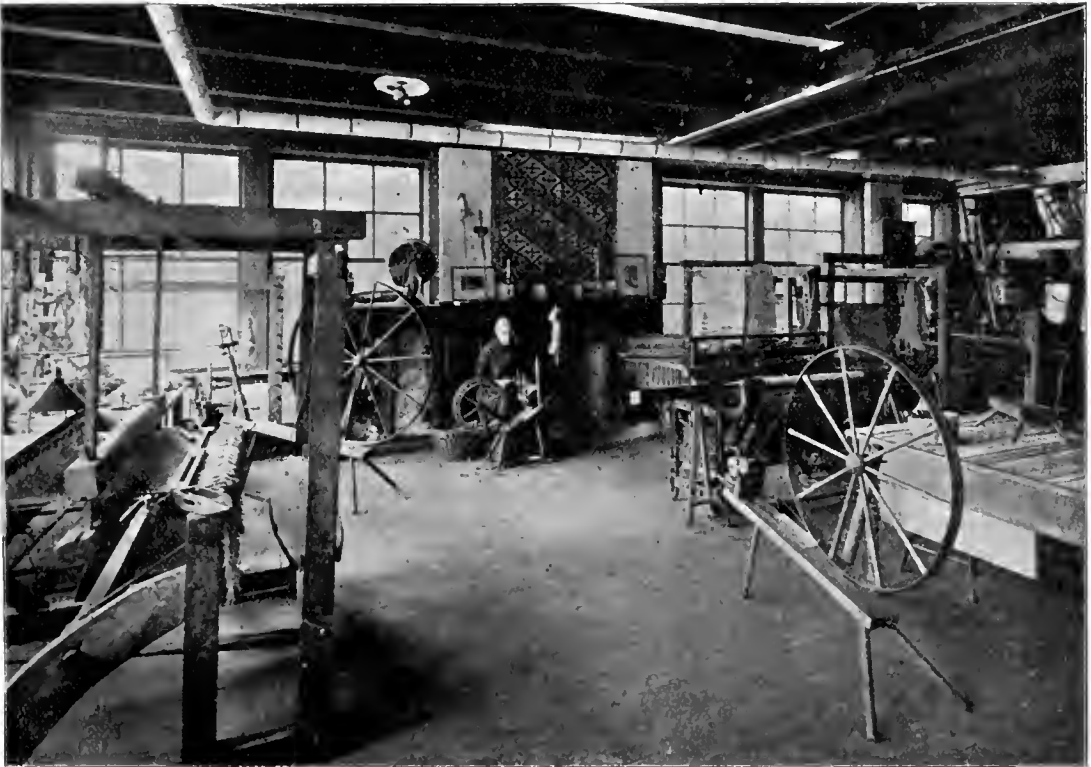
Chicago, May, 1902

## THE LABOR MUSEUM AT HULL HOUSE.

BY JESSIE LUTHER, CURATOR.

The present article on the Hull House Labor Museum, has been requested by THE COMMONS, but the subject as far as its origin, theory and object are concerned has been so fully treated in its columns that further comment on the theoretical side seems unnecessary. The present article therefore, while quoting from the first report, is confined chiefly to the increased facilities for

Greeks, Syrians, Russians, Poles, Bohemians and Germans, and among the older representatives of these nationalities many were found who, in their own countries, had used the primitive methods of spinning, with spindle or wheel, for the actual production of clothing for their families, and others who were familiar with the use of the loom, but who, under the changed conditions of life in a crowded American city, where machine-manufactured material can be obtained for so small a



THE TEXTILE ROOM.

work, the enlarged equipment and exhibition, and last winter's development, which, though in some departments is wholly experimental, still brings to its promoters an increasing confidence in its popularity and essential usefulness.

The prospectus recounts the fact that in the district immediately surrounding Hull House were people of many nationalities—Italians

cost, had found no practical use for their skill and no incentive for its continuance. Furthermore the younger generations, many of whom are American-born, were inclined to under-estimate the older people of the colony, lacking, as they do, the power to adjust themselves to the standards of American life.

The idea presented itself that if a number of

those who were familiar with such work could be brought together on certain days to continue it, it would not only be a matter of education to the younger people of the community, but that it would perhaps give to the older people a chance to naturally assume a position to which their previous life and training entitled them, and they would be judged by something of an historic background. There are many shops and factories in the neighborhood, and it was hoped that the younger people who earned their living in them might learn something of the raw material which they were using in a finished state, or only in one stage of its manufacture, and that their daily occupations would thus gain an historic background and prove more interesting in consequence.

#### A MUSEUM OF INDUSTRIAL EVOLUTION.

It was designed from the first to put the various processes into historic order and sequence, and, as far as possible, to illuminate them by correlated art and literature, historical lectures, with charts, diagrams and maps.

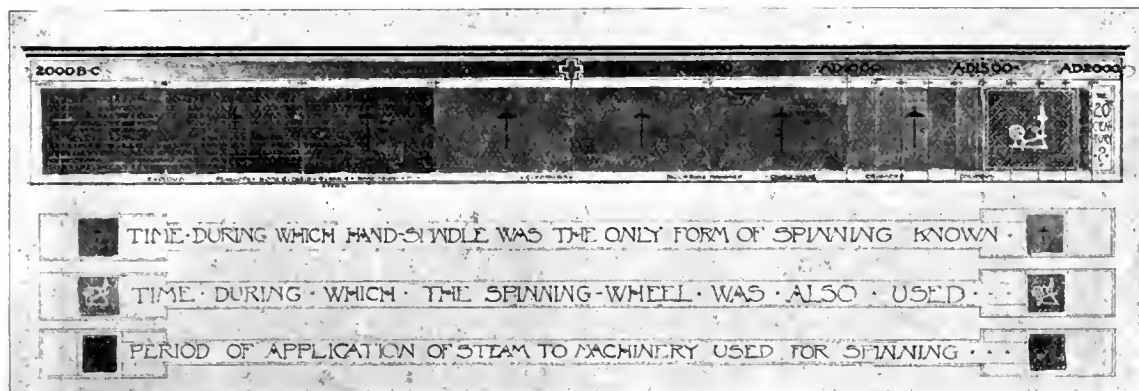
The word museum was purposely used in preference to the word school, both because the latter is distasteful to grown-up people from its association with childish tasks and because the word museum still retains some fascination of the show. It may easily be observed that the spot which attracts most people at any exhibition or fair is the one where something is being done. So trivial a thing as a girl cleaning gloves, or a man polishing metal, will almost inevitably attract a crowd, who look on with absorbed interest. It was believed that the actual carrying forward of industrial processes, and the fact that the explanation of each process, or period, was complete in itself would tend to make the teaching dramatic, and to overcome in a measure the disadvantage of irregular attendance. It was further believed, although perhaps it is difficult to demonstrate, that when the materials of daily life and contact remind the student of the subject of his lesson and its connections, it would hold his interest and feed his thought as abstract and unconnected study utterly fails to do. A constant effort, therefore, was made to keep the museum a labor museum in contradistinction to a commercial museum.

#### THE TEXTILE EXHIBITS.

The Museum was opened in November, 1900, and from the first, five departments were planned, though, owing to lack of space and equipment, only that of the textiles was developed to any extent during the first winter. In one room were placed various appliances for spinning and weaving, largely collected from the vicinity itself. Every Saturday evening people from the neighbor-

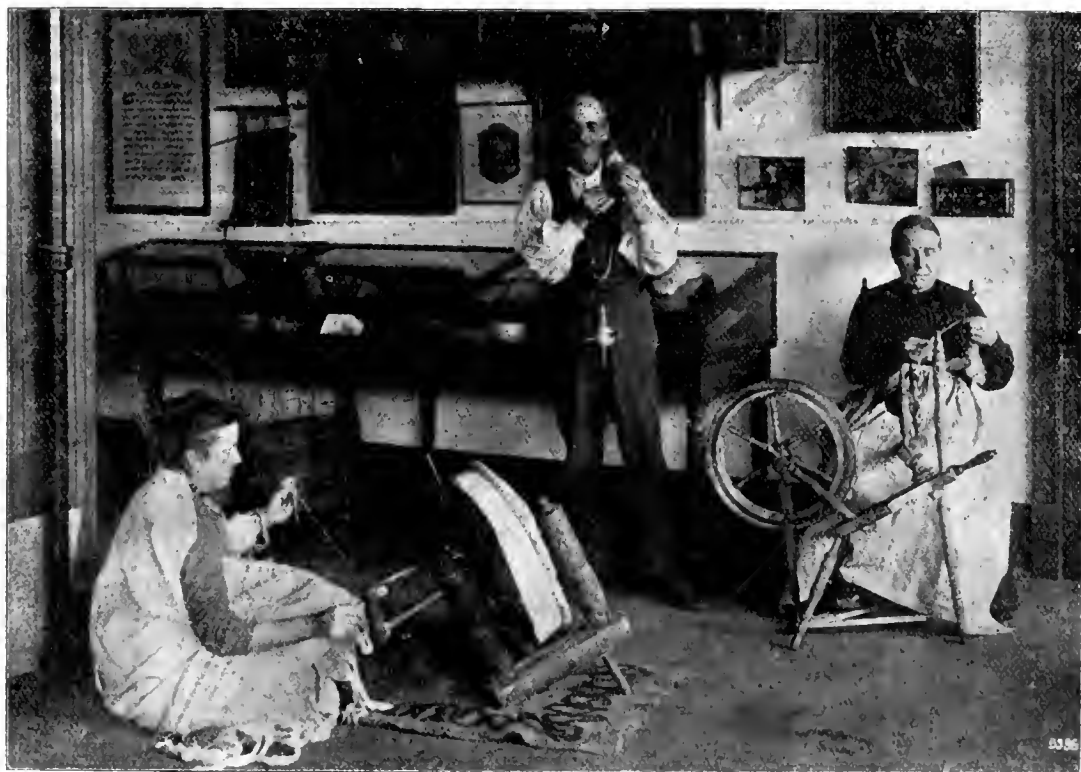
hood who had been expert spinners or weavers in their own country came to demonstrate the different processes to the visitors who arrived in large numbers. The spinning was illustrated by the Italians, Greeks, Russians and Syrians, who spun with a distaff for holding the flax, and a spindle composed of a straight stick with one or two discs, and a small hook on the upper end to hold the thread. The Greeks and Russians spun with the head of the spindle downward, and the thread looped or hooked to the smaller end, the reverse of the Italian and Syrian method. All these spindles were set in motion by being twirled on the hip and then held in the air like a plumb and line, while the rapid revolutions of the spindle twisted the thread.

The museum is now able to show four variations of this earliest method of spinning. In one case an Italian woman from the interior of Southern Italy uses a stick weighted by two discs which twirl the fibers together, while a Neapolitan from the coast uses a stick weighted by a ring of metal, which increases the momentum, producing a higher rate of speed. A third variation is used by a Syrian woman, and consists of a small wooden disc at the top of the stick, with which she is able to produce a thread so fine that it would have been broken by a heavier spindle. It is interesting to note that the Syrian skill is able to make good the loss of momentum, and that the speed is sustained. The same process is further illustrated by a Russian woman, who sits upon a chair with the flax held in place upon a stationary frame, thus freeing one hand and arm which would otherwise be obliged to hold the distaff. The women, two Italians, a Russian, and an Irish woman, who uses the comparatively recent spinning wheel, not only do the work well, but very much enjoy the demonstration and explanation, in which they join. The museum is further able to trace the development of spinning from this simple stick through the large hand spinning wheel and the small Saxony wheel, to a number of spindles mounted on a frame, and set in motion by the turning of one wheel for all. In connection with the spinning, demonstrations are held on the first crude processes of scouring, dyeing and carding. Wool, cotton, flax and silk are put through the various processes of preparation, and spun into thread by skilled spinners almost every Saturday evening. Little collections of flax and cotton, as well as wool and silk, are exhibited in the various stages from the raw material to the factory product, and are supplemented by some really beautiful photographs, the latter showing the early Egyptian spinning of flax with the distaff, and the cultivation of flax along the Nile.

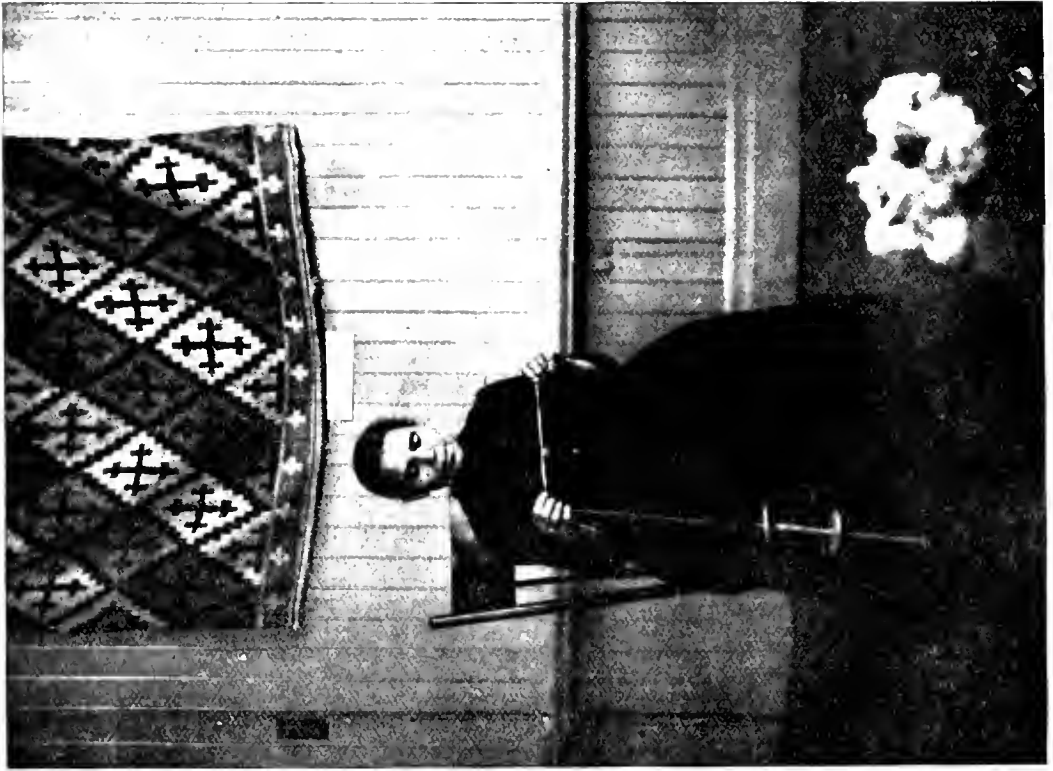


The attempt is made to present the connection between past and present, as graphically as possible. A framed chart is hung on the wall, showing the length of time during which the hand spindle was used to produce all the clothing of the world. The comparatively short time during which the spinning wheel has been used, and the infinitesimal time during which steam machinery has taken its place, are revelations to the majority of people to whom it has not been dramatically presented.

Beginning with 2000 B. C. the straight spindle was used to produce all the spun clothing used by mankind for more than three thousand years, and not until 1500 A. D. was the spinning wheel introduced into Europe. The European spinning wheel was used but a little more than two and one-half centuries when steam was first bunglingly applied to textile manufacture, coming in the latter half of the eighteenth century.



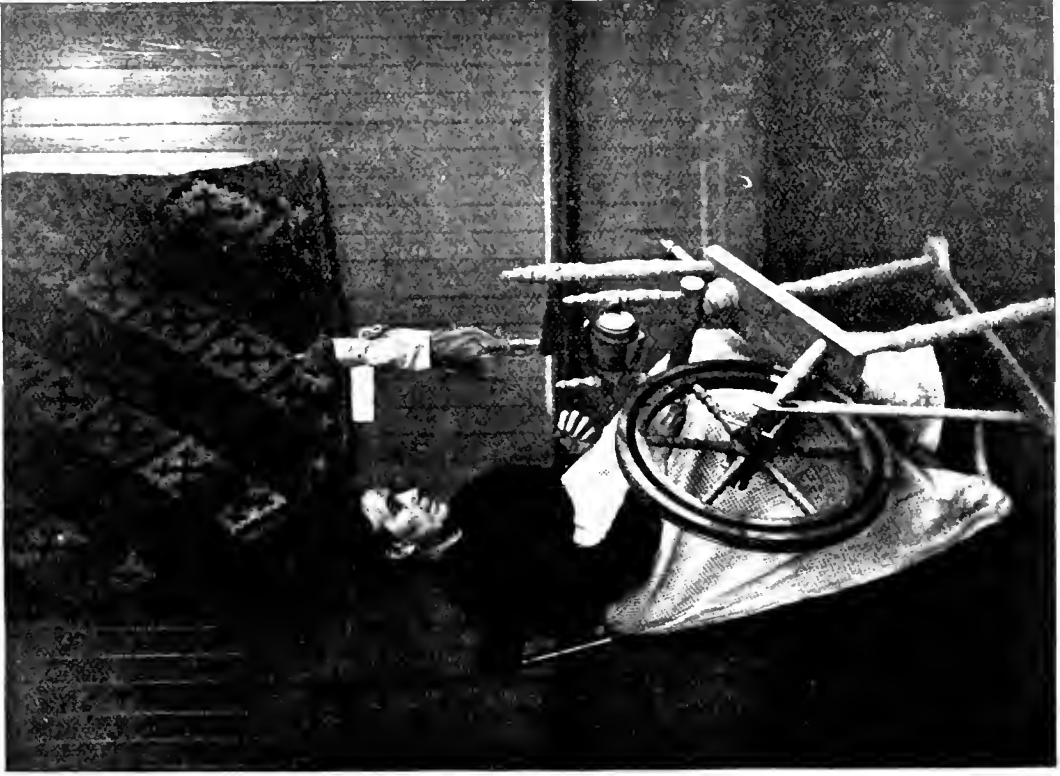
TWO METHODS OF SYRIAN SPINNING AND EUROPEAN WHEEL.



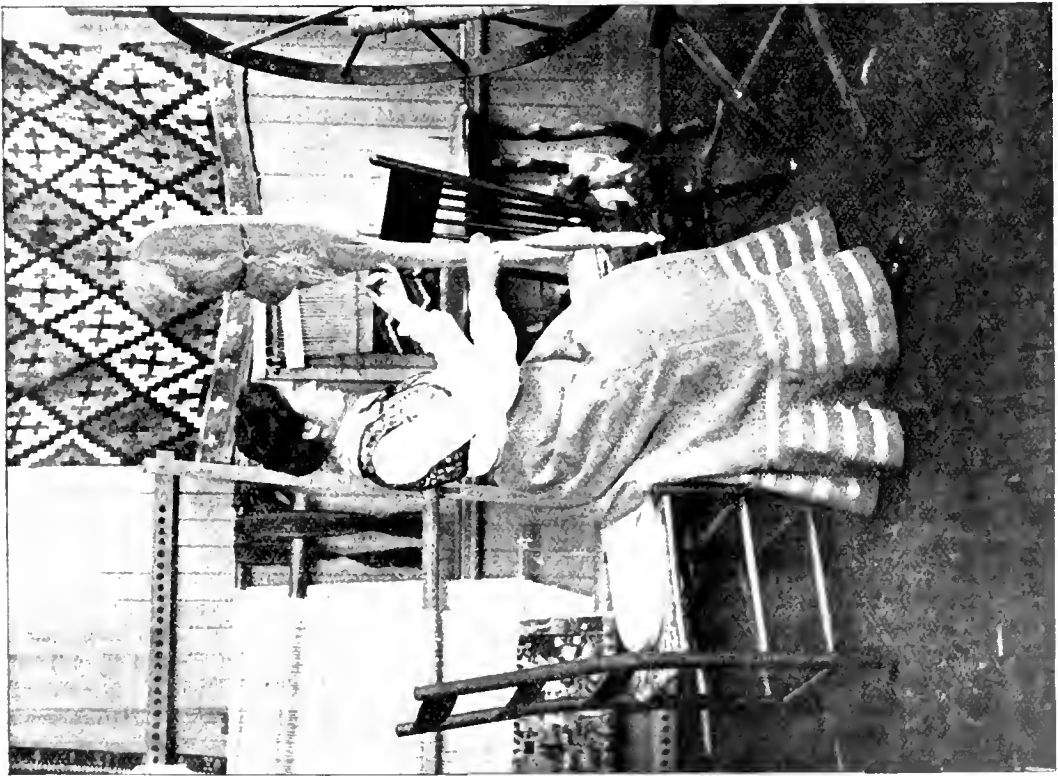
ITALIAN WOMAN SPINNING.



SYRIAN WOMAN SPINNING.



IRISH WOMAN SPINNING.



RUSSIAN WOMAN SPINNING.

Many of the Italian women who came to the museum had never seen spinning wheels, and looked upon them as a new and wonderful invention. The chart shows that steam has been applied to textile manufacturing but a short space in the long line of 3,900 years. Even then it is confined to certain countries of Europe and America and a world map, exhibiting the places in which the straight spindle and the spinning wheel still survive, is a matter of unflinching interest to the visitors of the museum.

Near the charts hangs a diagram of a number of hand spindles and implements used in spinning which were found in an Egyptian tomb, their probable age being about 4,000 years. The charts add an interesting historic background to the women of different nationalities who come on Saturday evening and spin with the inherited skill of many generations, but the small amount of thread that even the fastest spinner can produce necessary to weave a piece of cloth large enough to enfold the human body in the simplest way, makes one wonder that the human race could have been sufficiently clothed during all the thousands of years that a primitive spindle of some sort was used. Another primitive form of spinning was added this winter and is exhibited by a Syrian man who spins with two short sticks crossed at right angles and fastened together with a bit of yarn, which is wound about the point of crossing, and the four arms thus made are hung by the yarn and twirled as a wheel revolves. The Syrian explained that it was the form of spindle used by the Bedouins in the desert. It has been quite unfamiliar to everyone who has seen it, and is probably one of the most primitive forms known.

If one could add the spider and the caterpillar to the exhibiting spinners, it would indeed be starting at the beginning of things; but there being difficulties in the way of such continued exhibition, we must be content with the hand spinning introduced with the age of man.

An interesting exhibition of spinning with a wheel is shown by a Syrian woman who sent to her own country for a curious, clumsy wheel of apparently home manufacture. The spinner sits on the floor and the supports of the wheel rest at an angle; the wheel is turned by a crank, and the spindle is horizontal and attached to stationary supports and is held in place by two dried mutton joints which contain enough oil to make any additional lubrication unnecessary. When the wheel arrived from Syria the contents of the box showed signs of having been tampered with, and one of the joints was missing, the customs offi-

cial doubtless being ignorant of the important functions of the mutton joints and neglecting to give them proper consideration.

In weaving, the demonstration begins with the earliest weaving of branches and woody fibers in



WEAVING WITH NAVAJO LOOM.

making baskets and mats for the sides of huts.

Before man appeared upon the earth the bird's instinct taught it to weave its nest from fibres, twigs and grasses, the hair of animals, or moss and leaves. The earliest races of man doubtless wove in some crude fashion, and in the tombs of the ancient Egyptians woven material has been found wrapping the bodies of mummies, of which the museum contains a specimen.

The method of lining baskets with clay and afterwards burning away the basket, which led to the development of pottery and its earliest decoration, from the impression of the basket left upon the clay, is illustrated by an attractive little collection of pottery and baskets.

The museum contains a model of a Navajo loom made by the Indians themselves, as well as a Turkish loom, both of which are used by the visitors. Classes of children have reproduced the Indian looms, and, as is done in various schools, they have woven very creditable Navajo blankets. The old Colonial loom of which the museum contains two specimens, was fast in comparison with the more primitive looms, but slow when compared with the youngest of all, the power loom. The nearest approach to the latter which the museum could at first show, was a fly-shuttle loom which demanded of the operator only to bring the lathe back and forth and to mend the broken threads—the harness being changed and the shuttle thrown by a system of levers, set in



motion by the movement of the lathe, but a modern loom, presented by a factory of a neighboring city, now completes the series, the power for running this loom being supplied by electricity from the Hull House plant.

THE DYEING PROCESSES.

Opening from the textile room is a smaller room with three large porcelain tubs used for dyeing

done over bunsen burners, but any large amount of material is dyed in the vats, a pipe conducting live steam supplying the heat.

The dyeing outfit, as well as much of the other equipment, would have been impossible in the narrow quarters in which the museum was at first started, therefore it was fortunate that in the middle of the winter it was possible to move



COLONIAL LOOM.

the material for weaving and for baskets, and equipped with dyes, scales for weighing and a small laboratory outfit. Some of the dyeing is

the entire museum into the remodeled gymnasium building.

It occupies the first floor of this building, a

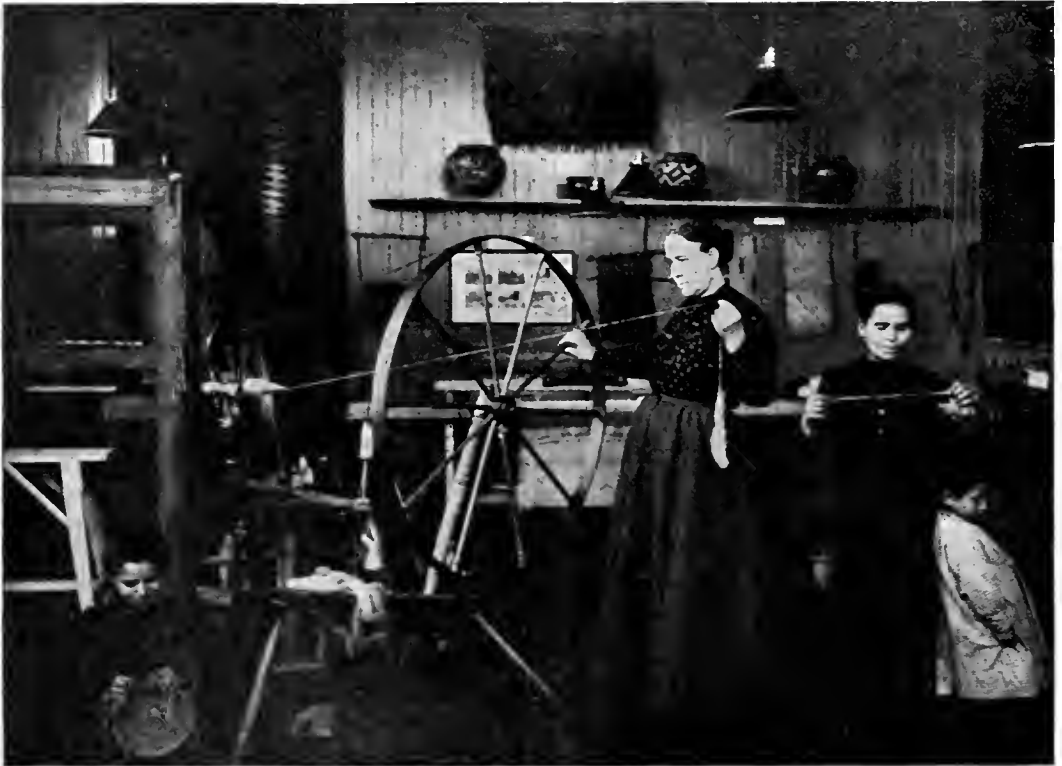
space of 40x100 feet, and two rooms on the second floor. The large windows on the street and alley were purposely planned for the convenience of spectators who might be attracted by the "show" elements of the museum, and the casual passer-by has proved a most enthusiastic advertiser. All of this space is used for three different purposes: a museum, a class-room and a shop. The museum proper, with all its dramatic features, is carried on Saturday evenings. The classes are in progress almost every afternoon and evening and several mornings of the week, and the prod-

The space occupied by these six departments of the museum, house on two floors, is also used for class rooms.

#### MANUAL TRAINING.

On the lower floor the largest room is the general shop for manual training. Work benches for carving and carpentry fill one side and a double tool closet is built into the high wooden wainscoting; against one wall is a green board for drawing.

The museum side, illustrating the wood, is very



SPINNING WITH WOOL WHEEL.

ucts of the shop are turned out by adult workers, more or less experienced, who are at liberty to come in whenever they have leisure, using the tools and paying only for material consumed. The product is sold, either by the craftsman himself or by the shop directors, some very creditable work has already been sold in copper and brass, silver filagree of Russian workmanship, in pottery, in carved wood, in homespun and rugs, the latter dyed and woven most skillfully. Already the demand for pottery, metal work, wood work and textiles far exceeds the capacity of the various workers to fill the orders.

incomplete, but several antique wooden tankards and Viking bowls of Norwegian workmanship, some of them gaily decorated, are much studied and admired. A beginning has been made toing classes plan to place a frieze, illustrating their growth and texture. The high wainscoting of the room ends in a shelf, and above it a space is left, on which the Hull House painting classes are planning to place a frieze, illustrating the history of wood from the primeval forest and appearance of the woodcutter, through all the processes of felling the trees, transportation, logging and sawing. The classes in sloyd, carpen-

try and wood-carving are very popular, not only with the girls and boys, but with young men and women as well.

Across the room a long table with iron vises attached, forms the nucleus for the metal work, and on Tuesday nights a large class meets and pounds copper and brass with great enthusiasm, and in most cases with success. Already some interesting bowls and dishes have been made both well-shaped and finished considering the inexperience of the pupils. The work is not easy and requires too much patience, precision and real manual effort to appeal very strongly to the younger boys who prefer wood work or clay.

have been given upon the guilds of metal workers and the effect of metal work upon Phoenician history and commerce.

The potter's wheel and clay bin stand in a retired part of the room with cases and shelves for exhibits on the walls, and on Friday nights pupils come who take turns in using the wheel, those who are not using it modeling pottery forms with their hands, while the process is completed by the firing and glazing done in the pottery kiln.

Only a beginning has been made for decorating pottery, but the possibility has already perceptibly influenced the long established classes in design and drawing. Hull House has maintained



METAL AND POTTERY SECTIONS OF GENERAL SHOP.

Against the wall are cabinets for unfinished work and near the end of the table stands the annealing furnace with its revolving pan and blow-pipe and bellows used for softening the metal, hardened by much beating, and a large case contains specimen of copper from the crude ore through its processes of stamping and refining to the finished product, exemplified by some beautiful pieces of Russian, Italian and English work. There are colored drawings of the processes of smelting carried on in the Calumet mines and photographs of famous metal work. Various talks

a studio, in which has been taught large classes in modeling, drawing and painting. It is a distinct advantage that the studio has been moved into the same building containing two shops, and that some of the most promising art students are becoming craftsmen as well.

#### THE GROWTH OF GRAINS AND THEIR PREPARATION FOR FOOD.

The next department is that of grains. The room is large and is hung with many photographs illustrating the preparation of the ground for the grain and the processes of its preparation for



COOKING SCHOOL KITCHEN.

food as carried on in different countries as well as with one or two primitive implements for grinding. Cases on the wall contain specimens of grains and cereals and a large fire-place built on the model of those used in Colonial times, with its hobs, its crane, pot-hooks and trammels and old brass and copper kettles and cooking utensils form an historic background for the modern cooking tables with their iron racks and bunsen burners, and a gas range of the newest type. Although cooking classes are held here every day during the week, there is still a waiting list and the regular attendance and good work testify to its popularity. It is one of the most important departments and the room with shining utensils on the shelves and racks, and its busy white aproned pupils, is a cheery sight. An Italian woman occasionally cooks macaroni in a kettle over the open fire and women of other nationalities are gradually, although as yet somewhat timidly, offering to demonstrate from their store of traditional household lore and training.

Next to the kitchen is the textile room where during most hours of the day and evening work of some sort is being done. A neighboring Irish woman comes every day to spin flax and wool, which are used on the looms in the manufacture of rugs, homespuns and linen, and she has filled various orders from other shops as well. Twice a week a number of Italian women from the neighborhood come for the afternoon to make baskets and sit about a table chatting gaily over their work. The small children, and sometimes even the babies, come with their mothers, and there have been days when the room has worn the aspect of a small Italian colony.

In this room are also conducted the dressmaking, millinery, sewing, embroidery, basket-making and hammock-weaving classes.

An attempt has been made to correlate the classes around their historic development. In cases along the wall are exhibits of cotton, wool, linen and silk from the raw material to the finished product, showing examples of machine made

and hand made work, and photographs and drawings illustrate the preparation of the material; the shearing of the sheep, the carding of wool, the treatment of flax, etc., and the processes of spinning and weaving as carried on in many countries.

A number of fine specimens of rugs and blankets fill cases high on the wall and there is a small exhibit of baskets of Indian and Southern manufacture. A hatchell, which is a contrivance for combing the flax and separating it from the tow, is not only an interesting part of the exhibit, but an implement of constant use, as are the number of reels of various sorts.

#### PRINTING AND BINDING.

Classes in designing and mechanical drawing are held in a smaller room at the south end of

It is more difficult in this department than in any other to illustrate processes, for the reason that there are a great number of steps in the making of a book and some of them are too long to hold the interest of the casual observer. This difficulty is met, as far as possible, by showing examples of books at various degrees of completeness, and by charts. Specimens of fine printing are shown in this room, including many examples of the Kelmseott Press, of the Dove Press, London, and experiments of various degrees of excellence in this country. A printing room has very recently been opened next to the bindery, with a full hand-press, which is in use and on view Saturday evenings. Nothing of consequence has as yet been attempted on it, but there are plans for



THE BOOK BINDERY.

the general shop. The Hull House studio is on the floor above and on this floor are also the departments of printing and binding. The bindery has been in existence for two years as a private workshop. When the museum was reorganized in the autumn the bindery was also open to the public on Saturday evenings, when specimens of the various stages of the work are shown and explained, together with tools and implements and examples of finished work.

a joint piece of work by the printing and binding "guild" next year.

#### LECTURE COURSE ON INDUSTRIAL HISTORY.

A series of lectures on Industrial History was given on Saturday evenings during the winter, and although the Hull House auditorium seats comfortably 350 people, it was many times packed to its utmost capacity, the audience filling the stairways and the entire stage back of the speaker. The design of the lectures was to give a large and

general survey of labor conditions and the effect of these conditions upon the mass of workers, as the following subjects would indicate:

"Industry Among Primitive Peoples," "Labor Conditions Among the Jews," "Slave Labor in the Roman Empire," "From Slavery to Serfdom—Conditions of the Serfs," "The Day of the Craftsman and the Instinct of Workmanship," "The Guilds of the Middle Ages," "Conditions of Labor Under the Domestic System and Under the Factory," "History of Trade Unions," "The Development of the Factory," "History of Trade Unions," "The Development of the Factory," "Factory Conditions to To-Day." "Labor in Competitive Industries and in Monopolistic Ones."

INTERPRETATIONS OF INDUSTRY IN LITERATURE AND ART.

An attempt was made to fill out by the interpretations of literature the periods of adjustment which accompanied the changes in industrial methods, for although the times of transition were comparatively short, they were big with suffering.

Perhaps the most striking picture of that period when steam was first applied to the manufacturing of textiles, is that drawn by Hauptmann in his drama of "The Weavers." An interesting lecture was given upon the Industrial Revolution in England and the appalling conditions throughout the weaving districts of the north which resulted from the hasty gathering of the weavers into the new towns, also on the regulations of those conditions as the code of factory legislation was slowly developed. The lecturers in the museum found it easy, indeed almost inevitable, to pass from the historical situation to a statement of the industrial difficulties in which we of the present day are so often caught, and the need of adaptability and speedy readjustment to changing conditions which is constantly demanded from the contemporary workman. A tailor in the audience once suggested that whereas time had done much to alleviate the first difficulties in the transition of weaving from handwork to steam power, that in the application of steam to sewing we are still in the first stages. The isolated woman who tries to support herself by hand needlework is analogous in her position to the weaver of one hundred years ago, and the persistence of many of the weavers in their own homes until driven out by starvation is paralleled by much the same persistence among the "home workers" who sew in their own houses. In spite of Charles Kingsley's "Yeast," no poet or artist has endeared the sweaters' victim to us as George Eliot has made us love the belated weaver, Silas Marner.

For a program of labor songs, rendered by the

pupils of the Hull House music school, it was possible to find charming folk songs from the early textile workers, notably a spinning song by Rheinberger, and an old Irish weaving song of much beauty. For the latter period, involving machinery, it was more difficult, although the head of the Hull House music school, Miss Eleanor Smith, set to music a poem written by a sweatshop worker, Morris Rosenfeld, with such realism and force that the pupils of the music school have been invited to sing it before the Consumer's Leagues and other associations who have found it not only interpretative of an experience not remote from their own, but stirring and powerful in its moral appeal.

The Chicago Arts and Crafts Society holds its bi-monthly meetings at Hull House, and its members have always been most generous with their time in assisting the workers in the shops. It is hoped that these shops will include the activities of many people besides the directors and will in time be able to present the historic background, through the people of the immediate neighborhood, whose training represents more primitive methods. These primitive methods will in turn be traced to the factories of the vicinity, and so far as possible the enlarged and developed tool will be rediscovered there. Within a short distance of Hull House are large electrical factories and machine shops using quantities of metal—there are wood-working factories, bakeries and tailor shops. It is hoped that the men and women already working in them may care to come to the museum to be entertained, to work with the tools with which they are already familiar, to study charts and diagrams which are simple and graphic, to attend lectures which may illustrate their daily work, and give them some clew to the development of the machine and the materials which they constantly handle. A man often cannot understand the machine with which he works, because there is no soil out of which such an understanding may grow, and the natural connection of the workshop with culture is entirely lost for him. Two sound educational principles we may perhaps claim for the labor museum even in this early state of experiment—first, that it concentrates and dramatizes the inherited resources of a man's occupation, and secondly, that it conceives of education as "a continuing reconstruction of experience." More than that the best "education" cannot do for any of us.

During both winters a number of people have been attracted to the museum who had never cared to attend the other educational advantages offered by Hull House, and some of the most intelligent students from the various Hull House classes and clubs have cared a great deal for this new at-

tempt at actual demonstration. During the winter numbers of school children and classes of teachers visited the museum, and on several occasions the museum itself became peripetetic, and carried its demonstrations to normal schools.

To many visitors it opened a new range of human speculation, that for centuries the human race spun all its clothing with only a simple stick, and from that had to evolve the rapid and complicated machinery with which we are now familiar. It is a genuine piece of observation, and calls upon the analytic powers of the mind to work back from the complicated to the primitive and to see the two in historic relation. It breaks through the narrow present and one's own immediate interests to see the customs of the various countries reproduced in connection with the material with which one is most familiar; to follow this material from its primitive form as it is subjected to direct processes to a finished product, and thus obtain something of the freedom of observation and power of comparison which travel is supposed to give.

#### SOCIAL SETTLEMENT WORK IN THE KENTUCKY MOUNTAINS.

In the spring of 1899, there came to the Kentucky Federation of Woman's Clubs an appeal from the mountains to send thither "A woman, a gentle, womanly woman, to assist in the conduct of meetings, of wives, mothers, housekeepers, young women and little girls; to give lessons in cooking and home making as well as in culture and morals." In response to this appeal, the Kentucky Federation has for three summers sent just such women as were asked for into the most remote mountain counties to live in tents and carry on settlement work.

The "settlers" receive a cordial welcome from the mountain people, who are eager to learn. They say, "We 'low that you'uns as know how has come to show us as don't know how." Parents and grandparents declare, "We never had no chance to larn nothin'; now we are so glad the children have a chance." One man came with two boys, saying, "Will you just please larn 'em some manners," and a woman rode fifteen miles on a mule with a girl behind her who "liked clean livin' and party fixin's" and also wanted "to larn." Boys and girls walked five and six miles daily to join the classes in cooking, sewing, kitchen-garden, kindergarden and singing. A man of thirty-five came to learn to patch and mend that he might teach his wife. Earnest and solemn, men and women, boys and girls, they sit on the steep hillside, sewing from three to four hours every day.

To the first sewing-class came a sixteen-year-old,

lame mother, walking around a very steep, rough cliff, with a nine months' old baby in her arms. This baby had to be cared for while the mother learned to sew and it was soon "norated" about that all the mothers could come, as "them quare wimmin folks would keer for the babies." So began a primitive day nursery.

Children not more than four years old would swear, chew, and smoke because they had nothing else to do. On these the kindergarden songs and occupations quickly took hold, so that it was not hard to persuade them to give up the bad for the good. A little fellow of six came with a bottle of moonshine whisky in his pocket, asking, "Whar is her what shows us how?"

Boys of twelve and fifteen years old begged to be allowed to join in the making of pasteboard chairs, tables and wagons. Dolls they called "puppets" and the paper chains, rattlesnakes.

Sunday schools claimed the time and energy of the "settlers," one on Saturday afternoons and two each Sunday, to which they walked twelve miles and a half. The young people would begin to gather by seven in the morning, pick the banjo and dance, drink moonshine and fire pistols all day. Yet by the time the teachers came all were in their places, knew their lessons, and behaved as most boys and girls do at Sunday school. Very few of these people had ever been to school before, or had bibles.

Besides the regular class work, much was done in the camp and in the homes of the people to cheer and to help them. "Fixin' up a little piece of writin'" for those who could neither read nor write; making the "buryn'" clothes and holding services for the dead; teaching the young people to sing and play innocent games which they could use instead of "mean things" customary at their "gatherin's"—these were some of the varied opportunities for friendly service. Best of all perhaps was the chance to persuade the parents of children who were feeble-minded, or deaf and dumb, blind, and of sound and healthy children, too, to let them go to the proper schools in the lowlands. Two girls were given scholarships at Harlan and eight scholarships were offered at Berea. One ten-year-old girl, who had never been away from home and had never seen a town, started off bravely and cheerily to ride sixty miles behind her brother on a mule, her entire wardrobe besides what she wore, being one little grey dress on which she rode. Another young girl so welcomed the chance to go to school that she was ready to start at once and walk one hundred miles over the mountains, carrying her clothes in a "meal poke."

By a series of talks given in the east this winter,

Miss Pettit and Miss Stone, the leaders in this mountain settlement work, have obtained money enough, in addition to funds already raised in Kentucky, to enable them to buy desirable property for a permanent industrial school at Hindman, Knott County, Ky. They need still the money for the settlement proper and for the annual expenses of both forms of work. It is earnestly to be hoped that it will speedily be made possible for them to bring into contact with the ignorant and humble mountaineer, with the sad and lonely lives of those with whom and for whom they have already lived and worked so much, all of strength and cheer and beauty that is so conveyed, in its best interpretation, by the social settlement.

Condensed from Miss Pettit's report by Mary Anderson Hill.

### FROM OUR BOSTON CORRESPONDENT.

Boston, April 6, 1902.

Ten years ago this winter settlements became a fact in Boston. In January, 1892, the Andover House, now South End House, was opened and Denison House was being talked of. To-day, in any discussion of settlement work, there must be added, to the seven or eight houses using the name, a number of flourishing clubs that in their neighborhood activities are following out what are known as settlement lines.

With these facts in mind, one is not inclined to give ear to the accusation of discouragement among settlement workers lately made in a Boston paper. It is an encouraging sign that leaders of the movement no longer need as a stimulus the idealization of their work that perhaps attended its beginning. The Elizabeth Peabody House report—one among a half dozen sizable and attractive settlement pamphlets lying before me—gives a summary of its year's work that perhaps characterizes the spirit of all the older workers in its matter-of-fact frankness. It says:

"The work of the kindergarten is good. The work of the boys' clubs, while not ideal, is still good. The work of the girls' clubs is good in itself but is not aimed at the center; there is a waste of energy. The social work is good so far as it goes, but is palliative rather than curative. Instead of making things more tolerable under the present tenement house conditions, we ought to better the conditions themselves."

Quite a marked feature of this year's reports is their "Building News." The South End House, now having its men's residence at 20 Union Park, will soon lay the foundations of a building seventy feet square, that is to accommodate its clubs and classes, and give better opportunities for social functions, kindergarten and industrial work. The

lively neighborhood interest in the lot of land that is being cleared of old buildings, and the appropriative spirit with which the proceedings are watched and discussed, shows how true it is that there is no antidote to petty bickering like large mutual interests.

The Lincoln House is projecting an Arts and Crafts building in the near future; and indeed it seems as if every settlement and club had either just removed to more commodious quarters or was about to erect some addition. The youngest member of the settlement family in Boston, the Civic Service House, established last October, found itself almost at birth in a new three-story building at 112 Salem street. That this is a lusty babe is testified by its leader, Mr. Meyer Bloomfield, who writes:

"We have an average attendance of 400 men a week, 100 boys and 50 girls and women. We have two ideas in view—civic education and civic agitation; one for good citizenship, the other for good government."

#### SETTLEMENT CO-OPERATION IN STREET CLEANING.

The Civic Service House has united with the North End Industrial School, the Elizabeth Peabody House and the Willard Y. Settlement in a street-cleaning movement. They are working among the children preparatory to forming juvenile leagues for the care of the streets, after the pattern of those that existed in New York under Colonel Waring. Though the New York leagues were temporary, they did good work while they lasted, educating both children and parents in the city health ordinances, and arousing a sense of responsibility in the condition of the streets throughout whole neighborhoods. Whatever the cause of their falling to pieces, they were excellent in their results, and the present deputy commissioner of street cleaning, Mr. Gibson, has expressed himself as disposed to repeat the experiment. This activity is part of a simultaneous movement among city reform organizations in regard to street cleaning, and the necessity of arousing a popular interest in the condition of highways and alleys.

The Twentieth Century Club has just issued a report on street cleaning that makes no less than twenty-six recommendations for changes and improvement in methods and ordinances, that serious evils, may be warded off, and its committee are urging and outlining a plan of concentrated action for institutions and settlements.

#### TRAINING SCHOOL FOR SOCIAL WORKERS.

A work that interests and it is hoped will affect all the settlements of Boston is just closing its first season. A Training School for Social Workers was opened in October at Mrs. Quincy Shaw's



house at 6 Marlborough street. The school has offered short courses of simple handicrafts that may be used by settlement workers in their clubs. Basket work and clay modeling have proved most popular, both among the normal students and in their clubs. All reports show the increasing belief in industrial work in the clubs. The purely social club has proved ineffective, except in rare instances, a ladder by which we all climbed but whose base degrees we are now unanimously spurning. The literary club we hear less and less about; it belonged to the idealistic period. But clubs that work together for an hour over a task that absorbs the attention of both hand and brain seem to us to hold great possibilities, material and spiritual.

The South End House, like all the rest, feels this and is beginning to wonder, as well, if better results, with small children at least, cannot be achieved in large clubs, thirty or more, with subdivisions—a federation of little clubs, each with its own leader, but all under the direction of one experienced head. Its first experiment of this sort bids fair to be a great success. Between the kindergarten and the clubs there has been for years a gap in which the children fell away from the influence of the House. Now, the kindergarten "graduates," about thirty-seven in number, are meeting twice a month under the direction of the teacher. The children are classified according to age in several sections, each with its occupation and leader; and at the end of the session, all sections meet together for games and singing. The sections bear the same name, the Kindergarten Band, and there is all the stimulus of numbers with the individual attention of the small clubs.

#### SETTLEMENT WORKERS FROM THE KENTUCKY MOUNTAINS.

Boston has been shaking hands lately with a most unique and appealing settlement enterprise in a far-away state. Two young women have been visiting us who have told a fascinating story of settlement work in the Kentucky mountains, sixty-five miles from the railroad, two days' horse-back ride through the woods. For several years these girls have lived in tents, able to work through the summer only. Now they are raising money for a school house and a permanent home where the work can go on the year round. Already through their inspiration, several young mountaineers have made their way through the woods to become students at Berea College. The Congregationalist tells of this in its issue for this week, a "Good Cheer" number in honor of the eightieth birthday of that prophet of good cheer, Dr. Edward Everett Hale, whose birthday party last

Thursday night filled Symphony Hall to overflowing. Another item tells of a union of pastors, church workers and settlement work workers at the South End, representing six denominations, who have organized for unsectarian social and religious work, reaching into corners of this straggling district heretofore untouched by church or settlement. Kindergarten, clubs, Sunday school and evening meetings are already started. Another encouraging unsectarian item is given in the notice of a new building opened by the Epworth League House, a medical mission. On the opening night a Roman Catholic speaker turned to the workers with the closing words, "And may God bless you in your work."  
ELIZABETH Y. RUTAN.

#### The Hartley House Cook Book.

Was written for teachers of cooking in settlements and girls' clubs, and for people who wish to provide nourishing, appetizing food for a moderate cost.

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# The Commons.

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor from the Social Settlement Point of View.

GRAHAM TAYLOR, - - - - - Editor.

Entered at Chicago Post Office as Second-Class Matter, and Published the first of every month from CHICAGO COMMONS, a Social Settlement at Grand Ave. & Morgan St., Chicago, Ill.

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A Year.

## EDITORIAL.

We congratulate the City of Cleveland, Ohio, Goodrich House and its head resident, Mr. Starr Cadwallader, over his election as director of public schools, which places their business administration in his hands.

Mrs. Elizabeth Y. Rutan's letter from Boston is welcomed as an invaluable addition to our regular monthly surveys of social service by expert observers at the great centers of progressive effort.

### That Overheated Conscience.

As sure as the hearts of the American people are sound and their consciences are quick, somebody must answer for the astounding barbarity in the Phillipines which has disgraced the United States Army in the eyes of the civilized world. The Nation's indignation which sent the army to deliver the Cubans from Spanish methods of warfare was too sincere to allow the nation to abide the inconsistency between suppressing "re-concentrado camps" in Cuba and tolerating "the water cure" in the Phillipines, between banishing by force of arms from the western hemisphere a government which could tolerate a Weyler at the head of its army, and justifying, under any provocation whatever, the order of an American officer to kill all over ten years of age and make their homeland a howling wilderness. For far less savagery against the Boers than that, the British General Kitchener shot two of his officers and imprisoned others for life. Sooner or later the reckoning will come. Better sooner at the hand of the administration than later at the hand of the people.

It is a sorry rejoinder to the protest of the people's conscience for editors to ask, "Did you not know that war is hell? What else do you expect it to be?" Even the charge that what the redoubtable General Funston is pleased to call "overheated conscience" is "firing in the rear," will scarcely cool the white heat of our people's righteous indignation.

### A Stroke of Settlement Genius.

For its originality, suggestiveness and educational possibility, the Hull House Labor Museum is perhaps the most unique and distinctive settlement endeavor ever undertaken. Although its promoters modestly regard it as yet only in its initial and experimental stage, some features, such as the bindery, had achieved well recognized success before being incorporated in the general plan. The possibilities of a scheme so capable of indefinite development may always make its achievement seem meager and crude to those having the whole ideal in mind. But there is enough of it already in actual operation at Hull House to inspire a genuine interest in and study of the evolution of industry upon the part of both working people and employers; to tempt the investment of money and talent in the development of the Museum; and so to fascinate those already enlisted in the enterprise that their enthusiasm and persistence will assure its ever-increasing growth and success. On Saturday evenings, when most of the departments are to be seen in full operation, Hull House presents a scene which casts its spell over every observer and abides in the memory as a point of view whence a broader and truer outlook on all life is taken.

### Hartford's Labor Mayor.

The possibility of electing a representative of organized labor as Mayor of Hartford, Conn., would have seemed scarcely credible to one who knew that city and its labor unions ten years ago, as well as the writer knew them. The healthful mobility of American political life and the clear chance of welding the balance of power in the interest of any common cause which men can conscientiously espouse are hopefully demonstrated by the present situation in this old stronghold of political and social conservatism. Perhaps this fact is more significant to the country at large than the election of a more experienced politician would have been. That the hitherto unbroken reign of both political party machines could have been supplanted through the propaganda of a comparatively small, though active and earnest, non-political "Economic League of Workingmen," shows how potent industrial issues may be in politics.

The new Mayor thus creditably and modestly expressed his attitude toward the issues involved in his election at the hour of his triumph:

"I fully indorse the principles of the league as to municipal administration. Foremost among these and covering live questions of the day are free text books in the schools, municipal ownership of the local gas plant, to give better service

at lower cost, eight hours to be a day's work for all employes, living rates of wages for these men; employment of citizens only on any work paid for by the city; no contracts for street cleaning, sprinkling, or garbage collection, and, generally speaking, an honest and economical administration of city affairs.

"Here in Hartford we have seen the strength of united workingmen, and a demonstration of what the common people, an organization of the working people, can accomplish when the voters work shoulder to shoulder.

"We are gradually coming to the time when all men will be equal. We have got it in our power now in this city to place our principles in practice. The present is not a day of politics and politicians, but of men and measures. I do not favor any man or set of men. I am anxious to be assisted in giving this city the best administration possible. If questions of finance are to be considered it seems to me right and proper for men who are known as skilled financiers to come and advise with the Mayor on questions of finance.

"When business matters are under consideration it would be proper, it seems to me, for business men to consult with the Mayor, not to come and attempt to force him to the wall. It is a teaching of our league as workingmen to be courteous to all men, to comport ourselves as the Christian virtues exact. We wish to respect all men and to respect the property rights of every one. It makes no difference to us whether a man is a union man or not. Is he deserving? is the only rule we shall apply.

"They say we are inexperienced in public matters. We have given a little time, a little attention, and a little study to civic affairs. If men who control capital would come and talk with us and learn our aims and our intentions there would be less misunderstanding. We do not want their wealth; we have the right to live, and we want to get living wages, and we want to raise labor in the estimation of the people of the American continent."

### Robbing Children of their Childhood.

The decision of the Chicago Board of Education to cut off the kindergartens from our public school, because of insufficiency of funds, due, let us add, to wholesale tax-dodging, is arousing the people to form leagues for the protection of the kindergarten at settlement and other educational centers. The crisis has called forth from Jacob Riis the following letter to Miss Amalie Hofer, editor of the Kindergarten Magazine, which forcibly expresses the settlement sentiment:

"Dear Madam: My sentiments on the subject of playgrounds and kindergartens are expressed by me every day with tongue or pen or both, and I can add nothing to what I have said a thousand times—namely, that they are the prime factors in making good citizens. That is what it is coming to in the end, and a better beginning than they make I know not of.

"If we learn by doing, if play is the normal occupation of the child, in which he first perceives moral relations, what then of the playground that is set between two gutters always? I mean the street—in the past the only one the child had. From it must needs come tarnished citizenship.

"You cannot rob a child of its childhood and expect to appeal to the child's manhood by-and-by. It takes a whole boy to make a whole man, and a boy's clean play is a big part of him. That we have seen that and restored it at last is the best proof in the world that our fathers have not built in vain and that our freedom will endure. If that is not cause for rejoicing I should like to know what is. Yours sincerely, JACOB RIIS."

Among the features of Browning Hall work for men we note the following announcements for the new year:

The eighth year of the Pleasant Sunday Afternoons open to all men over 16 years, 3:30 to 4:30 every week.

The Men's Club and Public Coffee Tavern with rooms to let for meetings of trades unions, friendly societies, etc., and including billiard rooms, "a social lounge, with bagatelle, chess, drafts, ping-pong, newspapers, etc.," and "frank and brotherly company," and "adult school for men," conducted by Councillor Tom Bryan, M. A., is announced for Sundays, 11 a. m. The subject for the spring term is "Joseph Mazzini, His Influence on 19th Century Life and Thought." "A Greek testament class for beginners, conducted by F. Herbert Stead," is also among the Sunday announcements.

### New Cottage [at] Macatawa for Rent.

A cottage of seven rooms and a bath-room, now being erected on an easily accessible bluff overlooking Lake Michigan, just south of Macatawa, will be ready for occupancy July 1. Any family desiring to inquire about this safe, comfortable, beautiful summer home between the Michigan woods and the great lake, seven hours from Chicago by daily steamer lines may address "The Commons," 180 Grand avenue, Chicago.

## COLLEGE SETTLEMENTS.

### STANDING COMMITTEE.

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### SETTLEMENTS.

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Philadelphia—433 Christian Street.

Boston—91 Tyler Street (Denison House).

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## The Probation Law in Pennsylvania.

The probation law of Pennsylvania, a measure of the last Legislature, went into effect in May, 1901. It deals only with "dependent, neglected and delinquent children" under the age of sixteen, providing that such children shall be disposed of by a special court, known as the Juvenile Court, and that, if sent by the court back to their homes, they shall remain there under the oversight of a special officer appointed by the court. Such children may be brought into the Juvenile Court through petition by citizens, but usually they are sent from the magistrates' courts and station-houses. When a magistrate transfers the case of a child brought before him to the Juvenile Court several days must often elapse before the sitting of the court. The disposition of the child during that time is a serious question, since, so far, the state has provided no house of detention. In Philadelphia the Children's Aid Society, as far as possible, supplies this lack.

The act has met considerable opposition, both before and after its passage. Some contend that a previously existing law, if made mandatory instead of permissive, would have been sufficient. Others think that the spirit of the law unjustly discriminates against public reformatories. The House of Refuge, in particular, having an immense plant and excellent facilities for dealing with large numbers of boys, feels that the law only offers another way of doing work already effectively done. At present an attempt is being made to test the

constitutionality of the law on the ground of class legislation. The "taxpayer" has carried it into court, since the law requires an additional office and salary of \$1,000. Its supporters are not discouraged; they believe that, should the law fail, a new one of the same purport but of better form will come.

Like all other laws, only experience could show its practical workings and defects, if any. Its framers and supporters believe that by altering several small details its execution would be more effective. In the first place a state house of detention is needed. Secondly, the present rotatory system of judges for the court hinders a consistent and unified course of action. Lastly, and perhaps more important, the act does not include "incorrigible" children in its provisions. Another existing law permits magistrates to dispose of the class of children so-called. Hence a magistrate may, if he deem a child incorrigible, commit him immediately to a reformatory, without bringing the case before the Juvenile Court. This power is sometimes successfully invoked by parents who are tired of their children and want them "put away."

Since last July the cases of 366 dependent and 739 delinquent children have been dealt with. So far twelve probation officers have been employed, eight of whom represent various charitable societies. One of the judges says: "A few months' practical working of the act has shown what a wonderful agency for good the probation officer is. \* \* \* The whole scheme of the act is toward preventing delinquents from becoming criminals. It is the ounce of prevention which is far, far better than pounds of cure. It aims to place the erring child of years too tender to yet fully appreciate the dangers ahead, under the restraining, guiding hand of an officer of the court. The restraint is that of oversight, the guidance that of kindly advice backed by that power everywhere recognized, the power of the law."

Of the four Philadelphia probation officers not connected with societies, one has constantly made her home in the Philadelphia College Settlement, and here her probation boys come and bring their friends. Her idea is to provide a safe and natural outlet for the boy's social feelings, which he does possess, although his whole family may live in one room, and there is no place to entertain his friends except on the street. Many of these boys have been organized into clubs for gymnastics or other occupations of hand and head. The permitting of probation boys to bring their friends arose from a remark made by one of the friends that "a feller couldn't get to belong to one of them college settlement clubs unless he swiped somethin', or done

some-thing bad." That broke down one barrier and the probation boy brought in his gang, of which he was often the leader. In one such case the probationer was an Italian ragpicker of fifteen, arrested for stealing from a back yard. When told he might bring his friends to the club he brought in fourteen other big, thick-set Italian boys. As for himself he has abandoned ragpicking and now earns \$9 a week in the navy yard, and what is better, has a very appreciable gentle and good influence on the rest of his club.

Just one more successful probationer. A boy of thirteen robbed his employer of \$20. He simply registered his proper time for going to work and stopping; in the meantime he sneaked in and out and played on a neighboring lot. For three weeks he drew his pay, then came discovery. His employer had him arrested; the probation officer asked that he be taken back. The employer at first thought she was mad; afterward he remembered his own boys, appeared in court and promised to give the boy another trial. Two weeks ago the boy paid back the last of the stolen money and received an advance in his position. Under the old law he would have gone to the House of Refuge for two years.

The probation law has been in operation ten months and has done good and effective work, not only for the children themselves, but for the community as well. The best thought and feeling are on its side. A judge who is recorded as opposing the passage of the bill now says: "Great good to the children and public must necessarily follow their [the probation officers] labors of humanity for a class of children unable to protect themselves and criminally neglected by the community." As for the law itself he says, "It is its own best excuse for being."

EDITH JONES,  
College Settlement, Philadelphia.

April 9, 1902.

"Surely the largest field of usefulness is open to that church in which the spirit of brotherhood is a living and vital force and not a cold formula; in which the rich and poor gather together to aid one another in work for a common end. Brother can best help brother, not by almsgiving, but by joining with him in an intelligent and resolute effort for the uplifting of all."

"The spirit which exacts respect and yields it, which is anxious always to help in a mood of simple brotherhood, and which is glad to accept help in return—this is the spirit which enables men of every degree of wealth and of widely varying social conditions to work together in the heartiest good will and to the immense benefit of all."—Theodore Roosevelt, in the *Fortnightly Review*.

## ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD WORKERS, NEW YORK CITY.

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY  
MARY KINGSBURY SIMKHOVITCH,  
248 East 34th Street, New York.

### Mr. Woods' Course for Neighborhood Workers.

The object of the course was to present a broad classification of the population in the working class districts of our cities; to suggest large lines of action designed to meet the situation in each industrial stratum; and, in particular, to show what the special constituency of the settlement is.

One must confront these problems not with any form of altruism, but in the spirit of constructive statesmanship. Government is not a tradition, but a science, and must adapt itself flexibly to things as they are. Social science is science in the same sense. The words by which we describe the person whose life has refinement and finish refer to the persons adaptedness to existence in a city—civil, polite, urbane. The truly cultivated person of these days shows the marks of his culture by coming in touch with the range of characteristic, contemporary city facts.

In endeavoring to mold city facts prescriptions are useless. One must be an opportunist—now gentle, now firm; now using edge tools, now heavy machinery; now dealing minutely with individuals, now acting comprehensively and exhaustively.

The need of painstaking analysis of city facts exists because, with the great growth of cities, not only has the administration of the city broken down, but the very conception of the city has broken down. Most citizens live on with the thought of their city as it was fifteen or twenty years ago. Others create out of part of it by a more or less imaginary boundary line a sort of village within which they have their "conversation."

Charles Booth has rendered a great service to progressive citizenship through his analysis of the London population. His classification (found in Vol. 1, "Labor and Life of the People") is to the social student of the nature of the alphabet or the multiplication table. He finds the problem of poverty in four classes, together including about 30 per cent of the London population—A (semi-criminal), B (casual labor), C (Intermittent labor), D (regular low wages). He places the causes of poverty under three heads: matters of employment, of habit, of circumstance.

For the pauperized or semi-pauperized grades we need to organize large, systematic measures. They cannot be dealt with through the good deeds of the well-disposed. They represent a dangerous

hereditary and contagious social disease. The question of responsibility and blame counts for little when a person has fallen into a grade where most of the recuperative moral vitality is gone. With the insane and criminals we think much less about blame than formerly. Pauperism, confirmed and incipient, must be dealt with by careful classification, but by wholesale and exhaustively, as we deal with problems of sanitation and infection.

The pauper group is partly resident, partly roving.

The roving pauper (tramp) must be abolished. Let every city and every considerable town be required by statute to provide a lodging house where food and shelter will be provided in return for a severe stint of work. Make begging on the streets a punishable offense. Advertise to all householders that "sturdy beggars" be sent in every case to this lodging house. Experience has shown that towns adopting such a policy are instantly put upon the tramps' blacklist. An entire state could easily earn this happy opprobrium.

The resident pauper should have a special type of institution of an encouraging sort to deal with him in his early stages. In some cases after being tested he would fall into the ranks of the confirmed paupers; in others he could be trained into self-reliance.

The principle of the cumulative sentence should be applied to the confirmed pauper, the confirmed drunkard, the confirmed prostitute. They ought to be effectually prevented from spreading their curse through contagion and heredity.

Such a policy would secure a large saving of human life which now goes to waste in the human residuum. It would remove much of the ruinous competition by which the casual class undermines the employment of the intermittent worker and the wages of the regularly employed. It would eliminate a very perplexing factor from the problem of the unemployed. It would make the saloon the entrance to a bottomless pit. It would vastly simplify the work of organized charity among the intermittent workers and the work of the settlement among the low-paid regularly employed. It could be carried out by such a combination of determination and resource as goes with any of our large industrial combinations.

#### THE ARISTOCRACY OF LABOR.

The second lecture dealt with the aristocracy of labor. A nation's chief outlay for new investment is in the cost of producing and training the rising generation. The fundamental wealth of a nation lies in the productive capacity of the people.

Prof. Alfred Marshall estimates that about one-half of the best natural geniuses born into a country is born among the working classes. Most of

this is lost to itself and to the country through a narrow scheme of book-work education and through allowing promising boys and girls to end their education with the bare rudiments for the utterly inequent reason that their parents happen to be poor.

We need a great extension of manual and technical training, and a system of free scholarships by which undoubtedly talented boys and girls could receive as complete a training as they could later make good use of. Advanced education is not urged for the great mass of the children of the working classes. The development of character, physical health, and sufficient education to give them adaptability is what is needed for the average person.

Trained leaders for the direction of industry and for the organization of labor would be developed by a far-sighted policy like the one suggested.

#### INDIVIDUALIST AND COLLECTIVIST INDUSTRIAL CLASSES.

In the third lecture it was pointed out that the lowest and highest strata of industrial life were made up of individualists. In the one case necessities, in the other ambitions, drive the individual to direct effort after his personal ends. There is a great middle class of labor which is made up of collectivists. This is the working class proper—held together by the various forms of association which are characteristic of the proletariat. Not accessible on the basis of necessities, on the one hand, nor of ambitions on the other, it is impervious to the influence of organized charity from beneath or from special educational institutions from above.

#### WORKING CLASS ASSOCIATION.

This and the two following lectures dealt with the various ways of working class association.

It was shown that trades-unionism was an inevitable development of the factory system, and the only way by which the workman could bargain effectively with the man holding the power of organized capital.

The methods and objects of trades unions were explained. It was shown that in all of them there was a greater or less kernel of good, but that most of the trades union policy was liable to abuse. Being a necessary factor in modern industry we must take it at its best, and help to bring it up to its own standards.

Progress is being made in the matter of arbitration and conciliation. Under a joint board of conciliation, made up of a committee of employers and committee of workmen, some trades have had long immunity from conflicts, and this system is the surest way toward industrial peace.

In the end the organization of labor will be a constituent part of the complete and united organization of industry.

Socialism was traced through its characteristic French, German and English aspects. The Fabian type of Socialism was commended as avoiding the militarist discipline, rigid equality and ready-made doctrinaire character of the orthodox German Socialism. It was shown, however, that in Germany as Socialism becomes more powerful it becomes much more moderate and opportunist.

In America, conscious Socialism has been largely of the extreme German type. But that there is a large amount of incipient Socialism among the people of American stock the People's party movement has shown.

We may reasonably see advance toward economic socialism in the trades union movement: toward political socialism in the movement for the municipalization of public utilities, toward educational socialism in the extension of the means of training and culture to the working classes, and toward religious socialism in the growing hope of a better social order to come out of our present social confusion.

#### CRUDE SOCIALISM IN WARD POLITICS.

Ward politics is a kind of crude Socialism, basing itself upon the feeling that the power of the ballot ought to bring with it tangible economic betterment to the people. It involves an elaborate scheme of local social influence, including recreative, industrial, commercial, religious, family and neighborhood groups, all of which are used for their political value. The criminal, the unemployed, the casual, the unskilled laborer, the mechanic, the tradesman, the young man ambitious for some higher career than that of his father—are all met with offers of some actual economic service. To each of them the ballot becomes an asset—to many of them it is the only one.

The melding or the outright creation of local public sentiment is an important part of the work of the machine. The saloon is one of the chief centers for such influence.

Municipal reform must follow the lines of the boss' strategy. It must improve the economic condition of the people, by instituting a truly helpful local political programme. The boss cannot be destroyed, but a better boss can be developed by pushing to the front genuine issues as to local improvement. A public bath or a public playground is a sort of kindergarten training in democracy. Through such training the electorate is elevated and enlightened—and this is the only permanent way of reform in a democracy.

Home and neighborhood are the real strongholds

of working-class life. Working-class experiences, sentiments, gossip, vocabulary, cannot be understood except by seeing home and neighborhood from the inside. Charles Booth points out that near the line of poverty the fate of the home chiefly depends on the thrift of the wife. This is therefore the point at which wise help is greatly needed. Boys and girls should be trained for their future callings, and then actually launched, as the children of well-to-do parents are launched.

The back streets have a sort of village life which needs to be understood and influenced.

Nationality and religion serve to dig deeper the gulf of distinction created by wealth and poverty.

The settlement is an ingenious device for securing access to the otherwise almost inaccessible working class. It comes as a quasi-home, with potential neighbors, friends, fellow-citizens, ready to join in the various local forms of association on a basis of equal rights. This attitude of democratic co-operation secures approach to the working class on the basis of what is most real to it, its loyalties.

The settlement is a religious unity binding together rival churches. It makes a link of connection between the public school and the home. Different settlements widen their scope until the ripples of influence coalesce, creating a new moral synthesis, the pattern of the better city of the future.

#### The Social Reform Club.

The formation of the Social Reform Club was first proposed during the summer of 1894. On the conclusion of the municipal campaign of that year several preliminary meetings of social reformers were held, and the club was promptly organized at the residence of the Rev. Thomas J. Ducey, November 22. The more prominent persons connected with its founding were Prof. Felix Adler, Dr. Albert Shaw, the Rev. W. S. Rainsford, Prof. E. R. A. Seligman, the Rev. Leighton Williams, Dr. Charles B. Spahr, Mr. J. W. Sullivan, Mr. Henry White and Mr. E. H. Crosby.

Mr. E. H. Crosby was elected president and the Rev. W. S. Rainsford treasurer. The constitution, adopted at this meeting, limited the club's province of work and discussion to matters relating to the immediate needs of the wage-earners. General theories of society were to be tabooed. Investigation was to be made and arbitration attempted, in the case of labor disputes; legal aid was to be given in cases where justice demanded it; inquiry was to be made into industrial conditions, and weekly discussions on practical questions were to be held. The membership was to include women

and to be as nearly as possible equally divided between wage-earners and non-wage-earners.

The club's first quarters were at 7 Lafayette place. By December 29 the membership had grown to 118, women constituting about one-fourth of the total. On January 20, 1895, the quarters were moved to Second avenue and Fifth street. The first general public meeting of the club was held in Cooper Union, January 30, when the report of the Gilder Tenement House Commission was discussed. The speakers were the Rev. W. S. Rainsford, R. W. Gilder, Prof. Felix Adler, Prof. E. R. A. Seligman, Mr. Henry George and Mr. Edward King. It was an interesting and highly successful meeting and won for the club considerable prominence. A second popular meeting was held in the Criterion Theater, Brooklyn, February 28, to discuss the question of the municipal ownership of the street railways.

The first officers, with two or three exceptions, were re-elected (November, 1895) and three women were added to the executive council. January 1, 1896, the club moved to new quarters at 28 East Fourth street. The real practical work of the society began in this home (June, 1896) by the selection of a working programme and the appointment of committees to take up specific lines of inquiry and action. In many ways the club's influence and power were exerted in behalf of labor and its rapid recognition from the public.

Dr. Charles B. Spahr was elected president at the next election (November, 1896). Among the practical questions discussed during the club year was the state of the various city departments. This series of discussions strikingly revealed the abuses that had grown up under the previous Tammany administrations, and outlined the methods employed or attempted for their reformation. The various programme committees continued to do active work in industrial, social and administrative questions, and greatly augmented the club's influence.

Dr. Spahr was re-elected president in November 1897. The same general policy was continued throughout the year. A slight reaction, however, due to several causes, and particularly to the decline of public spirit consequent upon the triumph of Tammany Hall at the polls, was soon manifested in the club's activities; and it unquestionably lost ground as a public factor.

At the succeeding election (1898) Mr. Edmond Kelly was elected president. Resigning in February, 1899, he was succeeded by Mr. James K. Paulding, who was re-elected in the fall of the same year. The club had in the meantime (October, 1898) removed to 45 University place to considerably larger but otherwise less satisfactory

quarters. In November, 1900, Mr. Robert Van Iderstine was elected president. On his resignation shortly afterward, Mr. A. J. Boulton was chosen, and in November, 1901, the latter was succeeded by the present incumbent, Mr. W. Franklin Brush. In May, 1901, the club settled in its present home, 128 East Twenty-eighth street.

In the years following its most flourishing period (June, 1896-December, 1897) the club has followed a rather various policy. It has alternately broadened its scope to allow the discussion of general and theoretical questions and again narrowed it to the consideration of the most practical problems. The ebb and flow of interest in its work have been extreme; it has had its periods of dull stagnation no less than of ardent enthusiasm and fruitful activity. But against many obstacles it has survived; it has still a large membership and a healthy ledger, and it is the confident expectation of those who best know its history, its resources and its potential field of social endeavor that it will long endure as an influential factor in the socio-industrial affairs of the great metropolis.

W. G.

#### Child Labor Committee's Programme.

The committee of the Association of Neighborhood Workers, on Child Labor, met recently and organized various committees for collecting information concerning the extent of the evil in this community.

The following subcommittees were appointed: The Committee on Child Labor in Factories and Shops, Mrs. A. A. Hill; the Committee on Child Labor on the Street, Miss Lillian Wald, chairman; Child Labor in the Home, Miss Elizabeth Williams; Child Labor in Philanthropic Institutions, Mrs. S. W. Fitzgerald; Child Labor in Vacation Time, Mrs. M. K. Simkovitch; Legal Committee, Calvin W. Stewart, chairman, 184 Eldridge street.

At this meeting of the committee it was decided that the various subcommittees would co-operate closely with every one in the community, especially with the various settlements, who have opportunities of observing child labor of various kinds.

It is hoped that each settlement will bear this matter in mind and make a special effort to investigate the conditions in their various localities, and that the residents doing this work will report to the chairman for the various subcommittees whenever they have come across information which will be of interest to our committees. Whatever organization of this work seems most satisfactory to the individual settlement will, of course, be satisfactory to the committee. The only thing that the committee wishes to urge is that unless some of the residents in each settlement may be inclined



to give this matter special attention the general committee will not be able to collect as much information concerning this matter as we should have. The general committee will be dependent upon the settlements to a very large extent, and it hopes for a cordial and active co-operation. If any in the various settlements can give an unusual amount of time in the matter we should be very glad to hear from them. Very sincerely yours,

ROBERT HUNTER, Chairman.

### The Year at Alta House.

The past year the Alta House has been one of great interest. I fancy we have all felt more keenly than usual the privileges, joys and satisfaction of settlement life. There has been a strong bond of sympathy and unity of purpose among the residents that could not but have its effect upon the life of the neighborhood. Consequently our clubs and classes have never been so full. April 15 we opened the second kindergarten in the house. In our effort to meet the needs of the little children. We now have an enrollment of 118, but still there is a waiting list, with many mothers anxiously inquiring when they may send their children.

Since the Christmas holidays we have added 276 to the membership of the various clubs and classes, and now have a total of 1,265, besides those who use the more public features of the house—the baths, poolroom and dispensary: At Easter time we invited the kindergarten mothers to come in one afternoon, and sixty-five responded to the invitation. All Italians but six. Miss Gutnerie, for a time our resident nurse (and consequently knowing many of the mothers), speaks the dialect of our people fluently and was of great assistance.

The mothers were seated around a large circle while she explained in their own language the motive of our work with their little ones.

Our kindergarteners then played several games which were carefully explained. After that many of the younger mothers, upon being invited, got up and joined them, greatly to the delight of the others who were looking on. It was a happy afternoon indeed, and after the playing of the games the residents met and talked with them while refreshments were served. On leaving each one carried away a flower as a remembrance of the Easter thought that had been given them during the afternoon.

The Alta House still continues to take a share in the public life of the community. A careful canvass shows its nine short streets to contain a population of 2,371 men, women and children, with 862 children under 14 years of age; 1,203 of the population are Italians, 257 were born in the

United States, 66 of whom are colored, 120 are German, 93 English, 32 Irish, and the balance Scotch, Scandinavians, French, Russian and other countries. There has been little serious illness and no contagious disease among us this winter, for the first time since the house was opened.

The latest additions to the work are: A class of twenty-five piano pupils, chorus of twenty-two colored people, from 18 to 35 years of age, and a class in manual training. The regular spring work in the Domestic Science cottage has opened well and the poolroom is averaging fifteen a night.

All things considered, we feel the winter has proved the co-operation of the neighborhood beyond a doubt, and the devotion of the residents to the life they have chosen here.

KATHERINE E. SMITH, Head Worker.

### The Hartley House Cook Book.

During the last few years a great number of cook books have been inflicted upon the unsuspecting public, many novices in the art of cooking seeming to feel their tenure of office insecure unless they rush madly into print, the result being a few good and many utterly worthless productions. One of the very best of these few good books is the little manual issued last year by Miss Ella A. Pierce, director of the cooking classes at Hartley House, called the "Hartley House Cook Book and Home Economist."

This book seems to fill a long-felt want, being the most simple and altogether practical work of this kind that has appeared for some time. It is the outgrowth of the work in the Hartley House Settlement, where particular attention is paid to the improvement of housekeeping in the neighborhood, and to further which end domestic science, kitchen gardening and sewing receive especial attention. Cooking classes in the tenements are also a feature of this work, and the desire to aid this class of its workers, among whom is an increasing demand for the printed receipts used in the Hartley House cooking classes, led to the publication of this book. It is certainly true, as Miss Pierce says in her introduction, that the average American family spends much more for food than is necessary for adequate nourishment, and every one of the six hundred receipts given in this book can be recommended to those who wish to live well at a moderate cost.

### PESTALOZZI-FROEBEL, Kindergarten Training School at Chicago Commons.

Two years' course in Kindergarten Theory and Practice. A course in home making. Industrial and Social Development emphasized. Includes opportunity to become familiar with Social Settlement Work. For circulars and particulars, address  
BERTHA HOFER HEGNER, 363 No. Winchester Ave.  
Chicago

### May Festival at Chicago Commons.

To give our neighbors and outside friends a little glimpse of what has been going on at Chicago Commons all winter, and for the benefit of our summer outing work, an exhibit is announced for Friday and Saturday afternoons and evenings, May 9th and 10th. The cooking and sewing schools, manual training, art classes, girls' and boys' clubs, the carpet-weaving loom, hat and basket making, instrumental and vocal classes and gymnasium drills will all contribute to the interest of the occasion, and stereopticon views of Camp Commons in the Penney Meadow near Elgin, Ill., will be shown. The Festival will conclude on Wednesday and Thursday evenings, May 13th and 14th, with the production of the opera, "The Chimes of Normandy," by the Chicago Commons Choral Club, assisted by the Hinshaw School of Opera and Orchestral Accompaniment.

#### OUR FRONT DOORYARD PLANTED.

Through the kindness of a friend, who pays filial tribute to his mother's love of flowers, which he shares, by making several settlement houses bright with blossom and sweet with fragrance, our dooryard entrance has been made beautiful and inviting with lawn, bushes, flowering plants, ivy and three whole trees. The reservation of this little open space at the heart of our city wilderness of boards and brick is worth more to those outside and within our house than anything we could have built upon it. Our good friend and his Sunday-school children, who shared the privilege of creating this little beauty spot, will never regret their investment in this bit of "God's country" among the multitude, whose lives are so completely divorced from nature.

#### NEW PLAYGROUND OPENED.

Through the co-operation of the Vacation School Committee we are thankful to announce the early opening of a public playground opposite Chicago Commons on the northwest corner of Grand avenue and Morgan street. When this committee offered to assure the fence and contribute toward the apparatus, the settlement could not do less than assume the expense of the nominal rental of the ground and provide volunteer supervision. Surely the two or three hundred dollars required will be considered a good investment by those who will want to take shares in it before going on their summer vacations. The Committee hold out some hope of placing a Vacation School in our neighboring Washington School building.

#### SHELTERING THE MATHEON DAY NURSERY.

To assure the continuance of the good service rendered our neighborhood through the past six years by the Day Nursery, Chicago Commons re-

lieves the Matheon Club of the expense of rental by taking it under our own roof for the summer. We hope this club of young ladies, which has hitherto borne the whole expense of the Nursery, will with such co-operation as we can render, be able to make permanent provision for it in the autumn. Parents who appreciate their need of help in caring for their children will realize what it means to a working mother to have her little ones safely cared for all day while she is earning the living. What help to self-help can be more effectively considerate than this? Should we not expect offers of assistance to shelter the Nursery, which the Matheon Club will continue to support and manage, until the proposed annex to our new building is furnished by one or two generous hearts?

Meanwhile, the space awaiting it will be utilized as a playground for the little children of the Nursery and the Summer Kindergarten.

#### PUBLIC RECEPTION TO OUR ALDERMEN.

As the asperities of the vigorous aldermanic campaign speedily softened, Chicago Commons buried the hatchet under a love-feast. All the people of the 17th Ward were invited to meet their aldermen at a public reception tendered Alderman and Mrs. John F. Smulski and Alderman and Mrs. Wm. E. Dever. The significance of the scene of democratic hospitality and good fellowship lay in the fact that the senior alderman is a Republican, elected a year ago by 1300 majority, and the junior alderman a Democrat, elected this spring by over 1800 majority—the balance of power centering, at both elections, very near the Community Club rooms in Chicago Commons.

#### VISITATION OF STUDENTS.

Within the past few weeks entire classes of students with their instructors from the University of Chicago, the McCormick and Lutheran Theological Seminaries, and the University of Wisconsin have spent afternoons and evenings at the settlement. Settlement Fellowship students from the Universities of Wisconsin and Michigan have also been in residence during the winter. Delegations from kindergarten and other training schools are constantly coming in touch with the work. Students of the Chicago Theological Seminary are assigned to settlement service as part of the curriculum in the Sociological department.

#### Pressing Needs of Chicago Commons.

To cancel building debt and interest. . . .	\$12,280
For support of work through the year. . .	5,600
To equip and maintain public playground . . . . .	500
For summer camp and outings . . . . .	1,000
To shelter Matheon Day Nursery. . . . .	400
For Men's Club and Manual Training Annex . . . . .	10,000

# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor from the Settlement Point of View.

Number 71---Vol. VII.

Seventh Year.

Chicago, June, 190

## Chicago's Park Commission on River Ward Conditions.

Supplementary to their recommendation of sites for small parks, the Special Parks Commission of the City of Chicago submit to the West Park Board a report on the conditions which govern the commission's recommendation and also a series of valuable maps, showing the proportion in the rate of death and juvenile delinquency to the density of population and the lack of open spaces. The description of the conditions prevalent in the river wards gives a realistic impression of the surroundings of some of the Chicago settlements.

### THE CHICAGO COMMONS DISTRICT.

"One can only realize what it means to be an American when he has walked with that great army of toilers—men, women and children—which, shoulder to shoulder, makes a steady stream of moving figures from five to eight o'clock in the morning and again from five to eight in the evening, marching to and from their labors along that great artery of traffic, Milwaukee avenue. When one has walked five miles or ridden in the packed cars, with men and boys fastened like barnacles all over the platform, the crowd begins to disappear. Multitudes begin this teeming procession on wheels and afoot, multitudes drop off, others join it, but finally one is no longer shoulder to shoulder with the mass. He is almost alone and then only does he realize the many nationalities which share with him the right of being an American. Above all else he realizes the immensely populous district of the northwest side.

The densely populated Seventeenth river-ward contains about 65,000 people, mostly of the artisan class. The only public breathing space is a one and three-tenths acre front yard strip in the west end containing a few trees and weedy grass. Twelve thousand children attend the public and parochial schools in this ward. It is the most populous school district in the city except one. The great number of children shows that this is a ward of homes. These children have no proper place to play. Swarms of boys and girls can be found after school hours in the unpaved, muddy or dust laden streets. There are few yards of any size in the ward, the lots being mostly covered with the modern three and four story brick

tenements, the old frame dwellings of village times, or the "double-decker." There are in some parts a conglomerate mass of old styled tenements, with many rooms damp and sunless. A careful investigation proves that the residence population is increasing much faster than the manufacturing interests and that by far the larger part of this ward will be increasingly a district of homes for generations to come. The population in parts of the ward reaches 250 persons to the acre and is steadily rising in density as the modern, many-storied flat buildings displace the smaller frame tenements. This ward has the smallest number of transients of any of the city's populous districts.

The health department records show that in proportion to population for every child who dies in the Seventh ward four children perish in the Seventeenth. The comparison is almost as startling, when the figures as to the death of adults are considered, the proportion being three to one. The Seventh ward has the largest park area of any district in the city; the Seventeenth has practically none. An examination of the Juvenile Court records shows that of the 2,900 delinquents in Chicago, since the court was established, 700 live in the two districts of which the Seventeenth ward is a part.

A small playground is maintained by the Chicago Commons social settlement, Grand avenue and Morgan street. This is the only play space for the multitudes of children in the populous river end of the ward."

### NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY SETTLEMENT NEIGHBORHOOD.

"The Sixteenth ward holds the unique position of possessing a greater number of residents to the acre in certain parts than any other ward in the city. It is one of the most over-crowded regions in the world. Every lot which is improved at all—and there are very few that are not—has one, two, or three houses covering its ground area. Almost every lot holds dwellings which shelter several families. An object lesson of the child population of this ward is to be seen immediately after school hours. From the block occupied by the St. Stanislaus Kosta group of church and school buildings (Polish), 3,800 children pour forth, swarming the streets like an army

of ants and disappearing through dark and narrow passageways to rear tenements and basement homes.

From three to five hundred persons occupy every acre, excluding streets and alleys. A rear tenement stands on almost every lot. In one block 294 persons live in thirty-seven alley homes. On the alleys in ten blocks 2,600 people live, a large proportion of whom are in basements. Many small rooms are occupied by four and five people. It is common to find ten persons in three small rooms. Literally there is no room to live in this part of Chicago. The mortality of children in this neighborhood is extremely high. In one block the death rate of all ages ran up to 37 per thousand; this means 22 persons dying unnecessarily from overcrowded and unsanitary conditions.

#### THE GHETTO DISTRICT HENRY BOOTH HOUSE NEIGHBORHOOD.

The Ghetto in the Ninth ward is the most populous school district in the city. Seven schools in this district have an enrollment of nearly 10,000 children, to which are to be added 4,300 more who attend the five parochial schools and the Jewish Manual Training School. These 14,300 boys and girls, living in about one mile square of territory, have no park or playground within ordinary walking distance. People of the Ghetto suffer intensely from overcrowding. Almost every available foot of ground space is occupied by tenements. One block has a population of over 1,000 persons. The landlords get high rents for unsanitary dwellings and stores, while they habitually violate the sanitary laws. Dark and overcrowded rooms abound. Cellars, basements, outhouses are all used for living purposes. There are between four and five hundred people to the acre. There are no yards, so the children crowd the narrow streets and passageways, some of which are little better than alleys. Many hundred children, in defiance of the child-labor law, work in the factories and stores.

#### THE BOHEMIAN DISTRICT.

Next to the Sixteenth Ward the Tenth is the most populous ward in Chicago. It has the appearance of being a distinct city in itself. It has no park nor playground. The dwellings are large tenement houses. Every inch of the ground space of a large number of lots is covered by this type of buildings. The rear tenements are the worst in the city. In one block, without an alley, there are several three-story tenements, running solidly through from street to street. The population of the entire ward is growing rapidly. Tenement conditions are fast becoming worse. The crowding is becoming more intense, landlords are be-

coming more rapacious, seeking to cover every inch of their ground space with solid tenements.

#### HULL HOUSE DISTRICT.

Italians, Jews, Syrians, Greeks, Irish and Bohemians constitute the mass of the population. Few houses have a yard or open space. Every inch of many lots is covered by buildings. Nearly half the people who live in one block have 150 cubic feet less air space than the state law demands for every occupant of a ten cent lodging house. The comparative newness and open construction of the frame dwellings in Chicago have been important agents in preventing disease and keeping down the death rate, but a train of misery and infection is being laid by the brick double-decker. In the district investigated by the City Homes Association, 20 cellars and 192 basements were found, in which lived 436 adults and 491 children. Five public schools in this ward have a total enrollment of 6,230 children, and six parochial schools have an attendance of 2,365. The only playground is conducted by the Hull House Settlement.

#### COMPARISON OF DEATH RATES.

The fifth sanitary division under the department of health covers the districts above mentioned, and includes 7,900 acres, with a population of about 475,000, with death rate of a fraction under 15 per thousand. The divisions in which the large parks are situated show a mortality for the same year of 10.99, 12.23, 10.56 and 10.69 per thousand. Much of this mortality is charged by the health department to the lack of breathing space for the manual toilers of the great West Side and to the equally serious absence of safe places and healthy atmosphere for juvenile recreation. The health department reported the proportion of deaths of infants to all deaths in the entire city as 22 to 100. In the Sixteenth ward it was 30.3 in every 100, or 40 per cent greater than the proportion for the whole city and 144 per cent greater than that for the Third ward.

#### JUVENILE DELINQUENCY PROPORTIONATE TO LACK OF PLAY SPACE.

Many factors coexist in causing a child of the tenements to become a delinquent before the Juvenile Court and ultimately a criminal. The people of the tenements are working people, they cannot give much time to guide and train their children. When both parents are employed and are working long hours, the boys are left to roam at will in the tenement, street and alley. Recreation grounds, which are provided by the Small Park Acts, together with playgrounds established

through other channels, will unquestionably do more to prevent the boys of our poorer districts from becoming criminals than will any other remedial agency. From public funds or from the private donations of wealthy, public-spirited citizens, the children should be provided with decent, healthful places in which to live and play and work off their surplus energy in physical exercise. The commission's map embodying statistics, obtained from the records of the Juvenile Court, also bears witness to the fact that the parkless areas and the areas of juvenile turbulence and delinquency are identical. A glance at this map will show the destitution of recreation spaces within the areas from which the majority of delinquents are brought before the Juvenile Court. It is in the spirit of play that children commit most of their petty offenses against the law. This is often the innocent beginning of a life of crime. The relationship of juvenile lawlessness to the destitution of proper recreation places is shown by figures from the John Worthy School at the House of Correction. Out of the 314 boys confined there December 31, 1901, 128, or more than one-third of the total, came from six wards which contained no large park nor playground. The six wards, which contained the bulk of the park system, sent only 21 boys to this "Bridewell" school.

The Vacation School and Playground Committee of the Chicago Woman's Club, reports that "the police records show an increase of 60 per cent in juvenile arrests in the summer months. When children are not engaged in schools or absorbed in properly supervised playgrounds, juvenile crime increases. A lieutenant of police declared, 'Since the playground has been opened the boys give us no trouble. Not less than fifteen lives have been saved from the electric cars since the establishment of the playground, and juvenile arrests have decreased fully 33 1-3 per cent.'"

#### Note.

The Commons has the privilege of publishing above the first comprehensive extracts to be printed from the report of the Special Park Commission of the City of Chicago, through the courtesy of Mr. Arthur O'Neill, secretary to the commission, and author of the report. Surely nothing more should be needed to point the appeal which our new little public playground makes for immediate equipment and enlargement, pending the success of the city-wide movement for small parks. Every such private initiative that demonstrates the demand is the most effective effort to secure the public provision for the supply.

#### A Cry From The Ghetto.

(Translated from the Yiddish of Morris Rosenfeld by J. W. Linn.)

The roaring of the wheels has filled my ears,

The clashing and the clamor shut me in;

Myself, my soul, in chaos disappears,

I cannot think or feel amid the din.

Toiling and toiling and toiling—endless toil.

For whom? For what? Why should the work be done?

I do not ask, or know. I only toil.

I work until the day and night are one.

The clock above me ticks away the day.

Its hands are spinning, spinning, like the wheels.

It cannot sleep or for a moment stay.

It is a thing like me, and does not feel.

It throbs as tho' my heart were beating there—

A heart? My heart? I know not what it means.

The clock ticks, and below I strive and stare,

And so we lose the hour. We are machines.

Noon calls a truce, an ending to the sound,

As if a battle had one moment stayed—

A bloody field! The dead lie all around;

Their wounds cry out until I grow afraid.

It comes—the signal! See, the dead men rise,

They fight again, amid the roar they fight,

Blindly, and knowing not for whom, or why,

They fight, they fall, they sink into the night.

—From *Hull House Bulletin*.

#### The Social Centers of Buffalo.

BY EMILY S. HOLMES.

"If you could district the large cities and induce the churches to look after the districts as the politicians look after the voters in those districts there would follow such an uplifting of the masses as has not been known since the coming of the Master." This remark, made by a foreign guest to Miss Maria Love, of Buffalo, was the influence which inspired her to inaugurate a movement toward the suggested end. The Charity Organization Society, Frederic Almy, secretary and treasurer, has been the working power in the carrying out of this plan, the growth of which has been watched with keen interest by many people both at home and abroad and the permanence of which seems to be assured. The city was divided into districts; the churches were asked to be responsible for them and one hundred and two responded favorably. Churches already doing some special work chose the district in which it was located, in some cases contiguous to the church and in other cases miles distant. From this movement have sprung into existence a number of social centers. They are not settlements, but they aim for the settlement ideals. When this social work is carried on in a building adjacent to the church or in the church itself it takes the form of institutional church work. In this class can be mentioned Emanuel (Baptist),

St. Paul's, St. Andrew's and All Saints (Episcopal), and Bethesda (Presbyterian). Rev. Creighton R. Story, pastor of Emanuel church, has established a kindergarten, singing school, free reading room and library, classes in book-keeping, German, elocution, drawing, English literature, stenography, typewriting and electricity. Rev. J. A. Regester, pastor of "St. Paul's," has social clubs for men, women, boys and girls. Trained teachers have charge of the kindergarten, physical culture and housekeepers' classes and volunteer helpers have classes in sewing and cooking.

Rev. Harry Ransom, pastor of "St. Andrew's," and Rev. John D. Campbell, of "Bethesda," have broadened their social work as rapidly as limited means allowed. The former has established a young men's club and a club for older men, also sewing classes for women and girls, and the penny provident bank; and the latter has formed a club for men and opens Sunday school rooms for a daily kindergarten. Rev. G. H. Gaviller, pastor of "All Saints," sustains a boys' club and sewing school. Several missions, distant from the mother church, are also co-operating in this social work.

Trinity Avenue Chapel is associated with the Prospect Avenue Baptist Church, Rev. J. N. Field, pastor. In the chapel are held sewing and dress-making classes, a club for women and a kindergarten. Maple Street Mission is associated with another Baptist church, "Delaware Avenue," Rev. A. P. Gifford, pastor. A sewing school, a bank and a woman's society are among its activities.

Memorial Chapel, supported by Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church, Rev. William T. Chapman, pastor, has equipped a diet kitchen, from which one of the district nurses takes food and clothing to the sick people. This mission also sustains a woman's club of nearly one hundred and fifty members and a large sewing school.

The mission of the Incarnation is connected with the Church of the Ascension, Rev. G. B. Richards pastor. The main feature of this work is the diet kitchen, under the care of a professional nurse, whose attention is given to the sick of that particular district.

The Epworth Chapel is associated with the Delaware Avenue Methodist Church, Rev. C. E. Locke, pastor. Adjacent to the Chapel is Delaware House, which is a cross between a mission and a social center. "Social center" is a term given to the new organism, which is the outgrowth of the district plan. A statement has been made in public that there are nine social settlements in Buffalo. This is not true, according to the best authorities on settlement ideals. This statement

is the result of confusing settlements with this new growth. A church taking a district where it had had no previous work was obliged to rent rooms or buy property in order to have some headquarters and these quarters soon become local points of social life. The avowed aim of the workers to become—in time—settlements, has increased the confusion. The similarity of work and methods, the fact that settlements are social centers, has made it difficult for the uninitiated to draw the line between settlements that are social centers and social centers that are *not* settlements. There has been further confusion of terms since missions have shown more interest in the social affairs of their adherents.

The social centers, including settlements, are as follows:

Westminster House (1894), 424 Adams St.; Miss Emily S. Holmes, head resident,

Welcome Hall (1894), 404 Seneca St.; Miss Louise Montgomery, head resident.

Zion House (1894), 456 Jefferson St.; Mrs. B. Desbecker (non-resident), general chairman. A janitor in residence.

Neighborhood House (1895), 92 Locust St. A committee (non-resident) of five. A janitress in residence.

Trinity House (1896), 258 Elk St.; Miss Alice Moore, head resident.

Delaware House (1896), 101 Cayuga St.; Miss Henrietta Reese, resident visitor.

Angel Guardian Mission (1897), 318 Seneca St.; Mrs. Herbert P. Bissell (non-resident), president.

Cottage Guild (1897), 387 Herkimer St.; Mrs. Seth B. Hunt (non-resident), chairman.

Remington Hall (1900), corner Canal & Erie Sts.; Miss Mary E. Remington, head resident.

These centers have activities common to all. A kindergarten is connected with every one except three. Efforts are being made to open one at Delaware House and there is one near Remington Hall. Each is a station of the Penny Provident Association. The one at Westminster House is the most popular. Five men manage it; \$180.00 have been deposited in one evening, and thousands of dollars have been saved for its depositors.

The relation existing between the Charity Organization Society and the districts introduced an element of charity that settlements decried. The workers of Buffalo, realizing the evil tendencies, have made great effort to prevent their growth. Most of the social centers have become embryonic employment bureaus and manufactories of work. Under the latter head are sewing clubs for married women suggested to the head resident of

Westminster House by a visit to the workroom under the control of the Charity Organization Society of Brooklyn. In these workrooms the woman clean, mend and make over second hand garments, cut and make new garments and bed linen, sew carpet rags and patchwork, make quilts, in fact, utilize everything donated for the purpose. The nominal pay is eight cents per hour and the women receive the equivalent in finished garments and provisions or fuel. The undesirable results of such an undertaking are avoided by limiting membership to the women of the district, calling at their homes frequently and watching developments carefully, also advising women when prosperity returns to assist in the workroom without pay. The directors use this opportunity to judge character and capabilities. The members buy coal at reduced rates, learn lessons in thrift as well as sewing and get other employment when qualified.

There is certainly a utilitarian trend in all these centers but not to the exclusion of the artistic. Classes in sewing, dress making, millinery, house-keeping, cooking, laundrying, chair-caning, shoe-mending, carpentry and Sloyd are introduced as rapidly as possible, music and art follow more slowly, and book learning last. There is very little studying of text books in any of the social centers of Buffalo. The day and the night schools supply the demand for serious study and the Buffalo Public Library scatters its branches and home libraries all over the city.

Delaware House is a one-story frame cottage where a woman, either a deaconess, a missionary, or a visitor, resides who does the friendly calling and has some over-sight of clubs. There are no accommodations for residents and no likelihood of this center becoming a settlement. It is under the auspices of the Delaware Ave. Methodist church.

Cottage Guild was opened by a coterie of young ladies who were infused by the new spirit rife in Buffalo to start something that would become a settlement. A kindergartner tried living in the one-story frame cottage, but finding it impracticable abandoned that idea, and the young ladies have abandoned theirs, though the kindergarten clubs and classes have been continued.

Zion House does work for the Temple and is maintained by the Sisterhood of Zion. As the Russian Jews predominate in the vicinity they predominate in the House. The influx of Rumanian Jews driven from their country by the anti-Semetic agitation a year or so ago, increased attendances and demands. The desire in the hearts of the influential Jews for a settlement, has not abated since the building of their House,

which could be easily arranged for residents, but their wishes have not yet materialized, although actively engaged in much good work.

At Neighborhood House every activity is based on settlement principles. Its home is the popular two-story frame cottagé, serving very well immediate needs, but not at all adequate for residential purposes. It is sustained by the Unitarian Church.

The Angel Guardian Mission, under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Church, draws workers from all parts of Buffalo. Besides the usual features of kindergarten, kitchen-garden, bank, library, classes and clubs, there is a large Sunday school which is, the workers distinctly state, "the only branch of the work which is for Catholics alone. In everything else all have equal privileges."

Trinity House is the first of the centers to become a settlement, long cherished plans culminating within a few months. The committee from Trinity Episcopal church has secured a head resident who, with one resident and a house-keeper, have begun settlement life in an approved manner and are ready for more residents. Two of the ubiquitous two-story frame houses comprise the buildings, one of which has been daintily fitted up for a residence. Buffalo can now honestly say she has four "really truly" settlements.

Westminster House is the oldest, opening with a kindergarten in September, 1894. From its conception in the mind of Rev. S. V. V. Holmes, pastor of Westminster Presbyterian church, settlement ideals have been held before its workers. The unity of purpose, permanence of residents and continuity of work have made it possible to do a broader work than other Buffalo settlements. The differentiating results are the public playground, the Men's Club House, built and purchased by men of the neighborhood, and a camp on the lake shore. The financial support is given by the Men's Club of Westminster church, assisted by other societies of the church. Among its six residents (it has had nine) are a professional nurse and a kindergartner, both devoting their whole time, as do two other residents.

Welcome Hall opened a few weeks later than Westminster House. It has already outgrown the original buildings and is now quartered in two beautiful brick edifices, one for women residents, the other for men residents and the work. It is rich in equipment and with its new head resident is making rapid strides. Five professional permanent residents devote their entire time, one man paying exclusive attention to work among boys. The supporting power is the First Presbyterian

church (of which Dr. S. S. Mitchell is pastor), the directing power a council of men and women.

Remington Hall is an independent settlement without backers or trustees. Miss Remington, its head resident, is the sole responsible party and secures money and workers through her own personal, indefatigable efforts. Two permanent residents assist her and often short-period residents. A detailed account of her splendid work can be found in the Review of Reviews for January.

A large number of churches co-operating in the district plan have not been mentioned in these notes, as their methods of co-operation have not been distinctively along social lines. The aim of all the Social Centers is to develop the spirit of brotherhood, to eradicate social evils and to disseminate true principles of life; the unwritten law is never to proselyte.

### Foreign Systems of Poor Relief.

BY PROFESSOR H. M. SCOTT, D. D.

The "Beilage zur Allgemeine Zeitung" of Munich, for October 26, gives a synopsis of a valuable work by Munsterburg on "Foreign Systems of Poor Relief" (Leipzig, Duncker and Humblot, 1901), from which we glean the following: There are three general methods of such relief: (1) that of the German land, (2) the public relief system of England and America, and (3) "facultative" method of the Latin lands, Italy, France, Belgium. In recent years the whole poor relief movement has gone in the direction of *prevention* of poverty and sickness. This is the leading principle of modern dealing with pauperism. Russia is active in this departure. There is here a "board for securing work," presided over by the Empress, which has elaborated 187 methods for providing men with work; and 60 of these arose in the past five years. Most of them are after the German models and provide garden and farm work, "laboring men's colonies," labor bureaus, lodgings for the homeless, etc. The constant aim is to give work and not alms. This board publishes a paper called "Help to Work." Exactly the same movement is being pressed in France, with a station in Mammoz for working men and one in Paris for working women. A "central committee to help obtain work" has its headquarters in Paris, and seeks to give unity to the whole movement in France, also to spread information on the subject. At the Paris Exposition tabulated statements of the whole work were presented. A striking part of this work has been the attempt to insure men against loss of labor. This was tried first in Switzerland, in the countries of St. Gall and Bern. All persons over fourteen years of age, working as factory hands, builders, or farmers, should be insured

against lack of work where such lack was not their own fault. A certain percentage of wages is to be given by the employer to the insurance fund. The costs of administration are to be paid by the State, adding also a contribution, in Basel, of \$6,000 a year. When voted in Basel this law was rejected, however, by 5,458 to 1,119 votes. The great objection was that industrious workers would be taxed for idlers. Next to incompetent men come old men to be cared for. Nearly all recent legislation has had them in mind, being undoubtedly stirred to action by German laws for the insurance of aged and infirm laborers. The German display on this subject at the Paris Exposition aroused much interest, and led to bills being introduced in the French parliament in favor of old and sick working people. It is estimated that such classes form four per cent of the population outside of Paris, or 144,000 in all, of whom 70,000 needed care in asylums. The expense of the proposed measure would be \$9,880,000, of which \$8,000,000 could be secured from the present system in force. The committee of parliament estimated that there are 113,000 working people over 70 years of age, or six per cent of all over that age; while the sick workers are 54,900, or one and five tenths per cent of the old people. That is, 168,000 old and sick laborers must be provided for, 95,000 by public relief, 65,000 in hospitals, and 5,000 in families. Some estimate the total expense of the sick alone at \$8,800,000. An army of 7,000,000 persons would be covered by this system of insurance. All classes of workers are included, except sailors, miners and others already covered by other policies. These laws have not yet been passed, but are under consideration. Many oppose compulsory insurance as detrimental to free activity. Similar movements appear in England, where a parliamentary commission reported on the subject in 1895. Parties are divided on the question there, as in France. In 1899 the House of Commons appointed a committee of 17 to consider the whole matter anew. It decided in favor of an old age provision for all persons over 65 years of age, who are British subjects, who for the past twenty years had neither committed crime nor received poor relief, and who had done their best to provide for themselves and their families. This law would cover 655,000 persons, of whom 469,000 are in England, 95,000 in Scotland, and 91,000 in Ireland. The expense would be over \$50,000,000. War troubles have meantime stopped all progress in insurance legislation in England. In European countries the question of insuring children is also under discussion. First of all comes compulsory education of the young, or,



## ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD WORKERS, NEW YORK CITY.

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY  
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### Manual Training in Settlements.

#### At the Nurses Settlement.

The Nurses' Settlement (1265 Avery street, New York) has developed a new branch of work during the past year.

Manual training classes, including elementary carpentry, wood carving and basketry, have been carried on. The work is made possible by several friends of the Settlement, and especially by Mr. C. Loring Brace, of the Children's Aid Society. The day school of that society, in the same block with the Settlement, has been open afternoons and evenings for Settlement use, and dancing and gymnasium classes and many entertainments, have been held there, beside the manual training classes referred to. The classes have included twelve in carpentry, two in wood carving and two in basket weaving, and the members of these classes have had basket ball games and gymnasium privileges, and various entertainments in the building.

The work was planned in order to gain a hold on the rough element of Irish and American boys from about the water front, to whom the purely social and intellectual clubs of the Jewish boys of the Settlement did not appeal. The plan was to gain the boys' interest through the work, develop his responsibility and an esprit de corps, with the hope of making the further Settlement connections as soon as it seemed natural and the boy himself proved responsible.

For these purposes and also to avoid competing with the normal work of the public schools, the work was made as personal as possible. No definite set of models was given, and each boy worked out for himself plans for construction of articles that he himself wished to make for home or play use. The result is a large variety in the articles made and a large difference in the sizes and shapes of the individual articles. Coat hangers, bread and fish boards, salt, soap and brush and comb boxes, ironing boards and every description of foot benches and stools have been followed by ambitious attempts at tables, chairs and even one standard writing desk. The work has not been graded and there has been no standard of finish or accuracy that was held as absolute. The result is a gradual evolution of the idea and reason for accuracy and finish, and an

intense interest in the constructive side of the work. The most encouraging responsibility has developed in the boys while at their work. At the beginning of the year no boy could be trusted with tool or supply closet, and every tool was counted as it was given out and checked on its return. Most of the boys could not be left alone in a room together with safety to one another, to tools or windows, even while the teacher went into the next room and back. Now there are two double classes with only one teacher, and while the instructor is in one room, the other room full of boys do their work, get their own supplies and when it is necessary, are allowed to get their own tools from the opened closet. Besides this responsibility, a large club has formed itself, whose members, with those of the two most regularly attended classes, have the promise of a summer camping trip this year. These boys have also had the pleasure of going to the circus, Buffalo Bill, to the navy yard and the Bronx, not as rewards of merit for attendance, but because their regularity had given the instructor more natural and intimate relations with them, and the club has formed a natural nucleus for such expression of interest and good fellowship. There have been four entertainments during the year, and the club mentioned above is at present preparing a final one for the spring closing.

The work has been in charge of a resident worker, with four non-resident assistants, and several volunteers have helped in different classes. Over 200 boys have been registered, but there has been an average roll of little more than half that number. Most of these come to one class, and have had gymnasium once a week, but about twelve boys have been given extra privilege of working two evenings instead of one. The results of the work have been most inspiring, both in the quality and quantity of models finished, and in the very marked development of the individual boys. A class of boys has been reached and held that no social work could have kept within Settlement bounds, and their interest in the work has developed in them a self-respect and restraint that do credit to the natural manliness that many had been supposed to lack.

SUSAN E. FORTE, Instructor.

#### Carpentry at Hartley House.

An experiment in carpentry, though incomplete as yet, is so full of suggestions that even at this stage it seems probable that something may be derived from a discussion of it. The main feature of the experiment is that the children are allowed to choose their own models and it is especially with the changes in method which this choosing has brought about that this paper is intended to deal.

I have been fortunate in being able to carry out the plan this past winter in a private school and in afternoon and evening classes at Hartley House, in both of which places I have been permitted to develop the work in my own way. It is not believed to be the best plan of work in that it is quite separate and alone and not a part of the general scheme of education for the child. It is merely an expedient awaiting the fuller time when manual training and other kindred concrete subjects will take the place of the formal and abstract studies of little children, and it is thought that its elasticity admits an added richness both to the work itself and to the life of the child outside of the work. A firm believer in Dr. Dewey's theory, that school is not a preparation for life, but life itself, I have made it my primary object to help the children to take their proper place in the life about them so far as I can do this through manual training. Just as soon as teachers realize that for themselves life is the great teacher, not the school and university, they will be in a position to realize the possibilities of life as the teacher of childhood and their own relationship both to this great teacher and to the children.

The changes which choosing models brings about are, first, smaller classes. As the work is entirely individual and as the plan will not permit of prepared drawings, the activity which devolves upon the teacher in order to keep the children at work intelligently is very great. Twelve is believed now to be the limit in size of a class which a teacher can handle effectually.

Second: There is less necessity for disciplinary measures, or, perhaps it would be truer to say, that the teacher's standard of deportment undergoes a change in order that her theories may be consistent. Fuller expression in wood would be inconsistent with any system of undue repression of other modes of expression. Not that discipline is left out of account, rather it is left to take care of itself. If it is true that life contains discipline enough for the elders it is equally true that child life contains natural discipline. It is not always operative, but this is because adults stand between the child and the consequences of his faults and mistakes. In manual training especially, the children never escape from the effect of their mistakes; it is a constant discipline to them. The teacher need do little but wait, but too often either she does not realize this or she herself is not sufficiently disciplined to do so.

Third: There is an interest never before experienced; an interest which, with the Settlement boys truly competes with the attraction of the

street. The interest is not in the work alone but as the work progresses it becomes broad enough to take in things outside and in the home. While waiting for me one evening the boys were discovered examining some Steckley furniture to see how it was put together. One boy purchased at the class, and cut down to a size a board with which to mend his mother's ice box. Another came in out of a heavy snowstorm and would be content with nothing but a snow shovel, which he helped to plan and made in two lessons of concentrated effort, such as I think he was not addicted to. The next time he came I asked him if he still had the shovel and he said "No." I asked what became of it and he replied that it was broken. I asked how long it had lasted and he said three days, and upon inquiring how much of that time had been devoted to shoveling he said "All the time." Examples might be multiplied to the extent of fifty-six, the number of boys in the Settlement, plus twenty, the number of boys and girls in the private school, for every child has chosen at least once while many of them have chosen several times. Every model, in fact, which the children choose themselves, is an evidence of a carrying of the class into the home and the outside life and a bringing of the home and the outside life back to the class.

Fourth: The children having made models for a purpose, they have taken them home upon completion and used them for that purpose. The mere saying, "This is a useful model" does not make it so. It must be useful to the child and he must have it when he wants it. A railroad ticket is of no value to me if I must remain where I am during the time it can be passed, and a knife box loses its value to the boy whose mother becomes supplied while the box is on exhibition at the school.

The "useful" feature of a model is generally admitted by manual training teachers to be a most valuable one. Indeed, whether or not the models are useful has been claimed as a fundamental difference in systems of manual training. I should go a step further and say that the operation of any system of exercises or models no matter how carefully arranged, makes usefulness subservient to technical skill; hence, not educational in the best sense. For example, the Naas system of exercises and models based upon these, contains an analyzed series of exercises one following the other in regular order. It is more or less arbitrarily said that such an exercise is more difficult than a previous one and must be used in its legitimate place. Under such a system it is impossible to let a pupil choose, because he would upset the system at once by choosing a model

containing exercises which have been decreed too difficult for him. Hence, as the model most useful to him at the time must be given up and his choice controlled by rules which he cannot understand, the choosing devolves upon the teacher, who becomes in manual training as she is in everything else, the mouthpiece for the boy. The latter begins work upon a piece which is an expression not of himself but of his teacher, and which must therefore be only to a degree useful to him, if at all. And so it comes about that either the usefulness, in its best sense, and with all its superior educational value, must be given up or the system must be sacrificed. I have preferred to give up the system, relying upon my ability to control aspirations toward ladders fifteen feet long and equally impossible projects, and so far have had no difficulty. Nor do I believe that I have sacrificed anything in technical skill, though it would not worry me if I had. To choose the best and give it expression is our highest adult aspiration and if it furnishes us as adults with a fire which carries us over difficulties, it is no less true that it will do the same for children. I should like to give as an illustration the case of a boy of thirteen who, after completing a window box which was badly done, as poor a piece of work as was handed in, in fact, chose to make as his next model a wicker chair with wooden bottom such as another boy, who had had basket weaving, had just completed, though not satisfactorily. I had concluded to try to dissuade all who wished to make the chairs when this boy made his plea. None of my arguments were of avail and I had to allow him to attempt it. At once he became painstaking. From never asking my assistance on the first piece and not following any suggestions, he became most careful, with a mind made up to do the thing right and he succeeded and had the great satisfaction of "crowing" over his teacher. The boy has not done a poor piece of work since. In connection with the choosing, no difficulties have arisen which could not easily be overcome. The models either have been simple or have admitted of simplification, or else the boy has seen his choice to be too complicated to work out and has dropped the idea. If the boy insisted in the face of all discouragement and in spite of the one law operative in the shop, that a piece once begun must be finished, he has accomplished his end, or has finished up something so badly that he doesn't care for it and is willing to do something within his power next time.

With the privilege of carrying home the models upon completion comes the necessity of doing away with exhibitions or it makes them, at least,

less frequent, a result not undesirable in itself.

Fifth: The standards of work must be lowered. None of the first models have been too poor to be taken home. Some of them were pretty bad, representing, as they did, a blind groping for a vaguely seen result, but to the children they were precious products of their own efforts. Manual training teachers are prone to force adult standards of excellence upon the children. A child learns only by experience that edges are not square and the bad effect of such edges on the whole piece. It is a gradual growth and to wantonly destroy a piece of work made by a child who is satisfied with it, is to trample on his rights as no one can be justified in doing. His standards must be raised gradually by various means. One of the most gratifying technical results of this method of work has been the way that the boys have confessed that their last piece of work was poor. We have played too much to the galleries in the past by allowing the children to take home only those pieces of work which were well finished from a layman's standpoint. To insist upon a boy's doing a piece of work over is not in accordance with the theory that we learn by our mistakes as well as by our successes. If the boy's mistakes are destroyed by someone else he doesn't benefit by them. He should be allowed to keep them with him and grow tired of them as we, as elders, have the privilege of doing.

Sixth: The method permits of the maximum of mental activity, a change of greater importance than any other. Each piece is planned by the child in advance first, as to form, and second as to size. It depends upon the age of the child whether all of the pieces which go to make up a model are decided upon, as to size, in advance. A little girl of six decided upon the size of the top of a table, cut it out, and then by herself estimated the length of the legs. This is typical of the method used with children too young to think so far ahead as would be required to plan all of the pieces in the beginning. Drawings, for beginners, come logically after the model because they are abstractions. They have not been used so far except in a crude form but it is hoped to experiment with them in the near future. There is no doubt felt that the boys will be able to both plan and picture their work by means of a working drawing before touching the wood, but this is thought to be a later development.

The whole method might be summed up as that of the laboratory, with the teacher in the background, the excuse for whose presence is that she may give assistance. The possibility of taking this attitude is the greatest boon to the teacher.

She at once becomes a learner with the rest—not only a student of child nature, but she even finds that there are several “best” methods to use in construction. She can refuse to know anything or she can by sheer force of sympathy come to the rescue of the boy who says, “This is too important for me to decide by myself. I want you to help me.” She feels that, after all, there is a chance for her to grow through her teaching, and not become the traditional, dictatorial school teacher of the past. Her attitude becomes one of humility in the presence of social forces which she cannot understand but feels to be worthy of study.

The Settlement children, who are products of the New York public schools, were timid and abashed at the idea of being able to make anything they wished. At first few of them had anything to suggest, but soon the idea spread, and mothers, fathers, and even uncles and aunts came to the rescue. Failing these I have made suggestions. In fact, in order to get to work at all I have usually proposed the first model. The most marked difference is observed in the children with regard to the willingness to choose and on the whole, the children in the private school are anxious to do so, while those in the Settlement are glad, at first, to evade it. The children in the private school are more apt, also to choose things with which to play, while the Settlement children choose those things which would be useful at home. Further experiment will bring out whether it is age which governs this or environment, or both. The children in the private school are from six to ten, while those in the Settlement are from eight to thirteen.

Only one child in the private school as yet has proposed making anything for anyone else, which would popularly be supposed to indicate for the rest inherent selfishness, but which, according to scientific investigation in child study, stamps them merely as normal children.

No one will believe that the experiment is justifiable who will not admit that we need a larger social spirit in our schools, a greater toleration of child life and a recognition of the latter as such. The presence of manual training in educational system is one of the best evidences that we have that there is this tolerant spirit existent. There is now but a difference in opinion of degree, not of the fact of toleration. All of the prominent educators of the day are teaching it, educational theory is full of it and educational practice is feeling the effect of it. There are few, however, who are willing to go so far as Dr. Dewey and give the child the fullest opportunity to develop through his social relations. In fact, to

actively co-operate with children to secure for them the fullest expression in their own natural way, would occasion a tearing down of traditional theories and practice for which few pedagogues are ready.

It is strange that a subject coming into the school curriculum as recently as has manual training and having the double advantage of being allied to the industrial world and of appealing essentially to child life as it does, should have had to go through the regenerating process of all school subjects, as it has. It has been treated even worse in some respects than other subjects. It has been systematized almost to death, principally because it admits of systematization as no other subject does, and secondarily, because the teaching of it fell into the hands of men who were essentially mechanical and the law of whose life was system.

As manual training has been introduced into public schools it has partaken of the nature of the schools and has become a part of a rigid system. But there is no reason why the Social Settlements which are trying to appeal to the neighborhood boys in a natural and healthful way should take upon them the mistakes of the school in introducing manual training. They will do this if they allow a rigid system to play any part in their scheme.

CAROLINE L. PRATT.

### Summer School for Artisans and Apprentices.

The University of Wisconsin announces the following unique feature of its fourth summer session in Bulletin 53:

“This school of shopwork and laboratory practice has been established for the benefit of machinists, carpenters, or sheet-metal workers; stationary, marine, or locomotive engineers; shop foremen and superintendents; superintendents of waterworks, electric light plants, power stations, factories, large office and store buildings in cities; and for the young men who wish to qualify themselves for such positions. The general fee for the session is \$15. Students in attendance on the courses in the summer session of College of Letters and Science can take any of the work given in the School for Artisans without any extra fee, other than the regular shop and laboratory fees. This furnishes an opportunity to teachers in the public schools to fit themselves to teach manual training, as the courses in this school cover all the shop and drawing work of the manual training schools.

“A full account of the shop and laboratory courses offered in this school is given in a special circular which will be sent on application to W. H. Hiestand, Registrar, Madison, Wis.”

**COLLEGE SETTLEMENTS.**

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## SETTLEMENTS.

New York City—95 Rivington Street.

Philadelphia—433 Christian Street.

Boston—91 Tyler Street (Denison House).

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY  
CAROLINE WILLIAMSON MONTGOMERY,  
5548 Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago.

The writer of this article on the Philadelphia Settlement was one of the founders of the old St. Mary Street Library and has been the treasurer of the Settlement ever since its inception.—Ed.

**The College Settlement of Philadelphia.**

The second settlement of the College Settlements Association came quietly to Philadelphia in 1892 to carry on the work of the St. Mary Street Library, whose managers asked the help of the Settlements Association because they felt such work was weak without a resident force.

The neighborhood in which the Library was established was one ill suited for settlement life. It was honey-combed by missions and charities, conducted by non-resident organizations whose various and unrelated efforts seem to weaken that spirit of self dependance which is so necessary to the creation of the neighborhood spirit and is vital to true settlement life. But excellent work was done here by the Settlement, much of it of such a co-operative and constructive character that independent organization grew out of it. In 1899 the Settlement was obliged to move, owing to the demands of the city for its property for

In St. Mary Street the equipment had been a house of twelve rooms rented at \$300 a year and a big public hall which was occupied rent free. The funds in hand for the new location were but \$1,600 and the work in hand was the accumulated interest of seven years unremitting service. A timely gift of \$3,000 made it possible to buy No. 431 Christian St., which when added to 433 Christian St., already rented, made a very convenient dwelling and offered good opportunities for club meetings but gave no assembly hall. The main room of the new house seats 100 people and the adjoining room can be used as a stage in conjunction with it.

It is expected that by next fall two more houses will be added and that the home equipment will be adequate for the small class and club work, but the need of a hall will still be great.

There are ten bedrooms, four public rooms, the dining-room and study, and, crowning all, a pretty little roof-garden and, beneath all, a poor little cellar gymnasium. The latter is the poorest feature in the house and withal one of the most prized. It is a valuable overflow, and gives safe outlet to the life of the untrained street boy. Good work in discipline and drill is done here by volunteer leaders in boxing and gymnastics.

From early summer until autumn the roof garden is used for most of the social gatherings and class room, as well as for resident sleeping apartments. Including the residents living at Roosevelt house, seven blocks away, the present household numbers eleven people, five of whom have positions in kindred work in the neighborhood,—the school, the library, or the tenement house association. There are 585 members enrolled on the clubs which meet weekly; not including those who come to the library, bank, and open meetings of whom no roll is kept. Including these larger assemblies the total weekly attendance from the neighborhood aggregates about 1,200. These are chiefly children and young people, the neighborhood being almost entirely populated by foreigners into whose lives the Settlement can best enter through the children. But few of the adults seem to have the leisure for that which the Settlement can give, but in their children lie opportunities for development into thoughtful capable citizens. The aim is not to build up an institution nor an organization, but to create small centres of influence, and in pursuance of this wish some club, bank and library work is carried on three miles away at Wrightsville and also a settlement house is maintained at Front and Lombard streets, seven blocks away. This is called Roosevelt house. It is part of an old colonial residence containing eight rooms, in which two residents are now liv-

ing, one of whom is a Probation officer of the Juvenile Court recently established in Pennsylvania. Boys brought before the magistrates for petty offences may either be sent to a reformatory or be allowed to remain at home under the oversight of an officer to whom they must report as often as she may require.

The Settlement officer has about 120 boys whom she meets at their own club room at Roosevelt House or at the Settlement, where she finds the gymnasium a valuable help with her unrestrained boys.

The population in this neighborhood is English speaking and calls for work different from that at the Christian Street house. Next year it is expected to have it in full working order—part of the equipment being a cooking-school.

Each year an effort is made to secure a summer home. This year none has been found as yet.

Hannah Fox.

Any inquiries should be addressed to Miss Anna F. Davies, head-worker, 433 Christian street.

#### Use of College Settlements to Women's Colleges.

In The Outlook for April 19th, 1902, Miss Vida D. Scudder, of Wellesley College, contributes a suggestive article on "College Settlements and College Women." Those who know only the value of college women to the settlements are thus informed of the value which the settlements return to the colleges and their alumnae.

"No one who knows the situation from within can fail to realize how useful the settlement interest is to the college. Colleges, perhaps girls' colleges in particular, tend to become self-centered, absorbed in their own little world of ambitions and relations. The settlement chapter, through the speakers whom it brings, through the ideas it awakens, through the points of contact it affords between the students and the actual settlement work, helps to keep the larger life of the nation and its needs ever before the eyes of those who are preparing to play their part in that life. It kindles that sense of social responsibility which it is one of our most imperative duties to arouse in those who have received much from our country, if we are to spiritualize this mighty democracy of ours. It helps make the girls better Americans. The intelligent ones realize that this settlement movement is their own; that they may not only take part in it, as they do in temperance and missionary activities, but that these houses, founded by the colleges, actually depend on the colleges for existence. Were there any tendency on the part of the higher education to draw women away into an arid pursuit of scholarship, or to isolate them in a fancied superiority of culture

the settlement movement would prove the best possible corrective. The inspiration of the movement is doubtless largely the same as that which has quickened the study of political economy in all academic centers of late; this study certainly helps to keep the settlement chapters free from any overstress on the sentimental in their convictions, while the settlements serve as a splendid complement to the purely theoretical work of sociological departments. The consciousness of our national life as a whole; the impulse to react on it with forces of salvation; the desire for practical usefulness, widely and intellectually conceived—all these things are developed in colleges through their relation to settlements more directly than in any other way.

"The relations of settlements to college-trained women who are ready for life are of primary importance. We can only hint at them here. For many a woman the settlement has proved an invaluable supplement to the college, a graduate school in the high art of living, where everything she had learned in student days of theory and fellowship came directly into play. Residence in the settlements is never confined to college women, and many of those who have entered the life most fully have received no academic training; nevertheless, no one can live in a settlement a week without recognizing a certain tone, a *camaraderie*, an adaptability to the peculiar conditions of community life, which at once suggest the college. It is surely the wide interest fostered by college studies in the broader aspects of social problems which redeems much settlement life from a wearing absorption in practical detail; on the other hand, people who have been trained chiefly in theories find refreshment in an atmosphere in which theory is, whenever possible, translated at once into experiment. These houses, with their intelligent, happy, and courageous households, are assuredly a beautiful outcome of the college tradition. The mere knowledge that they exist is salutary to graduates and undergraduates alike. Centers placed among the classes preoccupied with material production, drawing their life blood from classes trained to intellectual pursuits, may to a peculiar degree promote that untrammelled fellowship which is our great national aim; for they furnish a means that is proving month by month its rare effectiveness, by which the industrial population may be drawn into unity with the rest of the nation."

### Elegy Written in New York.

By a Settlement Club Boy, thirteen years old.  
The church bells ring the knell of parting day,  
Their supper eaten the people take a walk;  
The lamp-lighter goes his weary way,  
And lights the lamps that illuminate New York.

Now fade many people from the streets,  
For some are going to the show;  
Where, before their very eyes are performed feats  
That to perform them only the actors know.

But from the top of yonder house,  
A waft of music greets the listener's ear;  
And the shirtwaist man in his colored blouse  
Is in the roof-garden drinking beer.

Beneath those rugged trees, that maples shade,  
Where with his can he's stretched out on the  
bench  
A tramp in his peaceful sleep is laid;  
As if protected from the policemen by a trench.

The breezy call of the milkman on his rout,  
The bridge jammed as full as a sardine box,  
The postman's whistle and the newsboy's shout,  
Shows that the city is as live as a fox.

For a while no more the blazing stove shall burn,  
For it is summer and men are drenched with  
sweat;  
And all are wishing winter to return,  
But when it comes, they're not satisfied yet.

Oft did a drunkard to the policemen yield,  
If he didn't, his head would near get broke;  
For a policeman's club can break through any  
shield,  
And to get it on the head, it is no joke.

Full many a gem of purest ray serene,  
That is only an imitation pinned on a tie;  
Belonging to a confidence man may be seen  
Whenever a jay, the confidence man does spy.

But knowledge to his eyes, has brains enough  
To see the gold bricks are brass and the gems  
imitation jewel;  
And the jay who to nobody was ever rough  
Would be right in calling the confidence man a  
fool.

Some village speaker who, with a bold voice,  
Comes here on politics to talk;  
To go home, or get mobbed he is told to take his  
choice.  
He wisely takes the former and forever leaves  
New York.

#### Epitaph.

But many a man who in New York was fed,  
When in a foreign country is engaged in talk,  
Turning to his listeners has often said,  
There is no place like New York.

Hull House is frequently visited by people who may mean well enough, but whose ideas of a social settlement are somewhat vague, not to say amusing. These visitors ask to be shown through the house in the same spirit in which they would get permission to visit a menagerie or a collection of curiosities from the Sandwich Islands. After they have made the trip they frequently ask: "And now, won't you tell me what this is all for?" or, pointing to one of the residents, they will inquire in a tone of interested curiosity: "Is she one of the inmates?"

But the climax was reached recently when a larger party than usual was taken through all the departments of the house. It happened that Miss Addams had been delayed later than usual and had come down to dinner after the rest of the Hull House family had finished their meal.

One of the visitors caught a glimpse through the window of the solitary figure sitting at the table. The opportunity was too good to be missed, and the young woman promptly rose to it. Without waiting for an invitation or asking permission she threw open the door of the dining-room and stepped inside. At the same time she joyfully shouted back to the other members of the party, as one who has found the cage in which the baby elephant is concealed.

"O, girls," she cried, "come here quick. Here's one of them eating!"

Why is it that of the seventeen Social Settlements in Chicago only two dispense sterilized milk to the needy children of their neighborhoods? A service so helpful, obvious and easy should commend itself to every settlement as an indispensable part of its summer work.

#### PESTALOZZI-FROEBEL, Kindergarten Training School at Chicago Commons.

Two years' course in Kindergarten Theory and Practice. A course in home making. Industrial and Social Development emphasized. Includes opportunity to become familiar with Social Settlement Work. For circulars and particulars, address  
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Chicago**

# The Commons.

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor from the Social Settlement Point of View.

GRAHAM TAYLOR, - - - - - Editor.

Entered at Chicago Post Office as Second-Class Matter, and Published the first of every month from CHICAGO COMMONS, a Social Settlement at Grand Ave. & Morgan St., Chicago, Ill.

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A Year.

## EDITORIAL.

### Miss Jane Addams' Authorship.

The reading public did not need to await the appearance of Miss Addams' first book to be aware of her strength and skill in authorship. Very widely have her contributions to the pages of our best periodical literature been read and appreciated, while her still more widely spoken utterances have added a charm all their own to the powerful impression made, both at home and abroad, by her personality and service. Indeed there may have been not a little risk in attempting to level a whole volume up to the very high mark which her self-expression has steadily, though unconsciously, made upon the many who have personally known her, and to the very marked impression which her occasional addresses have made upon the many more who have heard her but once or oftener. While the balance of judgment may incline toward the uniquely impressive quality of her speech as even more influential than her writing, yet this volume stands the crucial test of the comparison with high credit to her authorship. To say that the book has much, if not all, of the gentle strength, the incisive ethical insight, the capacity for comprehensive conception and the power of precision in expression which characterize her utterances, as the outgrowth of an extraordinarily varied and deep experience, is perhaps to pay it the highest tribute.

The whole settlement constituency will agree in claiming "Democracy and Social Ethics," (Macmillan & Co.), as the demonstration of the *raison d'être* of the Settlement motive and method, and

government to maintain in industrial conflicts, that America has yet witnessed.

Elected as the chief executive of a great city by its citizens of every class, he has dared to enforce the law impartially between laborers on the one hand and employers on the other, through the crisis of a great strike. Calmly adhering to his declared policy of using the utmost power of the city of San Francisco to suppress unlawful force, whether indulged in by ignorant and embittered labor, or incited by scheming predatory capital, he has upheld the majesty of the law and given to the meanest citizen of our country a renewed faith in our form of government.

This forward step toward the peaceful adjustment of industrial differences, marked by the settlement of the great street railway strike in San Francisco within a week, without the loss of a drop of blood by violence, or injury to a dollar's worth of property by riot, must be heeded and followed by all the mayors in the United States. Intelligent citizens will know whom to hold responsible hereafter for such sanguinary scenes as were enacted in Albany a year ago, and in San Francisco last summer.

It has long been an open secret to informed and observant men that the best weapon for beating labor into submission is an artificial riot. By the paid destruction of their own property and the paid assaults upon their own "scabs" more than one great strike has been won by corporate interests, and the power of public opinion changed from sympathy with the just claims of the workmen, to a stern demand for the maintenance of law and order at any cost. The old custom of permitting employers to incite to riot by unnecessary and illegal shows of force must cease. The mayor of San Francisco has shown us "a more excellent way."

The chief executive of any municipality may not longer hope to escape the just resentment of an outraged people if he permits the use of police power, designed for the equal protection of all, as the special ally of capital against labor in the industrial conflicts of the future. The mayors of this country may well heed the political significance of the strike policy of the chief executive of San Francisco.

The menacing struggle of Chicago street railway employes for their right to organize has been settled by the concession of the railway officials after a brief but stubborn resistance, as happily for the companies and the whole city, as for the men and the Amalgamated Association. Again conciliation has proven more effective than strikes or arbitration, or the even balance of law justly enforced by the best mayor.



### A Visiting Doll.

Of all the courtesies and co-operation which Chicago Commons has received at the hearts and hands of the public school teachers and scholars, in and far beyond the city, none have been more appreciated than this gift and letter from the sixth grade of the David B. Dewey School of Evanston, the pleasure of which we share with our readers.

#### THE HISTORY OF OUR DAISY ELLEN.

Daisy Ellen is not a child as one might think in reading this, but a doll favorite of the David B. Dewey school kindergarten of Evanston. She is made of cloth, and stuffed with cotton. She is dressed simply and wears a long sleeved apron to keep her dress clean. Her first appearance was made five years ago. She was received with great joy and now the children would not part with her for the world. She was just a baby the first year, and had to take naps while the children worked. They think so much of her and embrace her so heartily that at the end of the year Daisy Ellen is so tired and worn out that she has to go to the country for her vacation. When she comes home in the fall her rosy cheeks have returned, and her hair is curly again, although sometimes changed in color by the sun. Last year when she came home from the country she was badly freckled, but they are disappearing now. When September comes many inquiries are made after Daisy Ellen, and she is received with great joy on her arrival home.

The children love Daisy Ellen so much that instead of buying gum and candy with their pennies, they buy her shoes. The children think it necessary for them all to go to the shoe store, to be sure that the shoes fit.

Daisy Ellen often gets presents of coats and hats, and goes with the children on their walks and expeditions. She often takes the morning air with the children.

After the spring vacation is over, she is presented with a satchel, which holds her nightgown. Then she makes visits for the night at all the children's homes.

She has birthday parties with cake and candles, and she also has a tree every Christmas.

Last winter, as there was so much smallpox, Daisy Ellen had to be vaccinated (done with pen and red ink). She did not make the least bit of a fuss, although the doctor hurt her very much. Her arm was very sore (red and yellow paint). Later it healed and left a scar (done with white darning cotton).

Daisy Ellen is such a favorite that she often visits the first grade and sometimes serves as models for the other grades.

Santa Claus has been implored many times to "bring me a doll just like Daisy Ellen." On her last birthday, eight of them came to her party.

As the children of our kindergarten enjoy Daisy Ellen so much the sixth grade thought that the kindergartens of other schools would like one too, so we take great pleasure in sending this doll, hoping it may give as much pleasure as our "Daisy Ellen" has given our kindergarten.

"Our Dear Daisy Ellen

Is with us again,

So I write you her history

With paper and pen.

She is loved by the children,

Their joy and delight,

She is always amusing,

And kind and polite.

Each summer her vacation

Is in sweet country air;

It makes her cheeks rosy,

And curls in her hair.

"Our Dear Daisy Ellen"

Has a chair and a bed,

And when the snow comes,

She is pulled on a sled.

She has lovely parties

With candles and cake;

She is very polite,

So a second helping will not take

So the sixth grade Dewey School,

Sends her best likeness to you;

She is always loving,

Obedient and true.

You must not call her Louise,

Margarct or Helen,

But, after her namesake,

Just plain "Daisy Ellen."

Our children have already yielded their hearts to the charm of their new companion. They treat Daisy Ellen as one of themselves, bring their own dolls to visit and name them after her, shower presents and valentines upon her, beg her to be their guest at home and had her join in their Washington's Birthday March. Their little friends in Evanston will rejoice to hear how welcome their representative is all around Chicago Commons.

#### KINDERGARTEN MAY DAY.

One of the prettiest neighborhood amenities we have enjoyed was the May Day, given by the Chicago Commons kindergarten to the kindergarten of the Washington Public School. The dance of the latter around their May Pole was reciprocated by the gift of a pretty May basket of flowers to each little guest from our little hosts.

### To Supporters and Friends of Chicago Commons.

The time has come when the warden and residents of Chicago Commons should cease to be so seriously handicapped in their settlement service and the development of their personal efficiency by the always overshadowing and ever overburdening solicitude and struggle to provide the money for the equipment and support of the work. For over seven years we have lived and worked with good cheer and without whining under the harrow of this carping care. While the enterprise was fairly to be considered experimental, we accepted it as the task of our faith thus to bear the burden of others' doubt. But now that the success of the settlement, both in its local efficiency and its far-reaching reflexive influence, has been demonstrated and is widely recognized, it is not economy of the personal or financial resources involved any longer to condition the work by thus overburdening the resident workers. The imperative demands of the public interests involved in his gratuitous settlement service, as well as of the prior professional and personal obligations incumbent upon the warden, urgently require his immediate release from the incessant effort to provide the financial support of Chicago Commons, upon which its very existence has thus far entirely depended. Therefore a determined effort is now being made in three directions to achieve this result.

First, to raise at once, by larger gifts, \$12,000 still due upon the building, thus providing a \$68,000 equipment without encumbrance which, by the terms of the ground lease, can never be mortgaged.

Second, to secure immediately, by smaller subscriptions, the \$6,000 still lacking to maintain the work through the balance of this year, including the camp and outings, so essential to the health and life of our neighbors, whose death rate is exactly proportionate to their lack of park and playground spaces.

Third, gradually to solicit, as opportunity may offer, from people of wealth, an endowment of at least \$100,000, which would provide one-half of the current expense of the Chicago Commons work, the other half of which can surely and easily be raised annually from the people of the neighborhood and outside friends.

#### SUCCESS OF THE MAY FESTIVAL.

So great was the success of our May Festival that by common consent, it is already recognized to be thoroughly established as the chief annual occasion of the settlement year. The exhibits of the cooking school, manual training department, and kindergarten deservedly enlisted the keenest

interest of the neighborhood, especially of the parents and families of the boys and girls who produced them.

The Choral Club covered itself with glory in its spirited rendering of "The Chimes of Normandy," and was rewarded by large and enthusiastic audiences. A more practical demonstration of the need and value of settlement service than was thus afforded could hardly be wished for. In the presence of such facts and scenes "seeing is believing."

#### VACATION SCHOOL ASSURED.

The gift to the Chicago Woman's Club's Permanent Vacation School and Playground Committee, sufficient to maintain two of their schools, assures the location of one of them in our neighborhood Washington School House. The announcement of this good news was greeted in the neighborhood by grateful appreciation of the unknown donor's generosity. The contributions, amounting to nearly \$100.00, which our neighbors, headed by the Chicago Commons Woman's Club, made to secure the school were thus diverted to the lease of the new "Public Playground," which is already being opened opposite the Commons, under the auspices of the settlement.

#### OUR ARMENIAN CONTINGENT.

The hospitality of the Chicago Commons building is extended never more cordially than to our Armenian neighbors and fellow citizens. Every Sunday afternoon they conduct their own worship in one of our halls, and on the occasion of the Easter celebration of their ancient faith needed our large auditorium. They have recently secured for their leader the Rev. G. M. Manavian, a very capable and highly endowed man, who sacrifices a permanent position and comfortable home and devotes his university trained capacities to the leadership of his poor and exiled fellow countrymen. Their appeal for permanent club rooms and headquarters in behalf of hundreds of their homeless men would not be long unheeded, if our Men's Club annex were built. Pending this provision for their and others' needs, who will join us in providing temporary quarters, near Chicago Commons, for these refugees from the massacre of the Turks?

#### SUMMER ACTIVITIES NEEDING SUPPORT.

For boys' and girls' camp, near Elgin, Ill. (Opened June 16th).....	\$800.00
For young women's Vacation Cottage, rental and equipment.....	200.00
For outings, to parks, suburbs and country homes .....	150.00
For sheltering Matheon Day Nursery.....	400.00
For sterilizing and bottling milk. (Sold at 3c for 7 oz.).....	125.00
For equipment of playground with apparatus .....	300.00
For the Fourth of July, a flag-staff and American flag .....	100.00

# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor from the Settlement Point of View.

Number 72—Vol. VII

Seventh Year

Chicago, July, 1902

## The Charities Convention.

BY WILLIAM HARD.

Other people besides Charles Lamb have the difficulty about which the whimsical little Londoner used to complain. They cannot describe a thing. They describe the impression the thing has had upon them. If the reader, therefore, should feel that he has not been told in this account of the National Conference of Charities and Correction just what happened at each session, let him be lenient in his judgment and remember that he was warned in the first paragraph.

The deepest impression the Detroit conference was likely to leave upon the visitor was its personnel. The subterraneously scornful way in which some of the papers continually referred to the delegates as "philanthropists" and the assumption often made that, being "philanthropists," they were also social busybodies who attended to everybody's affairs but their own and were continually engaged in concocting patent remedies for the ills of the body politic and in arrogating to themselves the right to be guides, philosophers and friends to the population of the whole earth,—all this unlovely picture, together with the priggishness and prudishness which went with it, could be seen by any careful observer to be untrue in almost every particular. The typical delegate to the convention was excessive in nothing. To begin with, he was usually a good fellow. He did not take the pose, still traditional, of being "unco guid." Neither did he pretend—in most cases—to be "unco canny." Perhaps it was his actual contact, in his daily work, with sin and vice that had made him, in the best sense of the word, "charitable." At any rate, whether this was the true explanation or whether the thing simply happened, it was a fact among the men and women who were the backbone of the convention that there was a striking absence of those rigid, grating qualities which so often cause the reformer to be unpopular among his fellow-creatures.

To leave the delegates and to turn to the scene of their operations, Detroit received her guests with a cordiality that was admirable and delightful. The great permanent electric-light "Welcome" on the city hall was supplemented with "National Conference of Charities and Correction" as soon as "Catholic Knights and Ladies

of America" had been removed. There was a reception committee 120 strong and an auxiliary reception committee 31 weak, or at any rate composed entirely of representatives of the weaker sex. There was also a committee on yachts and another one on carriages and automobiles. All the committees did good service. They showed their town off, and they had something to show. There is in England a guild called "The Guild of Joyful Surprises." Detroit might be called—at least to a Chicagoan—the city of joyful surprises. The streets wind and twist enough to be interesting without being eccentric, and at almost every turn one stumbles on little "sunny spots of greenery." There are small parks even in the downtown district. The streets are well paved and disconcertingly clean. One feels as if one were in a drawing room and might jostle against the bric-a-brac. The principal thoroughfares open out like the leaves of a fan from the spacious plaza near the river, while the river itself, running almost due west, forms the southern city limit. Those of the delegates who had never been in Detroit before were much missed from the conference sessions.

So much for who the people were and where they were. It might be well to say something about what they did. If an average of opinion were struck, perhaps one would find that the most important event of the convention will be held to be the, speaking diplomatically, rapprochement between the extreme charity-organization-society idea and the extreme relief-and-aid-society idea. Everybody knows how the conflict has raged for years and perhaps almost everybody has known that the difference was more one of emphasis than of principle. At the Detroit conference the charity organization society people were willing to concede a little bit to the notion of material assistance, while the relief and aid society people were willing to admit that perhaps a little more attention might be paid to investigation and co-operation. The tendency toward convergence of policy in this matter is as significant as it is desirable.

Dr. Knopf's paper on consumption also made a stir. It was attacked vigorously and defended with equal spirit. The distinction it made between consumption's being contagious and its being communicable gave material to the reporters, and its position with regard to the possibility of con-

sumptive patients remaining with their families without exposing them to any danger has raised comment all over the country. In both points Dr. Knopf took the liberal view of the matter. He thought that consumption really was communicable rather than contagious, and that consumptives really could remain with their families.

There seemed to be a strong feeling in the convention for a more active and adequate state supervision of private charities. The St. Luke Sanitarium fire and the light which that fire has thrown on the methods of Mr. O. E. Miller will convince Chicagoans that in this point, at least, the convention was not far astray.

Miss Lathrop's discussion of the Scotch and Belgian practice of boarding out the mildly insane in private families was received with as much favor as any other single effort on the program. The skill the lady showed in dodging the fire of the enemy and in capturing an occasional gun from them made one feel sorry that she can never be a general.

These four things,—the closer understanding established between charity organization on the one hand and relief and aid on the other, the lecture on tuberculosis, the sentiment on state supervision, and the leaning toward boarding out, were, if not absolutely the most distinctive features of the convention, at least well up toward the head of the list. Other things ought to receive "honorable mention," but will have to be passed over, and as for the sequence of sessions and the divisions and subdivisions of topics discussed, that is, the framework of the affair, perhaps the reader will have to content himself, as does the spectator at "The Belle of New York," with the announcement that "owing to the shortness of the evening, the plot is omitted."

The next convention will be held in Atlanta. The program, owing to the labors of the Executive Committee, of which Mr. Bicknell, of the Chicago Bureau of Charities, was head, is unusually attractive. The stock committees have had their sphere of influence extended and will cover such fields as Legal Aid to Needy Families, Probation Courts, Truancy, Child Labor and Recreation, The Segregation of Defectives in Colonies, Vagrancy, Sanitary Inspection, Disease and Dependence, Municipal Institutions, and Psychopathic Hospitals. There is one attraction, an unofficial attraction, which the program does not mention. Perhaps the philanthropic Northerner who goes to Atlanta and stays for even a week may come away with mellowed and modified opinions on the great question of "Black and White."

Northwestern University Settlement, Chicago.

## The Burden of Christopher.

BY JOHN P. GAVIT.

More than two years ago, when I was editor of THE COMMONS, a book came to me for review; it came unannounced and unexplained. It was just a hook, called "The Burden of Christopher," by "Florence Converse," of whom at that time I never had heard. The only clue to personality was in the dedication—"Vida D. Scudder, her book." After a while I began to read it, perfunctorily enough as a task, preparatory to a more or less perfunctory editorial notice of it.

Before I knew it I was lost in it. For hours, which seemed days and months and years, I lived in the life of a New England factory town. At the end an unprecedented experience absorbed me. A May morning found me walking along a traffic-roaring Chicago street, this extraordinarily engrossing book in my hands, oblivious of my surroundings, lost in the denouement of this inexplicable narrative, and sobbing like a child. When I reached home, I wrote in the back of the book these words:

"Surely He hath borne our griefs and carried our sorrows. \* \* \* He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed. \* \* \* All we, like sheep, have gone astray \* \* \* and the Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all. And they made His grave with the wicked \* \* \* yet He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors. \* \* \*

"Him who knew no sin He made sin for us; that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."

Having no clue to the author, I wrote about it to Miss Scudder, and received this reply:

"Your letter brought me great pleasure—all the more because I am not the author of 'Christopher,' except as the mind of the author and my own are closely united. Miss Converse is \* \* \* going to say to the world many of the things that I feel but have not the power to say. \* \* \* I think you may have misread Christopher a bit. She meant him for a sinner, poor fellow, not for a martyr. *Can one be both?* The question cuts deep. At all events, the hook—which I value as much as you do, and deeply love—brings into clearest relief the terrible moral tragedy, the choice of sins, which our hideous society often appears to produce—only appears—the deviation from the right, even for the sake of the right does but strengthen the bands of iniquity. Isn't that what she means?"

I do not know what Miss Converse means. I do not undertake to say whether a man can

be both sinner and martyr. I do not know as much as I used to know about the ethics of doing wrong for the sake of ultimate right. I cannot guess what Miss Converse intended her story to teach, or whether she expected it to "teach" at all. But I know that this is in some ways the most extraordinary book I have ever read. I cannot "review" the book; and I have never been able to get myself to the point of opening it again. I am reluctant even to characterize it. Its people are living people; its ethical tragedy is as real to me as if I had known Christopher as a bosom friend. I am inclined to be silent about it, as one is silent about tragedies in the lives of those he loves.

I have loaned the book to maybe a score of thoughtful people, and have watched with keenest interest their different comment. I have come to use it as a sort of moral precipitant by which to test the heart and conscience of a friend. I know more about a man after he has read this marrow-searching story and said his say about it.

No bibliography of the literature of social development is complete without it. It is more profound and more clear-eyed and more timely than any of the furore books of latter days. As a dispassionate arraignment of the modern industrial status; a dramatization in white light and black shadow of the frightful ethical tragedy set before the man who has a part to play in modern industry, I do not know of its equal. It is a story pure and simple; it flaunts no moral, it draws no didactic lessons. It carries the reader through the experiences of a "captain of industry" who tries with all his manly might to do well with his property, and with the lives of those dependent upon him; and it tells what was the outcome. Think of it what you will; judge this Christopher by what moral standard you please; pronounce him "sinner" or "martyr" as your ethical sense may impel you or your self-justifying instinct tempt; you will lack a major document in the case for and against modern industrialism until you have followed Christopher Kenyon through the steps of his efforts to incarnate the human Christ in the relationships involved in his management of his New England shoe factory, and of the trust-fund committed to his care.

Pittsburg, Pa., June, 1902.

Lady Henry Somerset, writing of Settlement ideals, in *The White Ribbon*, says:—

"This new-born social consciousness is the most vital thing upon the planet. Toward it 'the whole creation moves.' The acme of the new sociology is, to develop the life of the individual out of a mere self-conscious existence into personality that shares the life of the whole brotherhood of man and the fatherhood of God."

### Social Settlement Week at Chautauqua.

Among the unique features of the Chautauqua program for 1902 is the week of July 7-11 which will be devoted to Settlement Work. At this time an unusual experiment will be tried in the nature of a Settlement School in which representatives from the different cities who will come to Chautauqua for a two weeks' stay, will take part. There will also be conferences during the day upon the Settlement Work, and lectures bearing upon the topic will be given by prominent people. Among those who are working up the movement and who will participate in the program are Miss Jane Addams of Hull House, Chicago; Mr. Starr Cadwallader of Goodrich House, who is also Director of the Public Schools of Cleveland, and Dr. Graham Taylor of the Chicago Commons. Abundant opportunity will be given those interested in this great movement, to come in touch with the actual workers and hear the latest developments thoroughly discussed.

In addition to the Conferences in which she will participate, Miss Addams will give a series of lectures on sociological subjects. Mr. Cadwallader will speak of the relationship of the settlement to the neighborhood and to the community. Other prominent workers will be present from various parts of the country. There will also be in attendance at the School, about one hundred young women from the settlements of the different cities, Chicago, Cleveland, Buffalo and Pittsburg.

### For Fourth of July.

The following letter from President Lincoln to General Grant, which has had little or no publicity, is good reading for the Fourth of July:

EXECUTIVE MANSION,  
WASHINGTON, Jan. 19, 1865.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL GRANT:

Please read and answer this letter as though I was not President, but only a friend. My son, now in his twenty-second year, having graduated at Harvard, wishes to see something of the war before it ends. I do not wish to put him in the ranks, nor yet to give him a commission, to which those who have already served long are better entitled and better qualified to hold. Could he, without embarrassment to you or detriment to the service, go into your military family with some nominal rank, I, and not the public, furnishing his necessary means? If no, say so without the least hesitation, because I am as anxious and as deeply interested that you shall not be encumbered as you can be yourself.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN,

# The Commons.

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor from the Social Settlement Point of View.

GRAHAM TAYLOR, . . . . . Editor.

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## EDITORIAL.

Chicago's deliverance from two great labor crises last month was notable. The possibility of a strike of the street railway employes to enforce their right to organize was fraught with incalculable disaster. No city in the whole country would suffer so much from a prolonged interruption of its street railway traffic as Chicago with its principal business interests centered in so small a radius "within the loop." To the conservatism and experience of the international officers of the Amalgamated Association of Street Railway Employes and the patience and reasonableness of the men is due their peaceful triumph. The new-found joy and independence which greeted the recognition of their brotherhood was like the reunion of a long-sundered family. The elemental loyalty of man to man gave expression to the highest enthusiasm over the restoration to their former positions and old runs of those who had suffered discharge, in bringing it all about.

The teamsters' strike, which was attended by some rough work both by the strikers and the police, was happily conciliated by the secretary of the State Board of Arbitration, who succeeded in bringing the principals on both sides face to face. Then the difficulty was found to be more readily adjustable than it was dreamed to be, and a permanent board of arbitration was agreed to with equal unanimity by both parties. In both cases, compromises were made, honorable alike to each side of what otherwise would surely have been a struggle fateful to both and to the city.

### Organization versus Personality in Settlement Work.

This old problem has received a trenchant re-statement at the hand of Mr. E. J. Urwick, sub-warden of Toynbee Hall, in an address before the Federation of Women's Settlements in London, fully reported in the Boston Transcript for April 23rd, 1901. Starting with the fact that settlements began by "a revolt against half measures of social service on the one hand, against well-meant but ill-planned panaceas on the other,"

his friendly and constructive criticism centers about the fear that they are reverting to the mechanical type of agency, in which the personal element is overshadowed more and more by institutional activities. He attributes this tendency to two causes, the shortness of the average term of residence and "the striving for concrete results, which may be exhibited in reports to interested friends and subscribers."

Whatever the effectiveness of organized efforts in club or class, or in training the residents and influencing outsiders reflexively, nothing can compensate for the lack of "real identification with the life of the neighborhood." Without that the residents "will be in the district but not of it, having their task to do there, their holiday from times of work, their days off and evenings out, to be spent always in the world outside to which their real selves belong." Or they may become "a coterie with machinery tacked on—working indeed at the business they have taken in hand, but after work retiring always into the cave of their own companionship."

When we allow the outside world to judge us by our activities, Mr. Urwick thinks "we appeal to our works as a proof not of our faith, but of our energy," and he believes that in this very energy and the consequent straining after effect the chief danger of settlement lies. "We vie with one another in the achievement of our doing, rather than the effectiveness of our being—tempted sometimes even to the verge of the picturesque in order to satisfy the expectations of visitors or the demands of supporters." Faithful are these wounds of a friend and under every such stroke settlement residents will do well to let their sin both of omission and of commission find them out.

But Mr. Urwick's conclusion is open to grave misunderstanding outside of our circles and disastrous perversion within them. For these antitheses are surely too antithetic; "the true settlement will be a center of trained sympathy, not of trained or untrained activity; a place of good-will rather than of good works."

How "trained sympathy" can be real either to the one feeling it or to the other with whom he feels, without expressing itself in "trained activity," we find it difficult to imagine, under the conditions of life which prevail in settlement neighborhoods.

As a "place of good will," however genially felt or good naturedly shown apart from co-operative, persistent, progressive effort to make the

will good to the community in the achievement of deeds, the settlement would be sure to degenerate into the very self-complacent, dillitante sentimentality against which Mr. Urwick levels his strong and virile protest.

There "the will cannot be taken for the deed," wherever else, under easier conditions, "honors are easy." To make "good will" will the good and effect it, there must be co-operation. To any kind of effective co-operation some degree of organization is indispensable. Moreover, if the settlers are to have time, strength and money to put into their neighborhood relationships, they cannot all exhaust their resources in maintaining separate, single households. Co-operate living is the economy in both financial and personal resource which makes settlement service possible for most residents.

But there should be the maximum of personal liberty and the minimum of institutional organization consistent with the co-operate life and co-operate work essential to the very existence of most settlements. Moreover, non-resident control of the details of household life and neighborhood work is maintained almost always at the cost of personal spontaneity and individual initiative, without which the settlement loses its very soul. In the long run then it is essential to the success of a settlement to secure such a head-worker and residents as can be trusted and then to trust them with the management of the interior life and work while they continue in residence, changing the personnel if necessary rather than repress, much more suppress, the liberty of life.

Mr. Urwick's final plea is in line with that combination of the "Neighborhood Guild" idea with settlement residence, which has always seemed to us to be the ideal toward which we should work. It should be heeded all along the way to that goal by every settlement group and individual resident.

"If we are to supply the complement of the social life in our district, then there must be a stern limit put to the artificiality of our way of living. The gap cannot be filled by a collection of spinsters, nor by a club of bachelors. A settlement is not a convent nor a college; it must be a society, however small, in which both men and women, and if possible married and single, have their place. Difficulties may be urged, no doubt, especially the prejudices of an older generation, felt more strongly in this country than in some others. But the condition has been fulfilled even here in some cases; why not in all? Moreover, the difficulties themselves are caused by another defect which, equally with the first, is

involved in the artificiality of our life. We have, more often than not, aggravated our isolation, by shutting ourselves within a single wall. How can the closed community be an ideal neighbor? An hotel has no neighbors, nor has a palace; and the comparison is not as absurd as it sounds. Doubtless you must have your center, with its reception rooms, concert hall, club premises—what you will. And there you will have your half-dozen residents or so, but no more. The rest will be near—as near as may be convenient; but they will live on the 'scattered homes' principle, in twos and threes together, not in large clusters."

"He that knows not, and knows not that he knows not, is a fool—shun him.

He that knows not and knows that he knows not, is simple—teach him.

He that knows, and knows not that he knows, is asleep—wake him.

He that knows, and knows that he knows, is wise—follow him."

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Boston—91 Tyler Street (Denison House).

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY  
CAROLINE WILLIAMSON MONTGOMERY,  
5548 Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago.

### The Denison Dramatic Club.

About four years ago the Denison Dramatic Club made its debut, before an amused but sympathetic audience of Denison House friends, in "The Play of Julius Caesar." At that time the members of the club were fourteen or fifteen years of age, noisy, thoughtless, untidy boys, turbulent in their relations with one another, aggressive in their attitude towards all the rest of the world, and entirely without vital interest in anything in heaven or earth, including the dramas which were their excuse for being. Out of this chaos "The Play of Julius Caesar" gathered itself, or to speak accurately, was gathered by the combined efforts of the director of the club and four or five other residents.

It is a marked characteristic of the Celt that his spirit is willing but his flesh is weak. He likes to dream great things, but he is bored when he tries to do them. Being bored he "throws up the job" and dreams of greater things. The rehearsals for "Julius Caesar" were tedious, for everybody concerned. But the director of the club was not a Celt: to her there were worse conditions in life than being bored. She knew her boys, individually and collectively; when all other threats and blandishments failed she occasionally said, "We'll give up the play." Under compulsion the Celt does not give up.

For weeks beforehand the settlement floated dizzily upon billows of Roman toga; but at last the dream came true. The Irish boy cannot philosophize nor argue; he will not model in clay,

nor weave baskets; he does not often have a zest for sloyd, nor a taste for music. To other races other gifts. But he can act a part; he can put himself in the other fellow's place; and, although he is greedy for applause, his dramatic instinct springs from something nobler in him than vanity; for he can thrill responsive to great thoughts, and utter them so that other people, less imaginative, must perforce thrill responsive also. Above all, he can live in his dream till he believes that it is real. When a fifteen-year-old boy, with a raucous voice and an untutored accent can hold a mixed audience to respectful gravity while he weeps over the dead body of Caesar, borne in on a kindergarten table, there is reality somewhere.

At twelve o'clock at night, after the play was over, the club came back, cheering through the streets, to Denison House, and danced the Virginia Reel, and danced and danced and danced. So the old heroes of their race danced, no doubt, and leaped "the leap of the salmon" long ago, after battle and conquest. And these also were conquerors, for they had conquered themselves. They had set out to do a thing, and they had stuck to it. They have stuck to it ever since.

The second year they gave "Damon and Pythias," but Shakespeare had spoiled lesser playwrights for them, and last year nothing would content them but "The Merchant of Venice." They worked over it with tremendous earnestness, and did it so well that they were invited to repeat it at Wellesley, Radcliffe, Lasell Seminary, and Belmont, not Portia's Belmont, but another, nearer to Boston. And they made money enough to support this winter all the sloyd and basket-weaving classes at Denison House, paying for teachers and materials, and to hire for themselves two club rooms in a neighboring house.

This spring they have given Bulwer-Lytton's play of "Richelieu," and they are to repeat it at Wellesley in April. The women's parts have always been stumbling blocks, and have necessarily limited the choice of plays. Cato's daughter was ruthlessly obliterated from "Julius Caesar," and the wife and daughter in "Damon and Pythias" were changed, by enterprising residents, into a younger brother and son. Portia and Nerissa in "The Merchant of Venice" were more difficult to manage, but by judicious cutting they were given prominence chiefly in those scenes where they masqueraded as men. And this year, profiting by experience, and by careful though clandestine study of the manners of students from Wellesley and Radcliffe who frequent the house, Julie and Marion de Lorme were able to behave and to speak in a very ladylike, not to say girlish, fashion.



The young man who took the part of Richelieu was Launcelet Gobbo last year. An excellent Gobbo in face and form and merry antic, but entirely unintelligible when he began to speak. This year his every word could be understood at the back of the hall; and no one would have recognized the gay huffoon in the majestic and stately cardinal. As one of the boys said, he who was Brutus four years ago: "It isn't fair to give the same fellows the big parts every year, because then the others get discouraged; but if we take it turn about then everybody gets a chance to show what's in him." Richelieu got his chance.

They are going back to Shakespeare again next year. They say that Shakespeare's words are all tied up with the action, you can't separate the one from the other; but in this play of Bulwer-Lytton's they had to find out what to do before they learned the words at all. They feel the difference in the language, too, "it speaks better."

Whether the Russian Jew, or the Italian, or the German, or the Syrian, will thrive and develop on dramatics we cannot see, our problem is with the Irish boy, and for him Shakespeare is, we are sure, the best text book. Out of Shakespeare our boys have learned English, and History, and Patriotism, and Courtesy. The boy who took the part of Shylock knows what it means to be a Jew; the boy who took the part of Antonio knows what it is to be a friend.

The club has also developed a sense of responsibility not wholly due to added years. The boys no longer wait to have things done for them. They hire the hall, attend to the printing of the tickets and programmes, and to the renting, but not the choosing of costumes.

For several weeks before "Richelieu" was given, the librarian at the Branch Public Library in our district, reported that every book she had which contained any account of the play, or of the history of that particular period, was "out." The whole neighborhood, not the boys only, but the mothers and sisters and fathers and friends, was reading about Richelieu.

Strange as it may seem, this delight in being someone else is not accompanied, in these boys, with any stage fever. They take themselves very simply, as amateurs—true lovers; they have no illusions in regard to their own talents. Their sense of humor saves them from becoming conceited, except as all boys are inevitably conceited.

The younger brothers are now besieging us with entreaties to be allowed to give a play. Of a

truth on Tyler street it would indeed appear that "All the world's a stage."

FLORENCE CONVERSE.

### Robert Louis Stevenson's Chivalry.

Mr. Graham Balfour, in his notable Life of Stevenson, thus strikingly describes the charm of his character:

"I have referred to his chivalry, only to find that in reality I was thinking of every one of the whole group of attributes which are associated with that name. Loyalty, honesty, generosity, courage, courtesy, tenderness, and self-devotion; to impute no unworthy motives and to bear no grudge; to bear misfortune with cheerfulness and without a murmur; to strike hard for the right and take no mean advantage; to be gentle to women and kind to all that are weak; to be very rigorous with oneself and very lenient to others—these, and many other virtues ever implied in "chivalry," were the traits that distinguished Stevenson. They do not make life easy, as he frequently found."

"There was this about him, that he was the only man I have ever known who possessed charm in a higher degree, whose character did not suffer from the possession. The gift comes naturally to women, and they are at their best in its exercise. But a man requires to be of a very sound fiber before he can be entirely himself and keep his heart single, if he carries about with him a talisman to obtain from all men and all women the object of his heart's desire. \* \* \* But who shall bring back that charm? Who shall unfold its secret? He was all that I have said; he was inexhaustible, he was brilliant, he was romantic, he was fiery, he was tender, he was brave, he was kind. With all this there went something more. He always liked the people he was with, and found the best and brightest that was in them; he entered into all the thoughts and moods of his companions, and led them along pleasant ways, or raised them to a courage and a gayety like his own."

### PESTALOZZI-FROEBEL, Kindergarten Training School at Chicago Commons.

Two years' course in Kindergarten Theory and Practice. A course in home making, Industrial and Social Development emphasized. Includes opportunity to become familiar with Social Settlement Work. For circulars and particulars, address  
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Chicago

### Settlement Investigations.

Miss Margaret Schaffner, who has been in residence at the Northwestern University Settlement all winter as incumbent of the University of Wisconsin Fellowship, has been investigating "the labor movement with special reference to the transition from individual to collective bargaining." She becomes an instructor in economics in the University of Iowa.

Miss Gertrude E. Palmer, the University of Michigan Fellow at Chicago Commons this year, has completed the gathering of facts on "The Spendings and Savings of Children," and has returned to the University to prepare the report of her inquiry for submission to her instructors and to the Settlement.

"A Schedule for the Study of Conditions of Children Street Vendors, Newspaper Sellers, etc.," is issued by Miss Mary E. McDowell, of the University of Chicago Settlement, calling for name, age, sex, address, nationality, length of time in the United States, attendance at day or night school and the grade, physical description, including any deformity or other feature, family's condition, whether wholly dependent upon the earnings of the child, occupation, hours employed, day or night.

Mr. Wm. C. Hunt, Chief Statistician for population of the Census Office at Washington, D. C., informs the Settlements and other centers of social observation of the bill establishing the Census Bureau, and especially of its provision for the collection of "social statistics of cities." He calls attention particularly to the power given the Census Bureau to arrange the statistics of population so as to give the distribution according to the nationality of parents. In view of the great need felt by social and religious workers for a better knowledge of their communities, it is important that the Census Office be urged to collect statistics, showing the birthplace of parents, which is a valuable index to the characteristics of the people, and also the altruistic and religious work established among them. As such a study of the social statistics of cities, properly interpreted, would open a mine of valuable information to social and philanthropic workers, it is suggested that they urge upon the Census Office the collection of such data.

MOTTO FROM DALMENY HOME FOR DAIRYMEN,  
BRIARCLIFF FARMS, BRIARCLIFF MANOR, N. Y.

"God hath given thee to thyself and saith. I have none more worthy of trust than thee: keep this man such as he was made by nature. Reverent, Faithful, High, Unterrified, Unshaken of Passion, Untroubled."

### ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD WORKERS, NEW YORK CITY.

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY  
MARY KINGSBURY SIMKHOVITCH,  
248 East 34th Street, New York.

#### Letter from the Editor.

New York, June 14, 1902.

To the Editor of the Commons:

The settlements in New York have been going through the annual period of semi-rest that intervenes between winter and summer and news is scarce. Perhaps a more diligent reporter than I would have found something more interesting to relate. But the bald fact remains that at this time of year the volunteer worker for the most part hies away, many residents follow suit, and before the pressing work of vacation parties begins there is a lull in activities, good for the soul but unproductive of news. In the meantime, however, a few changes are taking place. The Educational Alliance which is the largest educational and social institution on the lower east side, has opened a settlement called the Alliance house. This house is in the neighborhood of Seward Park, the playground in which has attracted a great deal of interest among all lovers of small parks and playgrounds in the country. For four years the Out-door Recreation League has maintained several playgrounds in New York, as examples of what can be done to create healthful enjoyment and recreation in a relatively inexpensive and attractive way. Of all these playgrounds by far the most important was in Seward Park, situated in the heart of the city's densest population where formerly tenement rookeries had stood. One of the pledges made by the Fusionists before election was to provide playgrounds for the city's children. Encouraged by this declaration, the Out-door Recreation League felt that its work was done; that as the public demand for playgrounds had been created and the promise to provide them had been made, there was no more work for the League to do. The League therefore presented the Park Department with its apparatus worth about four or five thousand dollars with the expectation that the Department would continue the work of the League. But this expectation so far remains absolutely unfulfilled and small hope is held out that the city will have playgrounds during this season. The plans for completing Seward Park do not admit of a playground being opened there till September 15th. In the meantime the apparatus

could be used profitably on another space called Hamilton Fish Park. But the Park Commissioner, Mr. Willeox, says that although the apparatus can be sent to the Park there is no money for care-taking and maintenance. It is impossible for the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to make a grant for this purpose as it was not included in the budget for the year. It is thus possible that omission of direct mention of care and maintenance of playgrounds in the budget may cut off the rich city of New York from providing the very inconsiderable sum of \$10,000 with which to maintain playgrounds.

We are inclined to believe, however, that when the public realizes that there are to be no playgrounds there will be so urgent a demand for an appropriation that a way out will be discovered, perhaps by the use of the contingent fund. In any case it is not pleasant to reflect that so serious an oversight took place when the budget was made up. Another fact not very agreeable to dwell upon in this connection is the recent appointment of Mr. Thomas Murphy as one of the two Superintendents of Parks. Mr. Murphy's office was exempted from the civil service examinations on the ground that a Superintendent of Small Parks should be so important an expert that the Commissioners should feel free to appoint the best man. Exempted on the ground that one part of his office was the superintendency of small parks, Mr. Murphy is actually engaged solely in the other part of his office, that is, as general assistant to the Commissioners. This would seem to be a more appropriate position for Mr. Murphy to fill than that of expert on small parks, as his previous record shows him to have been a locally prominent Republican, first a plumber, second superintendent at Bellevue Hospital, and third a union official at the Capitol in Albany. Was Mr. Murphy so decidedly the only and unique person fitted for the position involving superintendency of small parks that the office needed to be exempt from civil service examination?

Perhaps next year, as the Mayor suggests, the administration will be in shape to press the playgrounds matter forward. In the meantime the Park Department will bear friendly watching. Another matter of interest to settlement readers will be that Dr. Jane Robbins, for many years identified with the college settlement and latterly with the Normal College Alumnae Settlement, and always with the best interests of the working people of New York, has gone to Cleveland to take charge of the Alta House till the autumn. This house is situated in an

Italian quarter and Dr. Robbins' friendship with so many Italians in New York makes it especially appropriate that she should be in charge of Alta House till matters have been rearranged there. Before Dr. Robbins' departure from New York the Social Reform Club tendered her a dinner which was really a gathering together of a large number of her old friends and a testimonial of their lasting friendship and admiration. Among the after-dinner speakers were Richard Watson Gilder, Jacob Riis, and Edward King. Perhaps the most interesting speech was that of Mr. Gino Speranza, who spoke in the warmest way of Dr. Robbins' friendship for the Italian people.

Those who care for theories of progress as well as for its practice will be interested to know that the Junior Socialist movement in New York is becoming more and more impregnated with the Bernstein point of view. The more orthodox Marxists in the old sense are dwelling in numbers, while the new progressive Bernstein movement is daily becoming stronger and more important. The east side socialist movement has hitherto been a matter of debate rather than of practical importance, but it is not at all improbable now that the old Marxist creed is breaking up, that the Socialist movement will become less aloof from other progressive movements and will lose its foreign isolated quality that has heretofore distinguished it.

To many of us who are not by any means satisfied with the tendency of settlements to become large institutions, with views impressed on the neighborhood rather than coming from the organized neighborhood itself, there is something very congenial and appealing in the development of the Social Halls Association identified notably with the names of Miss Wald, Miss Potter, and Miss Strauss. This association proposes to erect in various neighborhoods as occasion arises, on a financially profitable basis, social halls where clubs may meet, dances be held, and refreshments enjoyed. I believe this plan is something of a solution to the growing institutional tendency in neighborhood houses. This plan provides for a neighborhood center for social entertainments on a large scale, which at the same time allows settlements to carry on their own distinctive neighborly and family life in a free and simple manner unhampered by these large financial considerations which it is rather the function of a settlement to stimulate than it is to engage in.

The summer school in philanthropic work conducted by the Charity Organization Society of New York will open Monday, June 16, and con-

tinue till the last of July. The course as in former summers will include visiting various New York institutions, daily addresses, practical work in the society's offices and one topic for each student for special research.

Yours sincerely,  
MARY KINGSBURY SIMKHOVITCH.

### Social Movements in Kansas City, Mo.

The social consciousness of Kansas City has been greatly aroused during the past two years and a number of movements have been inaugurated which promise much in the way of improving slum conditions. A spirit of social service has been cultivated and fostered by the Associated Charities, the Women's Clubs and certain of the downtown churches. This spirit is now becoming manifest concretely in various forms of service for arousing and directing the self-consciousness of the neglected masses.

Among these agencies may be mentioned the Social Settlements of which there are three, one, the Y. W. C. A. House, located in the packing house district, being over the line in Kansas. The other two are about a mile apart in a very densely populated district of working people. One of these is in connection with the Mattie Rhodes Day Nursery and is known as the Mattie Rhodes Settlement. This work is in charge of Miss Edith M. Shortt who received her training at St. Paul in "The Commons" and "Neighborhood House" of that city. There are but two residents here, the matron of the Nursery and Miss Shortt. Their work has been largely with the patrons of the Nursery, and with the children. Clubs, classes and night school were conducted during the winter and now a play-ground has been equipped and an attendant hired for the summer. A very good beginning has been made this first year and it is hoped that something can be done this fall with the men and older boys of the district.

The South Side Settlement is located in the most densely populated district of the city, there being about one hundred families on one block. Nearly one-half of this district are Russian and Polish Jews. In helping this people, the United Hebrew Charities have co-operated and conducted the kindergarten during the entire year, admitting Gentile children on the same basis as the Jewish.

Here, too, the first year's work has been largely for women and children, but it is expected that the resident's quarters will be enlarged this fall and more workers will be secured (there are now three) and then the full settlement work will be taken up. Besides the kindergarten, the Women's Auxiliary of the Manufacturers' Union conducted

a Sewing School every Saturday and the residents maintained the Boys' and Girls' Clubs, the Night School, the Penny Provident Fund and Reading Room. A music teacher has a class in vocal music and a woman physician conducts a Free Dispensary. During the summer an ice water barrel is kept supplied and the children are given outings in the form of trips to the country and picnics and car rides.

In addition to these, other movements are forming. The managers of the North End Day Nursery are engaged in raising money to erect a building suitable for Settlement work, and the Baptists are going to erect a building for this purpose in "The East Bottoms." There is also talk of a Settlement among the colored people. Separate schools are maintained here for the colored children, and a number of the teachers in these schools are interested, and it is probable that a number of them will go to one of the neglected districts this fall and live among their people.

Of the other movements looking toward the betterment of social conditions may be mentioned the Home for Working Girls. This Home has now been in operation on a small scale for one year. So successful has it been that funds have been raised for the purchase of a beautiful old mansion containing sixteen rooms as a permanent home for the Club. The Club is called the "Hybho Club," the name being coined by taking the first letters of the words of its motto, "Help Yourself by Helping Others."

The Improved Dwelling Co. was organized more than a year ago to take charge of old, unsanitary houses and tenements on the "Octavia Hill Plan" of combining rent collecting with friendly visiting. This Association has had charge of one hundred and twenty-four small houses during the past year, with very good results, and expects to enlarge the work this year. The rents are collected weekly by a lady residing in the district (the South Side Settlement), who in this way comes into close touch with the people, and so is able to help them in innumerable ways. The plan is found to be admirable as a basis for a social settlement, in that the residents find a natural entrance to the community through their business interests with it, and furthermore it is quite possible to sustain the work in this way.

There is one other movement deserving of mention. This city has for nearly a year maintained a Probation Officer, who is paid by private subscription. He has recently been made a special police officer and receives one-half of his pay from the city. The jail boys are now separated from the old offenders in some rooms set apart for them in a separate wing of the jail building. A teacher

is hired by the citizens to conduct school every forenoon. This is known as the "Kindergarten," and it is safe to say that no city without special laws has done as much for its juvenile offenders.

Steps are being taken now for the organization of a "Help to Self-Help Society," which shall stand in the relation of friendly adviser to those in any sort of trouble. One department of their work will be to conduct a Chattel Mortgage Loan and Pawn Shop, always discouraging the borrowing of money by the applicants if other plans can be devised for them. J. M. HANSEN.

### Howell's First Impressions of a Factory.

In his delightful reminiscences of his "Literary Friends and Acquaintance," William Dean Howells thus lets us see the life-long impression made upon that very human heart of his by the first sight he caught of a New England factory town. Naively he accounts for going to Lowell before making his pilgrimage to Concord, "that I might ease the unhappy conscience I had about those factories which I hated so much to see, and have it clean for the pleasure of meeting the fabricator of visions whom I was authorized to molest in any air-castle where I might find him." Then he shares with us the aftermath of feeling he had over the rude shock which the mill life gave his sensitive vision. "I visited one of the great mills, which with their whirring spools, the ceaseless flight of their shuttles, and the bewildering sight and sound of all their mechanism have since seemed to me the death of the joy that ought to come from work, if not the captivity of those who tended them. But then I thought it right and well 'with sick and scornful looks averse,' for me to be standing by while others toiled; I did not see the tragedy in it, and I got my pitiful literary antipathy away as soon as I could, no wiser for the sight of the ingenious contrivances I inspected, and I am sorry to say no sadder. In the cool of the evening I sat at the door of my hotel, and watched the long files of the work-worn factory girls stream by, with no concern for them but to see which was pretty and which was plain, and with no dream of a truer order than that which gave them ten hours' work a day in those hideous mills and lodged them in the barracks where they rested from their toil."

### A Foundry Dedicated to Right Relations.

It sounds strange to read of a foundry being opened with an invocation of the divine blessing upon "the works" and the guidance of "the Spirit" in its progress. Some day the strangest thing may be to remember that any such religious

aspect of industrial relationship ever seemed strange to any one. The pledge of fraternal fealty which the proprietor freely offered the men has a ring of manly purpose about it at the furthest remove from cant. To all the assembled employees and guests he said:

"I want to show you how I feel upon the question of labor and capital. I appreciate that you are the foundation of this business; that I have got to satisfy you; have got to pay you fair and liberal wages, and treat you right. I tell you from the bottom of my heart that I will always do that and I feel that you will always do your duty. There is no doubt about the permanence of these works. I expect soon to erect buildings over the whole five acres of ground which we own here."

He then outlined his plan to "give the married men sanitary homes to live in, with pretty gardens and all conveniences, charge them less rent than they would have to pay elsewhere and let the rent go towards paying for the building, giving title to the building when sufficient rent has been paid."

At the blast of a bugle he then started the machinery. Layers of iron and coke had been placed in the cupola and soon the molten iron was running out, accompanied by a shower of sparks, forming a beautiful pyrotechnic display. Men caught the running iron in holders and poured it into the moulds about the big place.

I have always found that the people who talk loudest about the pleasure which work affords make no great efforts themselves; whilst those who are uninterruptedly engaged in heavy labor are hesitating in its praises. As a matter of fact, there is a great deal of hypocritical twaddle talked about work. Three-fourths of it and more is nothing but stupefying toil.—Adolf Harnack.

### New Cottage at Macatawa for Rent.

A furnished cottage of seven rooms and a bathroom, built this spring, on an easily accessible bluff overlooking Lake Michigan, just south of Macatawa, will be ready for occupancy July 1. Any family desiring to inquire about this safe, comfortable, beautiful summer home between the Michigan woods and the great lake, seven hours from Chicago by daily steamer lines, may address Box 12, Macatawa, Michigan, or "The Commons," 180 Grand avenue, Chicago.

## Chicago Theological Seminary

Opens its 46th year Sept. 24th. Full corps of Instructors, Seminary Settlement. Affiliated schools in music, woman's work and missions. Diploma and B. D. degrees Merit scholarships. Fellowship for two years to each class. Address PROF. H. M. SCOTT, 520 W. Adams St., Chicago, Ill.

## FROM THE SETTLEMENTS.

A new Settlement has been started by Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Weller in their own home, 456 N street, S. W., Washington, D. C., which already has its promising complement of clubs and classes, including a free kindergarten. Mr. Weller recently left the West Side Bureau of Associated Charities in Chicago to become the superintendent of the Charity Organization Society of Washington.

Another new Settlement has recently been initiated in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. It is to be called the Wisconsin University Social Settlement of Milwaukee, and will be under the patronage of the University, though supported by Milwaukee people. The committee charged with the inauguration of the work includes prominent representatives of the Christian and Jewish churches, and the public schools, and is headed by Prof. Richard T. Ely, of the University of Wisconsin.

Gordon House, New York City, is to have a new, well-equipped Settlement building on West Seventeenth street, near Ninth avenue, work upon which has already begun. We hope to have the design of the edifice, with a description of its arrangement and equipment, in an early number of THE COMMONS.

## FEDERATION OF CHICAGO SETTLEMENTS.

The last session of the Federation of Chicago Settlements for this season was held at Hull House, and its goodly fellowship was greatly enhanced by the presence and participation of Miss Wald and Miss McDowell, of the Nurses' Settlement, New York City. The former's racy account of settlement and social service in New York was greatly enjoyed and led to many questions and a pleasant interchange of view.

The sale of "Modified" and "Pasteurized" milk in Chicago promises to be widely extended this summer. It is prepared in "a surgically clean laboratory" at the Northwestern University Settlement under the supervision of a physician and with the co-operation of the office of the City's Commissioner of Health. It will be distributed from at least four settlements and the Central District Bureau of Charities.

## CHICAGO COMMONS.

The opening of our Public Playground was a great success. The Daily News Band, composed of boys, enlivened the occasion by their highly appreciated volunteer service. The Maypole dance, basketball match and other athletic contests greatly delighted the throng of children who crowded every available foot of space in the yard, and the crowd of adults who looked between the pickets and over the fence from sidewalks and wagons

lined up by the curbstone. Alderman Wm. E. Dever and Principal Bogan, of the Washington School, welcomed the advent of the playground right heartily to the ward. But the enthusiasm of the whole occasion rose to the highest pitch when a banker's gift of a thousand carnations arrived on the scene. A mighty cheer arose from the children, as, forgetting everything else, they stormed the platform and each one besought a flower. The playground is still in need of about \$100 for increased equipment.

Camp Commons opened on schedule time, June 16th, and the first contingent of boys has come and gone. The pressure for admission is greater than our accommodations, preference, of course, being given to boys of our clubs. The co-operation of the people of Elgin and towns outlying that city is greater than ever, especially among the churches of all denominations, Catholic and Protestant. Several of them are giving the Camp its dinner on a certain day each week for the season.

A country cottage for the use of the young women of the neighborhood has been secured near the lake shore in Winnetka, Ill., for the summer.

The commencement exercises of the Pestalozzi Froebel Kindergarten Training School were held on Friday, June 20th. Several songs were sung by the members of the school, and addresses were given by the Rev. Dr. H. W. Thomas and Miss Mary McDowell. The graduating class numbered fifteen members. After the exercises there was a reception to the friends of the school and an exhibition of the handwork of both junior and senior classes. The alumnae and members of the graduating class were invited to dinner by the residents, and a lively dinner it was, with the capacity of the large dining room taxed to its utmost to provide for the fifty guests.

The alumnae now number fifty-five at the close of the fifth year of the training school. Their association came into larger life this year by joining the International Kindergarten Union, and at the enthusiastic meeting held after dinner the members pledged themselves to raise money to provide the school with a scholarship.

The happy day closed with a farewell party in the kindergarten room.

Toward the \$18,000 appealed for in the last number of THE COMMONS to complete the building fund and carry the work over the summer \$3,500 has been received during the month, leaving \$14,500 still to be raised.

One of the best managed and socially most successful occasions ever held at the Commons building was the wedding reception given by the Tabernacle church to their pastor, Rev. James Mullenbach and his bride, on their return to their home next door to the settlement and to their work in the loyal parish.

# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor from the Settlement Point of View.

Number 73—Vol. VII

Seventh Year

Chicago, August, 1902

## Two Poems By Matthew Arnold.

EAST LONDON.

'Twas August, and the fierce sun overhead  
Smote on the squalid streets of Bethnal Green,  
And the pale weaver, through his windows seen  
In Spitalfields, looked thrice dispirited.

I met a preacher there I knew, and said,—  
"Ill and o'erworked, how fare you in this scene?"  
"Bravely!" said he; "for I of late have been  
Much cheered with thoughts of Christ, the living  
bread."

O human soul! as long as thou canst so  
Set up a mark of everlasting light,  
Above the howling senses' ebb and flow,  
To cheer thee, and to right thee if thou roam,—  
Not with lost toil thou laborest through the night!  
Thou mak'st the heaven thou hop'st indeed thy  
home.

WEST LONDON.

Crouched on the pavement, close by Belgrave  
Square,  
A tramp I saw, ill, moody, and tongue-tied;  
A babe was in her arms, and at her side  
A girl; their clothes were rags, their feet were  
bare.

Some laboring-men, whose work lay somewhere  
there,  
Passed opposite; she touched her girl, who hied  
Across, and begged, and came back satisfied.  
The rich she had let pass with frozen stare.

Thought I, "Above her state this spirit towers;  
She will not ask of aliens, but of friends,  
Of sharers in a common human fate.  
She turns from that cold successor, which attends  
The unknown little from the unknowing great,  
And points us to a better time than ours."

If a man is unable, then, to go down to the root of humanity, and has no feeling for it and no knowledge of it, he will fail to understand the Gospel, and will then try to profane it or else complain that it is of no use.—Adolf Harnack.

## Tenement-House Settlement Work.

The Commons, St. Paul, Minn., Wholly Self-Supporting, Unique also in its Methods, Introduces Important Questions.

In describing the work of Settlements it has been considered necessary to dwell upon the day nursery, the industrial school, the kindergarten, the clubs, the music, the games, the drawing, the dancing, the bank, the bath tub, etc., etc. These are all good works, but except the features distinctively social, or those common to home life, are they embraced in the Settlement idea of social service? Successful Settlement workers have always employed these activities chiefly as avenues leading to the real Settlement opportunities. Are not the clubs, classes, etc., the material, surface indications that the Settlement is in action? If the Settlement's purpose can be attained without these externals, if the opportunity which they afford for getting into the lives of the people, can be opened without them, would it not be well to dispense with many of them? If this is desirable what method more direct, and equally natural, may be employed to reach the hearts of the people who need the Settlement?

A writer in the Charities Review some time ago drew attention to the fact that the ordinary tenement house furnishes the best possible opportunity for Settlement work, and the point would appear to be very well made. The idea is not that the tenement house is simply a good place in which supported workers may establish an institutional Settlement, with its complexities of clubs and classes. It is well suited for such undertakings, but it is also a place where Settlement work may be done by more direct methods, and be wholly self-supporting. No outside financial assistance is needed. This merit of the tenement house may be turned to account in at least two ways. One is for not less than two qualified people, following their regular vocations, to take an apartment in the tenement, spending their evenings and other spare time in neighborliness in the block. There is no chance for failure here. The degree of success depends simply upon the fitness of the workers. Some of the tenants in almost every such building are unconsciously doing a little work having some correspondence to this. Another plan is to lease a large tenement,

sublet the apartments, live upon the margin of profit, and devote the time to Settlement work with the tenants. The relation of the worker to the people under such circumstances, is wholly natural. There is nothing to explain. The idea of brotherhood and friendliness is not veiled.

In the Commons, a Social Settlement in St. Paul, Minn., directed by Miss Eleanor Hanson, the practicability of this plan is being demonstrated. This Settlement has been in successful operation six years, and is steadily enlarging its field of opportunity. The work is carried on at the corner of Jackson and Eighth streets, in a locality crowded with saloons and disreputable lodging houses. The building used is a four-story, steam-heated brick—five stores on the ground floor and one hundred apartments above. The stores and about ninety-five of the rooms are rented, the remainder being used by the family. The cost of rooms at the Commons corresponds with the amount paid for similar accommodations in the neighborhood. Not to make a living profit would defeat the purpose at both ends; the work would fail from insufficient support, and reduced rents would tend to pauperize the tenants. Care is taken to have no crowding in the place. About one hundred and seventy people live there, and for these chiefly the work is carried on. The population is made up of laborers, mechanics, factory girls, clerks, waiters, milliners, office help, and the like. A small dining-room is operated and, while it is no necessary part of the plan, it is a convenience to some of the lodgers and tends to give the helpful impression that the inhabitants of the building all constitute one family. This unity of feeling in the place is most powerful for good. The family, lately moved in, who have been in the habit of sending the beer pail regularly to the saloon come to feel that they are a discordant note in the harmony of the house; and men and women whose lives bear the stains of darker deeds become sensible again of the sweetness and joyfulness and satisfying nature of a pure home life. Of course, no questions as to character are asked of those applying for rooms. The receipts may be set down thus: Five stores, \$115.00 per month; 95 rooms, about one-half of which are furnished, \$455.00 a month; yearly rent, \$684.00; board, \$1,160.00 a year; total, \$8,000.00. The expenditures: Rent \$3,090.00; heat, \$1,000.00; light, \$750.00; water, \$100.00; help, \$1,100.00; provisions, \$1,100.00; laundry, \$250.00; furnishings, \$200.00; repairs, \$200.00; sundries, \$300.00; total, \$8,000.00.

In the beginning the classes and clubs, usual in Settlement work, were organized and conducted with the customary degree of success; but later Miss Hanson came to believe that the en-

ergy necessary to keep this machinery running could be better employed in touching simply and directly without plan the life-springs of character. She tried this with highly encouraging results. So most of the stated hours for doing material things were abolished. Some of them, for extraordinary reasons, remain; for example, the night school, established years ago, has grown so that it must be conducted in different quarters of the city, a large force of teachers under Miss Hanson's direction, being necessary. While not a little of her time is employed in influencing, by suggestion and encouragement, the chief thought is given to creating and maintaining a healthful, enlarging spirit in the house. This life in the place is its principal developing, uplifting, constructive and reconstructive power. It goes without saying that well endowed tenants are insensibly drawn into the work. Sociables, plays, entertainments, musical recitals and such, are still common, but they are brought about by the people in the tenement for their pleasure and profit. The atmosphere of the house is wholly natural, wholesome and easy; the movement toward a higher and larger life distinctly visible.

Of course, the qualifications needed to conduct successfully a work of this kind are of an order superior to those called for in teaching classes in sewing or carpentry, but there can be no doubt as to its greater effectiveness. Perhaps this introduces the question as to whether or not the Settlement is the best place for such necessary lines of work as industrial training. The word Settlement has not been clearly defined, of course, and while its spirit is recognizable at once, yet the personal feeling enters largely into the definition. The work at the Commons aims to supplement, but not to perform, the work of the home, the church, and the common, industrial, physical and art schools.

It would seem as if this view of the Settlement opportunity simplifies the problem, and should lead to an extension of the work, as the highest quality of service can be commanded without financial outlay.

### The Value of an Economic Library.

BY HELEN MAROT.

In the spring of 1897, the Free Library of Economics and Political Science was opened in Philadelphia. It was founded on the idea that freely offered opportunities for education in economics and political science make directly for a more intelligent public opinion and a higher citizenship.

The four years' struggle of the library was partly told in the financial statements in the three Annual Reports. It was, however, recog-



nized from the time of its inception that an independent library, dealing exclusively with public affairs, was probably in advance of a liberal financial support for such a purpose. But the organizers of the plan trusted that the library would serve as an object lesson; that established educational institutions would appreciate its importance, and that the work, if once commenced, would be taken in hand and carried on by one of the existing organizations. Much to the satisfaction of the Directors this has recently been achieved in the transference of the library to the American Academy of Political and Social Science. The full value of the library to Philadelphia will be realized when the Academy removes its headquarters to the heart of the city, as they are now planning to do. The interest of those either practically or theoretically engaged in social questions will be strengthened by the establishment of this center. Under the direction of the Academy, the library will be developed, and its usefulness extended as it was impossible for it to be under the old management.

The Free Library of Economics and Political Science was opened to meet what was recognized as a small but all important demand. It was appreciated that the demand came from those who were giving their time, publicly and privately, in politics and out, to advance the welfare of the country and to awaken in the people a sense of social responsibility.

Possibly it is true that for some years to come the mass of the people will be willing to leave affairs of state to the few; but thoughtful persons have given the warning that grave dangers threaten democracy unless the few increase, if not to all the people, then to a number sufficiently large to instill life into the whole body.

It is undoubtedly too true for our national welfare that "yellow journalism" has increased and cheap sensationalism is often preferred to honest thought. So much more imperative is it on this account for us to open the way for the few who are searching for accurate statements and truthful deductions. There are always with us, private citizens whose potential qualities may at any time expand into larger social usefulness.

The apathy of the people is apparent at the local elections in our large cities and their ignorance is perennially in evidence concerning economic issues.

Educational work along political and economic lines is carried forward by colleges, public and private lecture courses and by public spirited citizens, through clubs, social settlements and various organizations contending for some specific reform. These different bodies are calling to their

aid every year, men and women highly trained in the work requiring their assistance.

The value of the library as an adjunct to this work is at once apparent. The failure of libraries in large cities to take their part and assist, shows a strange lack in initiative not consistent with the library spirit of recent years. Libraries in small cities are not justified in specializing to any great extent except on the ground of demand, but this is not the case in the libraries of the great cities. The whole population of the country looks to these cities to supply the diversified needs, not only of their own immediate constituency, but of the inhabitants of the surrounding country. It is from these great social aggregations, where industrial pressure is the keenest and political strife most active, that leadership is expected in the economic and political movements of the time.

In every large city there is need of a library, which is either a department of one of the large public libraries, or a library connected with an unpartisan economic or political association, engaged in educational work. It is peculiarly the province of a public library, supported by public funds, to contribute towards the education of citizens in citizenship. The appropriateness of public libraries, giving attention to this material, was recognized and urged by the late Dr. Daniel G. Brinton. In spite of the fact that his own interests were bound up in ethnology, he saw that the subject, which dealt with public affairs, should take precedence in one of the public libraries in every large city.

The collection of sociological literature has generally been carried further by the college libraries than by others, through the demand of the departments dealing with the subject. But this is practically only accessible to professional people, and further, these collections, while covering the field needed in the courses of study, cannot be sufficiently comprehensive to meet the demand of general readers, as well as the special students of specific conditions or theories outside of the university.

Such libraries as we have in mind should be kept fully stocked with the standard works of social economics and political science, both in theory and history, and should liberally include works in philosophy and science of importance to the student of these special subjects. If the library is a department of a larger library, reference to the other departments could often be substituted for the books themselves.

Liberality should also be extended to those volumes, if worthy, which are of importance only for a season. The best of this material, however,

is to be found in pamphlets of periodical literature.

The accumulation of this ephemeral literature as well as of state reports demands the attention of some one who has not only a keen interest in public affairs, but who has a genius for the discovery and collection of material.

The librarian, when making accessions to his library, is assisted in judgment, as a rule, by advance notices of a book, reviews and the reputation of the publishing house. Such assistance is generally lacking in the collection of pamphlets. A librarian who is interested in the subject matter of his library will know oftener than not the reputation of the author of stray pamphlets and local societies issuing reports or other literature. He will also, when reading a daily paper, instinctively discover the incidental allusions to a new or stray publication. His continuous meeting with others interested in the same subjects, in or out of the library, will enrich his opportunities of discovery.

Discrimination in the collection of state reports would be the most perplexing part of the work of collection. These reports are issued in overwhelming quantities and vary in value from statements of fact—which are evolutionary in character—to flagrant misstatements issued for partisan purposes. A long continued and indiscriminate admission of domestic and foreign reports would lead to a calamitous abuse of library space.

On the other hand, the librarian should exercise his function of selection in the most generous spirit and remember that his judgment is not final, and, moreover, that exclusion of literature is sometimes more disastrous than overcrowding.

The expense of expert assistance in the collection of the pamphlets and state reports would be offset by the small cost of the literature itself in comparison to its intrinsic value. Many political and economic associations issue their reports and other publications entirely free of cost.

The importance of such literature, carefully classified and accessible to the general public, can not be overestimated. It would furnish valuable statistics and thought for speeches and debates and would act, even if the library were used only by the few, as a leaven working towards a higher social plane.

The administration of the library should be in the hands of experienced librarians, who are trained not only in library methods but the subject with which the library deals and are alive to public interests.

The personnel of the library staff often makes as much difference to a reader, who approaches a

subject for the first time, as the books themselves. Any one who has used a well conducted library, which specialized in some one subject, will remember that there was something contagious in the atmosphere and, if those in charge did not know the subject as well as he, they at least knew the literature far better and were able to help him to a further knowledge of what he wanted as well as to the books and papers. When a reader's topic is an inclusive one rather than some well defined subject, his painful search through a drawer of cards and bibliographical lists seldom returns to him the same wealth of material that librarians will unearth. The latter's constant experience gives them cues which they can adjust to the new demands of readers as they come up.

A catalogue in special libraries is as much if not more for the use of the librarian than the readers, an opinion in which the latter are generally glad to concur. The advantage of coming in contact with the readers is no less to the librarian, who can in this way broaden his knowledge and point of view for the direct benefit of the library.

A library, conducted on these principles and dealing with social problems, would in time grow into a veritable bureau of information. The bulletin boards would call attention to the literature in the library dealing with the issues before the people, to recent books, the newly issued reports of importance to economic and political thought and would keep on file recommended courses of reading for isolated students.

It can hardly be doubted that the very existence of such a library in a large city would stimulate interest and promote less biased thought.

New York City.

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## Chautauqua's Social Settlement Week.

BY JANE E. ROBBINS, M. D.

Twenty workers from a dozen Settlements gathered together in Chautauqua, New York, during the second week in July, which was largely devoted to a Settlement conference. The speakers at the meetings were all heads of Settlements, Mr. Taylor, of Chicago Commons; Mr. Cadwallader, of Goodrich House, Cleveland; Mr. Daniels, of Neighborhood House, Philadelphia; Miss Holmes, of Westminster House, Buffalo, and Miss Addams, of Hull House, Chicago. The audiences were made up of people who varied in the amount of their information all the way from the workers themselves to men and women like the country doctor, who said slowly at the end of a lecture: "I think Mr. Cadwallader showed great indiscretion in choosing a subject that no one knew anything about. I am a well-read man and I have never heard of a Settlement."

The subjects considered were: "Settlement Mediation in Politics and Religion," "Relation to the Neighborhood and to the City," and "The Personnel and Management." Mr. Taylor gave the address on "Settlement Mediation in Politics and Religion." He spoke of the Settlement as a unifying force and described the "Pleasant Sunday Afternoon" which is arranged for all and where everything that divides is shunned. The degree to which a Settlement may engage in or co-operate with church work was said to be determined by what it is possible for a Settlement to undertake in a given community without ceasing to be a Settlement. What one Settlement can do in one neighborhood is no criterion for judging another in a different district. He spoke also of the work done in politics in rallying the moral forces of the neighborhood in a successful effort to break down the corrupt gangs which ruled both political parties.

Mr. Cadwallader said in one of his addresses: "There are many people in the world with benevolent impulses who think they have high ideals of doing good, of doing things which shall be of use in the world (and to a very considerable extent that is true), but there is failure in one point—they never seem to arrive at such a state of mind or heart that they can associate with other men and women on the basis that they are men and women, and that there are things in every life to be respected, that they have ideals of living as important for them as any ideals which can be created for them. This thing is not so easy to arrive at. In the Settlement the attempt is made to maintain a relationship which shall be natural, which, on the other hand, shall not be some sort of

a looking down, or coming down to somebody's else level, or lifting them up to a higher plane, elevating them to an ideal that ought to be good for them, according to the idea of somebody else. The Settlement is an association for getting for both sides the best there is for them in the association."

Miss Holmes described the different ways in which Settlements come into existence. Sometimes a group of individuals or a family goes to live in a crowded neighborhood and gathers about them their friends who have similar aims. And sometimes the work begins as an organization with a formal board of managers. She thought that the resident to be desired in the Settlement must be public-spirited, adaptable and happy.

Miss Addams gave a number of addresses to large audiences. She spoke twice on Tolstoy and once on "The New Ideals of Peace." Her address at the regular Settlement conference was on "Arts and Crafts." She brought out clearly the solace to be found in fine workmanship and the importance of having the man in the factory learn to use his hands so that he shall give himself some pleasure thereby.

Mr. Daniels gave an illustrated lecture, showing pictures of the neighborhood where he has his home and describing the simple and natural relations of a family to its neighbors.

The thought most prominently brought out, both in the public meetings and in the private conferences, was the democratic spirit. One speaker said: "The ideal person to help in a Settlement is one of strong democratic character, with infinite faith in human beings, who protests against the division of society into classes and who believes that the truest, happiest life is the democratic life." Some of us certainly noticed with a feeling of relief that nothing was said about the young investigators from the classes in sociology, "Those university pests," as a scoffing young working girl called them, and we took heart to hope that "the social laboratory" has had its day.

In one of the private meetings a warning note was uttered against the danger to the Settlement movement of having big buildings and much organization. It was pointed out that the administration of a large work takes the time and strength that ought to go to "folks," and that it would not take long for institutionalism to kill out all the good that is in the Settlements. The pre-Raphaelite movement in England and its great influence on art was given as an instance of the power of ideas freely expressed by individuals who were unhampered by organization.

The Settlement workers enjoyed being together, and the conference was said to be one of the most successful that Chautauqua has ever known.

# The Commons.

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor from the Social Settlement Point of View.

GRAHAM TAYLOR, - - - - - Editor.

Entered at Chicago Post Office as Second-Class Matter, and Published the first of every month from CHICAGO COMMONS, a Social Settlement at Grand Ave. & Morgan St., Chicago, Ill.

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A Year.

## EDITORIAL.

We congratulate the University of Michigan, as well as the farming communities of that great state, upon the appointment of Mr. Kenyon L. Butterfield, one of the most valued contributors to the columns of THE COMMONS, as lecturer on "Rural Sociology" in this greatest of our state universities. By his scientific knowledge of agricultural interests and his wide observation of the social aspects of the rural problem, he is exceptionally well qualified to serve the state and the whole country in this capacity.

Mr. John Palmer Gavit, the first editor of THE COMMONS, to whose self-sacrifice and journalistic ability the settlements owe the founding of this paper in their interests, returns to journalism and literary work in Albany, N. Y. His ten years of social service has added to his rare instinct for letters such a varied experience and range of observation as cannot fail greatly to enhance the practical value of his writing and the charm of his style.

### The Chautauqua Settlement Conference.

It added as much interest to the rich program at Chautauqua Lake as it rendered a practical service to the Settlement cause to have "A Social Settlement Week" in this year's assembly season. The occasion rallied some of the most experienced Settlement workers from Philadelphia, New York, Buffalo, Cleveland, Chicago and other points. The program, although not very carefully prearranged to secure unity and cumulative effect, was practically suggestive and inspiring. Its main features are sketched by Dr. Jane Robbins in another column. As is always the case, however strong the program may be, the greatest helpfulness came from the personal fellowship and informal conferences which fell in between sessions. These were greatly enriched and enlivened by the presence and participation of Professor Earl Barnes, who, though never a resident, has done much consecutive work with the English Settlements, especially at

Toynbee Hall, Bermondsey and Passmore Edwards House. His estimate of the American settlements as the "finest expression of America's greatest contribution to the world—the democratic spirit," laid upon every one of us who shared the charm of the unreserved companionship a new sense of our obligation to preserve the simplicity and reality of that social democracy which constitutes the very soul and power of every Settlement worthy of the name.

A young merchant at the Chautauqua Settlement conference finely said: "With refinement always comes the democratic spirit, which is just another name for sympathy."

Anent the country doctor's remark a long-time resident observed: "I am sure he is a scholar and a gentleman, and, so tired do I get sometimes of being in the public eye that I am just thankful that he never heard of us."

Over sixty young women, who had for years attended the Hull Heuse summer school at Rockford, Ill., accompanied Miss Addams to Chautauqua Lake for this season's session. This change of base added variety in instruction and travel, including a trip to Niagara.

### Ennobling the Sullied American Name.

The fear of being charged by the foremost of our military censors of national morality with having "an over-heated conscience" does not seem to have deterred President Roosevelt in retiring from active service the Brigadier-General who ordered our soldiers to kill all over ten years old and make Samar "a howling wilderness." In so doing the President was not inconsiderate of that officer's "long career distinguished for gallantry, and, on the whole, for good conduct such as to reflect credit upon the American army." But he fully shared the revolt of the nation's heart and conscience against those exceptional "instances of the use of torture and of improper heartlessness in warfare on the part of individuals and small detachments." For with the full effect of his action upon party press and politicians before his eyes, he did not hesitate publicly to declare what the people have personally felt, that "the shooting of the native bearers by the orders of Major Waller was an act which sullied the American name." What could be done to make lustrous that which was thus sullied the President's order has bravely and in a manfully American way undertaken to do.

### A Christian Revenge.

To "revenge" the murder of one of their graduates at the hand of one of the boy gangs in the St. Paneras district, London, the pupils of Millhill School have been moved by their head master to support one or more of their alumni in residence at Passmore Edwards House to work among these neglected boys. Already this school sustains boys' clubs at Toynbee Hall, whose members are welcomed to share the field sports on the luxurious grounds of this select school.

Wounded unto death, at the hand of a man who resented insult to his family, gathered on the doorstep of his home in the neighborhood of Chicago Commons, a member of the "Trilby Gang" lies at the City Hospital. To save these poor "gang" boys from the perversion of their natural social instincts two things seem necessary—the exclusive use of a club-room every evening, and the leadership of a "born leader" of boys. Both can be secured at the cost of not more than \$50 per month. Why should not our privileged high schools, institutes and academies in Chicago and every city take this kind of revenge on the menace which neglected boys ever are to the community which abandons them to ignorance, idleness and brutality? Had Chicago Commons entered upon its work sooner, perhaps Chicago might have been saved the crimes of a criminal family whose boys grew into desperadoes just ahead of our boys' clubs. Three of them have for a dozen years robbed and assaulted whenever out of prison, and a fourth is fast following the examples and actual training of parents and brothers. As we write, one of them is dead at the morgue, shot through the heart by his criminal father while trying to beat out his brains with a sledge hammer.

## Chicago Commons.

### Outings Between Showers.

Despite the "return of the clouds after the rain" through two of the three out-of-door months, our outings have succeeded, however often their scheduled dates have been drowned out. The playground floats above all floods. Its swings weather every gale. Even Camp Commons at Elgin, though most of the time more of an aquarium than the sunny meadow by day and the camp-fire circle by night, has not dampened the boys' spirits down into "the blues" or the depths of home-sickness. Old Sol begins to shine a little more invitingly upon the coming of the girls for their month at camp. The Winnetka country cottage for the young women fulfills its purpose of supplying a happy, healthful place in which their smaller

groups spend the well-earned and all too brief vacations. By the persistent kindness of some of our suburban friends and by the grace of an occasional sunny day we have had some of the largest and most thoroughly well enjoyed day picnics we have ever had. Of the day at River Forest one of the guests of the Woman's Club declared, "It was the happiest day of all my many years in America." The Noyes Street Mothers' Club of Evanston had their fears of too small an attendance pleasantly disappointed by having 350 mothers and children to entertain, only a hundred more than they really expected. Very manifold and sweet are the summer reciprocities which grow in number and deepen with the years of Settlement co-operation. None are more satisfactory than those which are growing between the good people of Elgin and the boys and girls of Camp Commons. The churches of several denominations, Protestant and Catholic alike, vie with each other in providing dinners, entertainments and financial support for the camp. It is hard to tell whether Universalists or Presbyterians, Congregationalists or Roman Catholics are most interested. The good priest of St. Mary's has shown us the hospitality of his home and parish by inviting the resident in charge of the camp to dine and address the women of his church, who take their turn in supplying camp dinners. He also sent a carry-all out to bring all the boys into his church service one Sunday, and then left with them money enough to buy base balls and bats, besides more for camp expenses. Several Protestant pastors have taken like initiatives, while the people of all faiths have happily fraternized in serving "these least."

The public playground opposite Chicago Commons, on the corner of Morgan and Grand avenue, was opened most auspiciously in June. While much smaller than the requirements of the neighborhood, every inch of ground is made to do duty. The playground is open during vacation from 9 to 12 o'clock in the morning, from 2 to 5:30 in the afternoon, and from 7 to 9 in the evening, with a resident from the Settlement always in charge. Like a swarm of bees, the children buzz around the gate waiting for the gates to open, and not a few in their eagerness surreptitiously climb the fence. Four large swings, three see-saws, a turning pole and two sand piles are in constant use, while games of different kinds are carried on by small groups. Story-telling is most fascinating for the children, and the resident who is an accomplished story-teller stands high in their estimation. Occasionally the children themselves take a hand in story-telling, and most strange and extravagant are their descriptions of people and things.

It is impossible to estimate the advantages to the children. An active child, be he rich or poor, with nothing legitimate to occupy him, is bound to find something to do and the "find" generally ends in trouble and mischief. The resident in charge has his or her hands full in seeing that the use of swings is equally divided, to look after the "teeters," sand piles and various games, to check rude language and selfishness, but each and all as they take their turn are most enthusiastic over the work accomplished.

On Fourth of July evening the neighborhood Italian band played in liveliest fashion, fireworks of various kinds from the pinwheel to the gorgeous burst of roman candles and rockets were set off and thoroughly enjoyed by parents and children, who crowded the playground and surrounding sidewalks. The playground is a great success and should be made permanent by private if not by public funds.

### **Starr Centre Coal Club.**

BY PHILIP B. WHELPLEY.

Since colonial times, when the New England fishermen worked on the share system, experiments in the co-operative principle in this country have had their ups and downs, and have faithfully registered the rise and fall of national prosperity. Co-operative societies, large and small, provided they are conducted honestly and in a business-like way, promote thrift and many strong moral virtues. The complete success of well-managed co-operative clubs is the best recommendation that could be put forward.

In the Seventh Ward in Philadelphia, where there are 9,000 colored people huddled together, there is a co-operative coal club that has been remarkably successful and is having a good moral and educational influence on the community. This club started eight years ago, has progressed slowly, but has gone far. It issued from the efforts of one person and has now become thoroughly naturalized in the neighborhood. It was started and is now a branch of the work carried on by the Starr Center and is known as the Starr Center Coal Club.

The club is fortunate in having for a manager a lady who volunteers her services and throws herself into the work with enthusiasm, sustained and strengthened by rare patience.

The members of the coal club, numbering now above six hundred, are all colored. It had been the custom of most of them to buy their coal by the pail or bucket, paying at the rate of seven or eight dollars per ton and by the installment plan

\$6.50 or more when the retail price was \$5.50. One great object of the coal club was to break up this habit of buying by the bucket. Then there is a social side which is, of course, of inestimable value, and a moral value which lies in the teaching of these people to save, thus helping them to a self-respecting independence.

The coal is bought at the mines at market prices, stored in the bins of a large company in Philadelphia, and delivered as desired. One great benefit to the members is the certainty of correct measure and good quality. The coal is sold in ton, half-ton and quarter-ton loads. Two members may order two barrels (one-quarter of a ton) together, which may mean a saving of fifty cents on the same amount bought by the bucket. The annual fee is ten cents for each member. There is a small profit on the sale of the coal, which is used by the club for the necessary expenses of office service, printing, and social meetings, and any residue is used in such a way as seems to the greatest advantage to the members.

The club has a corps of visitors, whose object is not only to collect payments, but to establish friendly relations with the family and exert a helpful influence. Members are encouraged to make their deposits at the Starr Center office, which is open every day from nine to five. Monthly meetings form another important social feature. Cordial relations are established between people of different creeds, neighborhoods, and walks of life. Coal is not the only topic discussed, and music and lectures add to the interest.

In brief, the coal club is a trust of labor, thrift, and mutual confidence, and its members grow more and more unselfish and their respect and affection for their neighbors increases as the co-operative principle crystalizes in their own minds. It should be remembered that the success of a club of this kind depends entirely upon the character and ability of the manager, who must give it a constant stimulus.

A few figures from the annual report:

Number of visits paid, per week, about..	250
Number of members.....	612
Tons of coal sold.....	1,095.12
Number of orders filled.....	1,628
Money received for coal.....	\$5,447.25
Price by bucket—	
Stove or chestnut (8 ets.).....	6,432.00
Pea (5 ets.).....	1,455.00
	<hr/>
	\$7,887.00
Price by the quantity.....	5,447.25
	<hr/>
Saved over bucket price.....	\$2,439.75

**COLLEGE SETTLEMENTS ASSOCIATION.**

## STANDING COMMITTEE.

*President:* KATHARINE COMAN, Wellesley, Mass.*Vice President:* MRS. HELEN RAND THAYER,  
Portsmouth, N. H.*Secretary:* SARAH GRAHAM TOMKINS, Marion,  
Mass.*Treasurer:* ELSIE CLEWS PARSONS (Mrs. Herbert Parsons), 112 East 35th St., New York City.*Fifth Member:* HELEN ANNAN SCRIBNER (Mrs. Arthur H. Scribner), 10 West 43d St., New York City.

## SETTLEMENTS.

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Philadelphia—433 Christian Street.

Boston—91 Tyler Street (Denison House).

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY  
CAROLINE WILLIAMSON MONTGOMERY,  
5548 Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago.

The change of officers in the C. S. A. cannot be noted without a feeling of deep regret at the withdrawal of the secretary, Miss Mabel Gair Curtis, who has served the association with untiring devotion, energy and zeal and has brought both executive ability and a spirit of high endeavor to her work. The amount of time and strength which her position has entailed are known only to those who have had similar positions. It is a pleasure to welcome back to the position of vice-president one of the earliest workers, Mrs. Helen Rand Thayer. The new secretary, Miss Tomkins, has held the position of Wellesley undergraduate elector for two years and is therefore not unacquainted with some of the work of the association.

## A SUCCESSFUL SCHEME OF WORK FOR A C. S. A. CHAPTER.

It has seemed to the editor of this division of THE COMMONS that a description of methods employed by a successful chapter of the C. S. A. might be helpful not alone to chapters whose following is less large, but to all who have the difficult task of raising money in small amounts for Settlement expenses. The following scheme of work and an appeal which has done valiant service are accordingly given below:

"October 30, 1900.

"MY DEAR ———: The College Settlements Association enters this year upon its second decade of life. It was founded in the earnest desire to share with the unprivileged throngs of our great

cities our very best—not only our possessions but ourselves—in the name of Christ and of the democracy. We feel that the depth and value of this initial impulse is fully proved, for Settlements have spread over all parts of America in these brief ten years, and are, moreover, exerting a vital influence over many other forms of social work.

"It is surely not too much to hope that in the ten years before us the College Settlements Association may largely increase its resources. The Settlement movement is the only one which the women's colleges have initiated; it represents to the public in definite form the social faith and activity of college women. Marvelous has been the growth in numbers and prosperity of the colleges for women during the last quarter of a century; shame on us if membership in the Settlements Association should remain stationary, or as has been the case of late years, should crawl *slowly upward* by fives and tens, while the collegiate alumnae increase yearly by hundreds.

"Wellesley has 1,860 alumnae; only 454 alumnae and former students belong to the College Settlements Association. May not the number within the next year be doubled? The college thrives and increases; in desolate neighborhoods, devoid of light and beauty, thronged by the hard-toiling hosts who perform the manual labor by which we live, are the three small houses, supported, partially only, by our association. Opportunities press upon them from every side. Theirs it may be to bring to these crowded workers some knowledge of the household arts possible even in poverty; something of the rich inheritance of beauty and wisdom in which we rejoice; many of the richer gifts of simple personal friendship and service. These Settlements need more space, more equipment, more workers. New regions call us also; for every city in America has more than one wilderness of poor and neglected folk who would be glad in our coming. Can we not give our money, if we cannot give ourselves, to hasten the day when these great wildernesses of modern life shall become fit for human habitation?

"Full membership in the College Settlements Association costs five dollars a year. Partial membership of a dollar and upwards is possible in the alumnae as in the undergraduate chapters.

"VIDA D. SCUDDER."

## THE WAY AT WELLESLEY.

The inventor of a novel and effective way of presenting his begging-bowl to the benevolent public should be hailed as a mendicant sage indeed. The Wellesley Alumnae Chapter, however, can claim no such proud distinction; it employs the time-

worn methods of eliciting interest and support.

The chapter has two officers elected in alternate years for a term of two years; a secretary and treasurer, who collects all dues and sends out ballots and notices, and an elector, who appoints the vice-electors, one for each class and one for each Wellesley club. Upon the zeal and judgment of these vice-electors depends the efficiency of the chapter.

The work of a class vice-elector is carried on by mail. She sends a personal letter to every member of her class, accompanied by a printed leaflet, if available. Such a canvass requires months to complete; but the personal word yields far better results than the most carefully prepared circular letter. A class needs such a stirring up once in five years. In the meantime, the vice-elector assists the treasurer by dunning those members of her class who are behind with their subscriptions, and is constantly on the lookout for possible non-collegiate subscribers and for opportunities to establish sub-chapters in preparatory schools and women's clubs in which Wellesley graduates are influential. In order to better systematize the work, each class vice-elector is now preparing a card-catalogue of all members of her class, graduate and non-graduate, giving the name, address, date when last written to, date of reply, attitude toward the C. S. A., and, if a subscriber, date and amount of last payment. This record can be revised from time to time, thus giving the vice-elector and her successor all information as to the status of the work in her class, and, possibly, furnishing a basis for statistics.

A club vice-elector, having her victims within ear-shot, usually arranges for an address in behalf of the Settlements, which she follows up by verbal interviews and personal notes. When appropriations are made from the club treasury, she urges the claims of the C. S. A.

The propaganda is further carried on by a public meeting held at Wellesley every June, which is, unfortunately, but slimly attended amidst the distractions of commencement week; by reports from the College Settlements printed in the Wellesley Magazine; by seizing chances to advertise the C. S. A., such as the displaying of a poster and the distribution of reports at the Wellesley headquarters in Buffalo during the Exposition, or a toast at a Wellesley luncheon.

Thus far in its experience the chapter has found two ideas most useful in maintaining its membership; friendliness and informality in appeal; and promptness and perseverance in reminding delinquents of unpaid dues. It has found its greatest consolation for the loss of members in the knowledge that many who withdraw from the C. S. A.

do so only to apply all their energies to some Settlement or similar work at their own doors. The greatest service of the C. S. A. is not in maintaining three Settlements, but in inspiring the whole body of college women with the Settlement ideals of democracy and service.

EMILY BUDD SHULTZ,  
Wellesley Alumnae Elector.

### ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD WORKERS, NEW YORK CITY.

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY  
MARY KINGSBURY SIMKHOVITCH,  
248 East 34th Street, New York.

At the June meeting of the Neighborhood Workers' Association the following officers were elected: For president, J. L. Eliot; vice-president, Mrs. V. G. Simkhovitch; treasurer, Cerise E. A. Carmen; secretary, Antoinette Parry.

### New York Playgrounds.

As a result of having the equipment of the Outdoor Recreation League handed over to it, the city has decided to run playgrounds in two of the small parks this summer, in addition to the fifty-four Board of Education Playgrounds, which will be run for six weeks in connection with the general vacation school work.

The two undertaken by the Department of Public Parks will be one in Hamilton Fish Park and one in the DeWitt Clinton Park. Commissioner Wilcox, who failed in his effort to secure appropriations for the proper equipment of playgrounds, is now arranging with the Board of Education to have the two playgrounds mentioned managed by that board until such time as he can get from the Civil Service Commission a list of qualified persons to serve as gymnasts, kindergartners and caretakers for the Park Department.

The Outdoor Recreation League is maintaining a small playground on Sixty-eighth street on private grounds. The city administration is much interested in the playground movement and hopes by next season to accomplish more in this direction.

### Public Baths in New York City.

During the past winter there has been much discussion of the marked extension of the system of public baths in New York City. The New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor, which has successfully maintained a public bath at Center Market place for eleven years, has made a careful report to the president of the



borough of Manhattan with regard to the plans of construction of baths, the cost of maintenance and the desirable locations. The association recommends a system of seventeen municipal public baths for the borough of Manhattan, to include the one already existing in Rivington street. Careful plans are submitted showing the capacity of the baths suggested as compared with those now existing in New York and in other cities, and the estimated cost of the sites, buildings and maintenance is given.

There are at present in Manhattan six public baths, open the year round, one belonging to the city and five operated by various societies. The city has also fifteen river swimming baths, open only in the summer, but the Board of Health opposes an increase in river baths, owing to the pollution of the river water, and has condemned baths on the rivers formerly used as unsanitary, so that only six floating baths are now in operation.

On February 25th Mr. Cauter presented a scheme for public baths along the lines of the report of the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor, and as a result the Board of Estimate and Apportionment voted \$450,000 for the purchase of sites and the erection of five all-year-round baths, three in Manhattan and two in Brooklyn. Those in Manhattan will be located as follows: One in One Hundred and Ninth street, near Second avenue; one in Forty-first street, near Ninth avenue, and one in the lower East Side, the site as yet not definitely settled. In addition to these baths to be erected by the city, Mrs. A. A. Anderson has just announced her intention of building a large public bath on Thirty-eighth street, between First and Second avenues, which is to be presented to and managed by the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor. This bath is expected to cost \$100,000 for land and buildings.

In the report of the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor, it is suggested that if the city deems it unwise to build the sixteen contemplated baths all at once, it should build three each year in Manhattan until the number is completed. It is to be hoped that the city's decision to build three this year means the acceptance of the suggestion and that the remaining twelve needed, according to the report, will be built within four or five years.

### A New Cooperative Settlement.

The Co-operative Social Settlement Society of the city of New York has just been incorporated. The purposes of the society are stated in the charter as follows:

"The particular objects for which the corporation is to be formed are the establishment and maintenance of a Social Settlement, or Social Settlements, in the city of New York, as centers for social, educational and civic improvement, to be carried on in conjunction and association with the people residing in the neighborhoods where such Settlement or Settlements may be situated."

The incorporators of the society are: Felix Adler, R. Fulton Cutting, Eugene A. Philbin, Henry C. Potter, Jacob A. Riis, Carl Schurz, and Mary Kingsbury Simkhovitch.

The Board of Managers until the annual meeting in January, 1903, consists of: W. Franklin Brnsh, Edward T. Devine, Rowland G. Freeman, Meredith Hare, Elsie Clews Parsons, Edwin R. A. Seligman, and Frieda S. Warburg, together with the residents of the Settlement, ex-officio, viz.: Louise C. Egbert, Paul Kennaday, Annie Anthony Noyes, Carol S. Nyc, Anne O'Hagan, William Potts, Mary Sherman, Mary Kingsbury Simkhovitch, and Vladimir G. Simkhovitch.

The settlement, which will be under the personal direction of Mrs. Mary Kingsbury Simkhovitch, will be located on the lower West Side, in the old Greenwich village.

It is estimated that the cost of rent of settlement house and club rooms, fitting up, maintenance of kindergarten, manual training and domestic science work, compensation of those under salary or wages, and incidental expenses for the first year, may be brought within the sum of \$8,000. The residents provide for their own board and attendance.

The new feature in this Settlement to be noted is the participation by the residents (the term resident being carefully defined in the constitution) in the management of all the affairs of the settlement.

### Investments in Social Halls.

The Social Halls Association of New York has just acquired property on Clinton street, between Grand and Broome, and is preparing plans for its building, which is to contain restaurant, assembly and meeting rooms, bowling alley, billard room and roof garden. The company was organized for the purpose of supplying the crowded tenement districts of New York with a building which should be available for all kinds of meetings and entertainments. Heretofore the people living on the lower East Side have been compelled to make use of the halls adjoining saloons for the lack of anything better, and demoralizing results have naturally followed.

Although prompted by the desire to benefit the neighborhood, the association has been organized on strictly business principles, with the idea that it was entirely possible to combine philanthropy and three or four per cent. A stock company has been incorporated with fifteen hundred shares of one hundred dollars each, and it is the hope of the directors that a moderate rate of interest may be paid on the investment.

Being content with a much smaller return than purely business enterprises are expected to yield, it will be enabled to give double or treble the accommodation, facility and comfort. The people who avail themselves of the benefits offered will be patrons and not patronized and will therefore enjoy a sense of freedom and independence which would be impossible in a philanthropic institution.

The building is to be composed of five stories and basement. In the basement, besides the necessary kitchens and store rooms, there will be bowling alleys, billiard rooms and baths. The main floor, on a level with the street, contains two restaurants, a cafe for men with a lunch counter at one end and a restaurant for non-smokers. These rooms are to be made as attractive as possible, and good, wholesome and daintily prepared meals are to be served at prices within the reach of the very poor.

The second floor will be entirely given over to a large hall, accommodating over five hundred people, which may be rented for concerts, lectures, weddings, balls, religious services, etc.

The remaining three floors are devoted to meeting rooms of various sizes, which it is expected will be rented every evening for different local organizations—lodges, boys' and girls' clubs, etc. The demand for these rooms has recently been demonstrated by the many inquiries which have come to the directors as to how soon the building will be ready for use. According to the present outlook the building will be opened about May 1, 1903, and it is hoped that all promises and expectations may be amply fulfilled.

SARA STRAUS.

### Mayor Jones' Illness and Recovery.

The illness of Mayor Samuel M. Jones, of Toledo, has alarmed, not without cause, many friends who have been shocked by his changed appearance. Their solicitude has called forth from his great big heart one of those uniquely confidential and child-like statements to the public which are as characteristically natural to him as they are impossible to others. It concludes thus:

"I am going out into the country to take physical culture and plain work, such as my father

took and such as the farmers and laborers of to-day are taking, and plain living, and I trust in a few weeks I shall be able to present to my loving friends a physical appearance that will calm their fears, for I know that seeing is believing. In all of this I have acted according to the highest impulse of my conscience. In everything I have done the very best I knew. Belonging to no school, I am open and ready to receive any new truth. In short, with regard to health, I stand on the same ground as I do in politics—I am a man without a party, free to choose the best, as it shall appear to me. Lovingly,

"SAMUEL M. JONES, Mayor.

"Toledo, O., July 8, 1902."

We take the liberty of sharing with the many friends of Mayor Jones among our readers the words of good cheer from a letter just received: "After fifteen days in the Wilderness I rejoice in new life. Life! I have found it 'more abundantly.' I am nearer life, physical and spiritual, to-day than I have ever been before. The road, all roads, leading to it are labelled—Simplicity."

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# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor from the Settlement Point of View.

Number 74—Vol. VII

Seventh Year

Chicago, September, 1902

## The Tramp Problem and Municipal Correction.

RAYMOND ROBINS.

SUPERINTENDENT CHICAGO MUNICIPAL LODGING HOUSE.

For some thousands of years the vagrant and the body politic have been at war. This class of human parasites has a very ancient history, and

rective legislation seeking to compel the able-bodied vagabond to industry is an interesting chapter in legal lore. The affirmative clause of the fourth commandment has found expression in countless statutes prescribing penalties against this class. The court of Areopagus in Athens punished idleness, and a provision of the Civil Law expelled all sturdy vagrants from the Eternal City. A statute of King George the II. gravely classifies



the "Independent Order of the Never-sweats" is older than the pyramids. The vagabond has mention in the psalms of David, and a grave maxim of Confucius sets forth most wisely his burdensome relation to the commonweal. Cor-

the genus Hobo into three particular species, and sets a special penalty for each degree in vagrancy.

In common with all penal legislation of earlier times, these statutes have been punitive rather than reformatory. The Solons of the past, intent

upon punishing results, inquired little into causes. The day has been in merry England when to be an able-bodied vagrant was punishable with death. Of Britain in these good old times it has been said that "the hangman was her Minister of Justice, and the gallows the symbol of her civilization." But from the vagrancy provisions of the New York Code, back through the English poor laws to the Statute of Laborers is a far cry. The evolution of vagrancy correction witnesses a marvelous amelioration. Two opinions have divided the thought and inspired the legislation of the world upon the subject of "vagabondia." One has held that all homeless beggars are vicious and unworthy—incipient if not hardened criminals. The other has regarded the tramp as a helpless victim of unjust industrial and social conditions—an inevitable product of the times. The one has prescribed whipping posts, rock piles and workhouses, the other indiscriminate charity and free soup. The one has looked for deliverance by the rigid enforcement of barbarous statutes, the other has expected a solution in industrial and political revolution. The debate still goes on, but the hangman has given place to the sociologist, and the gallows to the municipal lodging house. There has been such an institution in Huddersfield, England, since 1853. New York, Boston, Chicago, Washington, Providence, and Springfield, Mass., among American cities, have adopted this advanced method for dealing with the tramp problem. Some of these cities have had a municipal lodging house for eight years, and in all instances the results have been most satisfactory.

#### BEGINNING OF MUNICIPAL LODGINGS IN CHICAGO.

The how of this reform in our Chicago was thiswise. Some two years ago a company of public-spirited men and women formed the City Homes Association, for the purpose, as the record runs, "of improving the physical conditions of life in the more thickly settled districts of Chicago." Standing committees were organized upon "Tenements, Small Parks and Playgrounds, Laws and Ordinances, Investigation, and Publication." The original membership of the Executive Committee was a galaxy of illustrious citizens. Mrs. Emmons Blaine was elected Chairman, and Cyrus Bentley, Esq., Secretary. Miss Jane Addams, Mrs. Cyrus H. McCormick and Mrs. Joseph T. Bowen, with Messrs. Nelson P. Bigelow, Edward B. Butler, Chas. L. Hutchinson, George E. Vincent, Leslie Carter, and Chester M. Dawes made up its personnel.

Immediately things began to happen. A thorough investigation of the tenement conditions of Chicago was undertaken, diligently prosecuted and finished within a year. The data carefully com-

piled and strikingly illustrated were published, and this report is recognized as a permanent contribution to the literature of "housing." An ordinance based upon the findings and recommendations of this report is now pending in the Chicago City Council. In the meantime the Association helped through the legislature a bill providing for Small Parks and Recreation Grounds in the crowded areas of Chicago. The labors of the Small Parks Commission of the City Council in selecting sites, were greatly facilitated by the investigations and counsel of the specialists of the City Homes Association.

#### INVESTIGATION BY THE CITY HOMES ASSOCIATION.

The problem of vagrancy came up for consideration when the Lodging House Committee began its investigations. Mr. Edward B. Butler visited the municipal lodging houses in New York and Boston, and his printed report contained the suggestive statement that "in 1899 Chicago housed in her police stations 160,000 people, while New York cared for only 80,000 in her municipal lodging house." This report also embodied a detailed schedule of initial cost and operating expenses. The subject was brought to the attention of Mayor Harrison, and a hearing before the finance committee of the City Council was granted. Largely through the friendly interest of the Mayor an agreement was reached whereby the City Homes Association was required to lease a suitable building for six months and properly equip it for lodging house purposes, while the city agreed to conduct the administration and provide the running expenses. The selection of the superintendent was left with the City Homes Association subject to the ratification of the mayor. Mrs. Emmons Blaine took up the matter of finance, and by personal solicitation and contribution soon secured the necessary funds, and a vacant factory building centrally located was leased and equipped to house, bathe and feed 200 men a night. The police stations were closed to vagrants, and the Municipal Lodging House opened its doors on the evening of the 21st of December, 1901.

#### MUNICIPAL LODGING HOUSE IN ACTION.

Every evening at 12 South Jefferson Street for the past eight months from 10 to 140 hungry and homeless men have stood up for registration. The police officer in charge separates this group into two lines, "first nighters" and those previously sheltered. As the newcomer steps up to the desk the registration officer, with a pile of blank cards before him, begins his questioning.

#### REGISTRATION AND SUPPER.

Name and age, place of birth, length of residence in the state and city, occupation, with the names and addresses of his last three employers, and when and how long he worked for each—all

this and more goes down in black upon the white. The man is given two duplicate numbered checks, and then begins his ascent toward supper, a bath and bed. Entering the first room upon the second floor and sitting down upon a wooden bench before a plain board table, our lodger receives his one-third loaf of fresh bread and pint of hot coffee. This dispatched, he is ushered into a large room supplied with benches, and directed by the attendant to the dispensing window of the sack room, he gets a large meshed clothes sack

be poorly done through laziness, repugnance, or unfamiliarity with the task, the officer in charge returns him willy nilly, and should the lodger seem unequal to the labor a husky attendant does him to a turn, and he comes forth, if not as beautiful as the lily, surely with a not unpleasant shining, and if cleanliness be next to godliness, then much nearer the Almighty than he has been for many days.

#### MEDICAL EXAMINATION.

Putting on a pair of carpet slippers, and ar-



and fastens upon it one of his duplicate checks. Every rag of clothing, hat and shoes, and all the contents of his pockets are put into this sack. The draw string pulled and tied, this bag of dead and living matter is taken to the fumigating room and subjected for some eight hours to the fierce destroying fumes of ten pounds of rolled brimstone sulphur, burning out all life within its walls.

#### COMPULSORY BATH.

Next in order is the bath. This is administered in an open, well-lighted room, 18x24 feet, containing eight hot and cold water showers, strong soap, brushes and towels without stint. Should this job

rayed in that informal fashion which prevailed in Eden before the fall, he presents himself to the skilled and keen discernment of the examining physician. This disciple of Galen having found the facts of the lodger's physical condition, writes them upon the same record card that holds his story given at the desk below. He is now recorded beyond the possible success of "fake" excuses in an attempt to evade his reasonable stint of labor on the morrow. The physical examination finished, our lodger dons a clean night robe, and, going up another flight of stairs, finds himself in a large dormitory. There are two sleeping rooms, each containing 100 single enameled iron beds,

supplied with a spring mattress, blankets, sheets and pillow. Here he is met by an attendant, who takes him to a bed of corresponding number with his check, and our lodger enters into silence—and perhaps a dreamland musing over better days.

At half past five o'clock each morning all the men are called, and, coming down to the dressing room, each gets his sack of clothes, and after a breakfast of the same quality and proportion as the supper of the night before, our lodger, with

envy, flow like a troubled river for an hour and a half. All the evils in Pandora's box have here a victim, and every vice a votary, but John Barley-corn is easily the greatest potentate among them all.

Nevertheless, with the handicap of the record card containing last night's story in black and white against him, the only way of safety for the lodger is to tell the truth. In making his excuse, if the tale sounds "fishy" he is put through



his fellow sojourners for the night, is sent to the office for distribution.

When all the men have filed in, the superintendent calls attention to the rules of three hours' labor on the city's streets for all able-bodied men, and then explains that the city's interest is in having her citizens engaged in honest, independent work, and if they have a fair chance for remunerative employment for that day, and can tell a straight story, they will be excused from street work and sent at once upon their way to industry.

Now begins the rarest chapter in all the book. Hard luck experiences, stories of dissipation, disease, accident, industrial displacement, and fairy tales that would turn Hans Andersen green with

the same questioning as on the night before, and on the principle that if he lied then he probably lies now, if he varies from his original story he is promptly brought to book, and checked into the street gang for three hours' labor with a hoe.

#### DISTRIBUTION.

As the cases are disposed of, three main classes of the able bodied are formed:

First—Those who have secured employment for themselves, and can return that day into the ranks of industry.

Second—Those who have worked, and worked well, upon the streets the previous day, and, their references having been investigated and found good, are to be sent to those firms and corpora-

tions that employ worthy men from the Municipal Lodging House. If there is no employment reported for that day, these men are given the entire day to seek for work.

Third—"First-nighters" and others whose record is not satisfactory, and who must work upon the streets if they lodge at the city's charge.

The first class go at once, taking a card to be signed by their employer or foreman, and which is returned by mail or otherwise to the Municipal Lodging House.

The second class are sent to those public-spirited firms and corporations that, seeing the value of the work of the Municipal Lodging House, give it the substantial co-operation of employing the worthy lodgers whenever they have vacancies.

The third class are taken in charge by a foreman of the City Street Department, and under the supervision of an officer of police, are required to work three hours upon the city streets. Each of these men is given a card, and when his stint of work is finished the foreman writes a record of the quality of the lodger's labor upon this card and attests it with his signature.

#### THE SICK ARE CARED FOR.

When these classes are disposed of there yet remain the crippled, sick, physically incompetent and delinquent class. The Municipal Lodging House, as a clearing house for the indigent, endeavors to secure the final disposition of each case. In making this distribution a single night's registration sometimes calls into helpful co-operation nearly all the charities, public and private, in Chicago.

#### REDUCED THE VAGRANT CLASS.

While every man in Chicago homeless and without money is welcome at the M. L. H. for four nights, fewer than 8,000 lodgings have been sought by indigents in six months. And this despite the fact that the organized charities and many private citizens, together with the police department, refer all vagrants and homeless indigents to the place. This striking decrease is mainly due to the compulsory bath, medical examination and labor test, which make the Municipal Lodging House uncomfortable to the professional tramp.

#### RESULTS.

The most conspicuous public benefit that has resulted from the opening of the M. L. H. is the breaking up of organized begging. Beggars now receive a ticket to the lodging house or its address, instead of the pauperizing premiums of indiscriminate charity. As the citizens and housewives of Chicago learn to know that food, a bath, and a clean bed are given free to any homeless man or boy at the Municipal Lodging

House the disintegration of the beggar organizations has begun. As one of the "fraternity" was overheard to remark, "the mu-ni-cip-al lodging house has put Chicago on the bum fer us fellers; we've got ter move on." The discouraged tramp leaves the city or goes to work. The municipal lodging house is the scientific method for dealing with both vagrancy and the bane of indiscriminate charity. It is far more effective than raiding "barrel houses" or giving an occasional beggar six months in the House of Correction. It discriminates between the unfortunate and the vicious, the discouraged boy and the hardened vagabond, and it results in the cutting off of the base of supplies for the mendicant army.

#### BOY VAGRANTS.

Another benefit of no small merit is the service rendered in reclaiming the youthful vagrant. A boy from the country or some small town, weary of long hours and short pay, or dazzled by a dream of fortune in the great city, comes to Chicago with a few dollars and great expectations. After a few days or weeks, it may be, his money is gone, he is discouraged by the rebuffs his awkward seeking after work has received, and the noise and rush, and heartless might of the downtown traffic have overwhelmed him. He feels so insignificant among the great piles of brick and stone, among the clanging cars, and the hurrying thousands of indifferent fellow men. A false pride keeps him from returning to his home, if he has one. His heart fails him, and he thinks of suicide. Wandering about the streets, he happens upon a "barrel house" or "hangout" for hoboes and petty thieves. Here he is sure to receive a hearty welcome, perhaps the first fellowship and human interest in himself that he has found for many days. Some "jockey," taking in the situation at a glance, will give him something to eat and a drink, if he will have it, telling him the while a "ghost story" about the easy money, freedom, and good cheer of the hobo's life. This "professional" will care for the boy for days, if need be, well knowing that the boy will almost certainly become a "prushun" or a "jolt" and "batter" many a sinker in the next few weeks that will find its way in loving gratitude into his capacious pocket. The very awkward "greenness" of the boy is now his capital, and with a little "priming" the boy will tell a "ghost story" that, backed by his fresh face and countryfied appearance, will get him "oodles" of food and clothes, and not a little money from the kind-hearted mothers in Chicago. This was the way we cultivated vagrants and petty criminals in the past years! Now this boy is directed to the Municipal Lodging House, and either returned to his home or helped into the ranks of

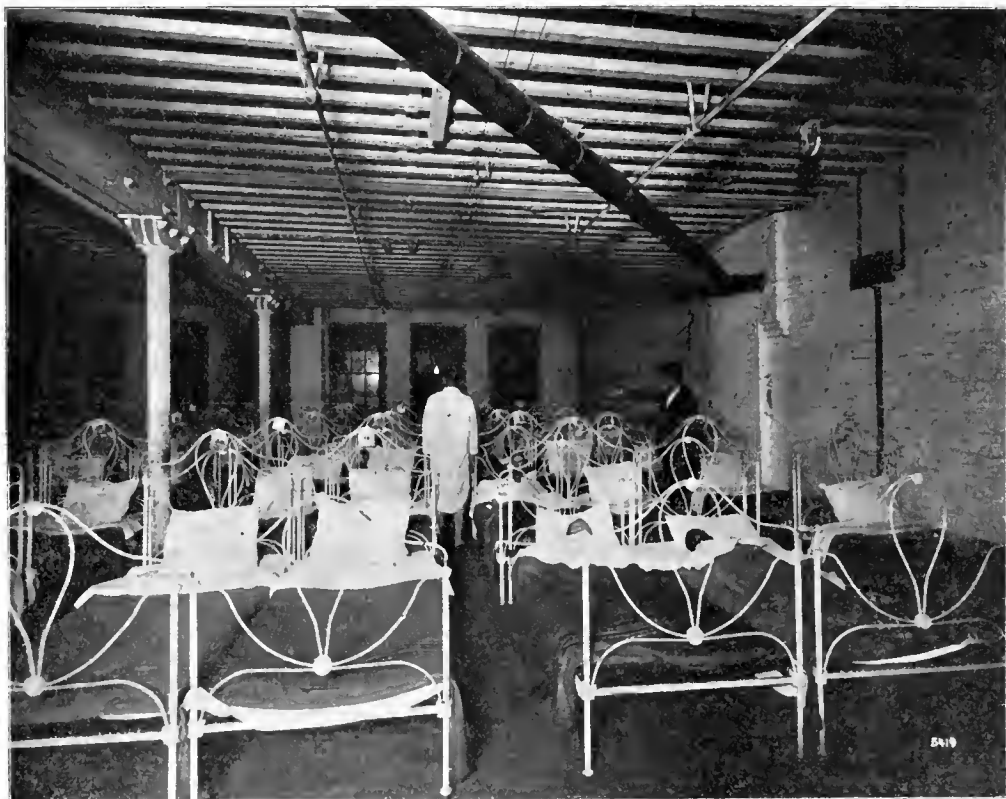
honest industry. Within six months over 500 youths under 20 years of age have passed through the M. L. H. From this class and that of the worthy stranger or displaced workman, the Municipal Lodging House has sent over 1,700 men to paid employment since the first day of January, 1902.

#### SPECIAL STATISTICS.

So much for the work of the day. The larger values of such social service as the Municipal Lodging House can render, will doubtless be, the

To the question, "If you could stop indiscriminate out-door relief, would such action help to rid the city of tramps to any large extent?" all but four replies answer *yes*, with emphasis. To this query the Chief of Police of one of our largest cities answers laconically, "I think one-half."

All opinions unite in agreeing that "the free transportation afforded vagrants by the railroads of the country is largely responsible for the growth and prevalence of this class in the United



facts collected—the body of real knowledge that will grow up—regarding a class that, in all past civilizations, has grown with the increase of wealth, and augmented with material progress.

#### THE PROBLEM IN OTHER CITIES.

Through the helpful co-operation of Francis O'Neill, General Superintendent of the Department of Police for the City of Chicago, a letter has been sent to the heads of the police departments in all the larger cities of the United States enclosing a list of questions upon "Vagrancy and Municipal Correction." Replies have been received from over fifty cities, some of which are informing and illuminating to a degree.

States." Upon this phase of the problem one Chief of Police remarks:

"A very large percentage of all crime against persons and property in country places and smaller cities is perpetrated by this class of people. If it were possible (and I believe it could be made so) to prevent the professional hobo and tramp from beating his way on railroad trains, a great reduction in crime would surely follow." Another Chief of Police in a large manufacturing city says upon this same subject:

"I deem it (easy transportation) to be largely responsible for the tramp evil and its continuance. I think stringent measures should be taken to



lessen, and, if possible, to break up the practice by tramps of riding on freight trains. The facility with which hobos can move themselves from point to point by trespassing upon freight trains (and on passenger trains in some instances) tends to keep alive the tramp nuisance."

That this practice by vagrants of beating their way from city to city on railroad trains is a curable evil is witnessed by the following testimony of a Chief of Police in one of our larger inland cities:

"Railroads entering our city that have railroad police are seldom bothered by the tramp. Nineteenths of our tramps are brought here by railroads having no special police." This opinion is reinforced by the statement of the general manager of one of the great railroad systems of America having a thorough police system. He is quoted as follows:

"There are three conspicuous reasons that have deterred railroad people from attacking the tramp problem. First, it has been thought it would entail a very great expense. Our experience on these lines has shown that this fear was not warranted. Second, it has been thought that no support would be given the movement by the local magistrates and police authorities. Our experience shows that in a great majority of cases we have the active support of the local police authorities and that the magistrates have done their full duty. Third, it was feared that there might be some retaliation by the tramps. Up to date we have had very little to complain of upon that score. From the reports that I get from my men, I am led to believe that we are gradually ridding, not only the railroad property but much of the territory in which it is situated, of the tramp nuisance."

The final testimony upon this aspect of the case is presented in the words of the Chief of Police of one of the larger Pacific coast cities. He says:

"That the free transportation of the young hobos on the railroads makes them criminals there is no doubt, and they are on the increase."

Regarding the effectiveness of the municipal lodging house method for the correction of vagrancy in cities, the Chief of Police in a city that has had a municipal lodging house for eight years testifies as follows:

"Since the establishment of the Municipal Lodging House, where hobos are compelled to work, their number has decreased from over 6,000 annually to between 600 and 700."

#### WHAT THE LODGERS HAVE TO SAY.

What does the worthy displaced laborer, or honest wayfaring seeker after work, think of the

Municipal Lodging House? Quite a number of this class of lodgers have seen fit to write to us after they have become re-established in the ranks of industry. We quote from some of these communications, omitting signatures:

SOUTH CHICAGO, March 15th, 1902.

Superintendent Municipal Lodging House:

Dear Sir.—I thought I would write you these few lines, as a letter of thanks in regard to the much appreciated favor you have shown me, as I consider it my duty to do so. As you gave me shelter and food when I had no place to go, or no friends to look to, it has been highly appreciated, and any time that I can do any good toward you and the lodging house I would be pleased to do so.

Well, I come over here and got the job on the B. & O. R. R. as a fireman, and expect to be called at any minute to work, and I will try to hold it down as long as I can.

Well, I guess I will close this short manuscript, hoping you success in the Lodging House, and I wish you would give my regards to all the officers.

Respectfully yours,

CHICAGO, May 5th, 1902.

Superintendent of the Municipal Lodging House,  
12 Jefferson St., City:

Dear Sir.—I desire to express my gratitude to yourself and to all the men in your office, and to the janitor, for the kind treatment that I have received from all connected with the institution.

I came to you after I had spent my last cent in search of employment in this city. I did not know which way to turn, and, though I hesitated to apply for assistance, I am now glad that I did so. The manner in which you and your men receive applicants is such that a person does not feel that he is a mendicant, but is simply one member of the great brotherhood of mankind.

Please extend my thanks to the men under your superintendence. Respectfully,

CHICAGO, May 24th, 1902.

Mr. Robins: I take the liberty to write you expressing my opinion, also my thanks for the kindness received. I came to your city last Wednesday, dirty, tired and hungry, but willing to work. I got something to eat, a good bath, and a bed to sleep in, also work. If every city would do the same, I do not think half the people would be wandering round the country that is. I will cite a case of my own. I was in Buffalo and was offered a job at \$3.50 per day, but had to refuse it on account of having no place to sleep or eat, and the pay day was two weeks off.

Sincerely,

DELAWARE, OHIO, August 15th, 1902.

Mr. Robins, Supt. M. L. H.:

Dear Sir.—Please accept my thanks for hospitality and other kindness shown me at the lodging house for the past few days. I was surprised and comforted at the cleanness of the beds and the treatment I received. I received money by mail this morning, and arranged to come here, where my people live.

Yours,

MANY ARE WORTHY MEN.

As evidence that all homeless men are not unworthy idlers, and that honest and efficient

sire to thank you for the prompt manner in which you attended to our requests for help. If at any time in the future we may need laborers we will be pleased to call on you.

Respectfully yours,

(Signed)

GLASER, KOHN & Co.,

D. A. McNeill.

INVESTIGATION AND EXTENSION.

During the National Conference of Charities and Corrections in session at Detroit last May, a sub-conference was held upon the subject of "vagrancy." The following sub-committee was appointed to investigate the vagrancy problem and



workmen may become displaced through misfortune and the industrial movement, and in need of such ministrations as the Municipal Lodging House affords worthy indigents, the following letter is submitted:

GLASER, KOHN & Co.,

West Randolph and Green Sts., Chicago.

Mr. Raymond Robins, Supt. Chicago Municipal Lodging House, City:

Dear Sir.—Replying to your favor of 12th inst., we desire to say that the men you furnished us, as a rule, were reliable and satisfactory. We de-

to consider the municipal lodging house system as a means of dealing therewith:

W. H. McClain, President St. Louis Provident Association, *Chairman*.

Prof. Frank W. Blackmar, President Kansas Association of Charities.

Robert W. Hebbard, Secretary New York State Board of Charities.

W. S. French, President Associated Charities, Evansville, Ind.

William Hard, Associate Editor, *Chicago Tribune*.

Raymond Robins, Superintendent Chicago Municipal Lodging House, *Secretary*.

This committee was further instructed to seek the co-operation of the National Bureau of Labor to secure data and assist in bringing the subject to the consideration of the people of the United States.

#### CAUSES.

Of causes a wise man will hesitate to speak too positively. Years of patient, open-minded, first-hand study are needed for an authoritative opinion here. The personal vices, of which drunkenness is easily first, are most in evidence. Of the incompetent, the feeble, the uncalled, we see not a few. Traced back we find insanitary homes, insufficient food, during the growing years, and child labor as first in the list of causes for this class. Industrial displacement, due to invention and consolidation in industry, and advancing years is responsible for a growing class in the ranks of vagrancy. This phase of the subject will engage the attention of the civilized world before the end of the present generation.

### What is a Tramp ?

GEO. L. M'NUTT.

The world's acute interest in the Tramp is gratifying and amusing. As usual society is satisfied if she can drive the tramp, like the criminal, out of sight. Organized society, as a rule, kicks and curses where it ought to cure. People say to me, "Now, Mr. McNutt, you have been a tramp, what do you think about the tramp question?" Do you think we ever ought to feed a Tramp?" According to the approved conclusions of scientific charity, I answer, "No, never feed a tramp." If, however, you want to feed a hungry man, that is another question. I know in many instances where people by feeding hungry Men have made NEW MEN, and added untold value to the world's sum total of manhood. In this, as in other cases, there is no clash between the teachings of Christ and that which is true, and therefore scientific. When Christ rates a man's standing at the Judgment day by the way he has clothed the naked and fed the hungry He is bidding us do nothing that is in conflict with the best methods of dealing with the lowest level of THE OTHER HALF. On the contrary, the teaching of Christ would, if followed by those who assume His name, destroy this lowest level. The hungry and naked man's *importunity* is some man or woman's *opportunity*. If that man or woman is too busy, too selfish, or too senseless to deal fairly, frankly and *intelligently* with the hungry, tattered, lonesome man, or, as we say, the Tramp, better let him go hungry, freeze or die of loneliness.

What is a Tramp anyhow? A product? Unquestionably yes, and that, too, not of spontaneous generation. Some men, it may be, are born tramps beyond the hope of redemption. That I question. Some men achieve tramping, and, what is of infinite more importance from the point of view of the well-to-do, is the fact that some have tramping thrust upon them. The proof can be found at any railroad crossing. Five years ago the American people were confessing their childishness in Economics by creating and perpetuating a panic and industrial depression. I assume that a panic is lingering evidence that society has not yet learned to walk alone in the midst of the limitless bounties of God, nor lost the fear of the goblins that get us sure when we get scared. Five years ago it was nothing uncommon to see fifty or a hundred men at a railroad crossing, improvising a cup of coffee with the classic tomato can, waiting for the lower berth on the brake beam, and rated by those who have bread and to spare as incorrigible hoboos. Where are those men now? They are not at the railroad crossing. Where once there were fifty there are not to be found today five. They have been absorbed in the World's work, giving the lie direct and unanswerable to the charge so brutally made, "Once a tramp always a tramp." To understand the tramp question as we find it in aggravated forms every few years it is necessary to go back to the "dear dead days beyond recall," before the war and for, perhaps, fifteen years after the war. Our people then were essentially rural and agricultural. The farm of 160 acres had two houses, a farm house and the tenant house. Those were not the tenants of today who run a farm for a share or cash. Those tenants had no horses nor tools. They had, as a rule, children a plenty, likewise a dog or gun, a pig, cow and a garden. The house was frequently of logs, with an open fire and free fuel. Here the tenant lived. According to the rating of mercantile agencies, he had no rating, yet this man was rich compared with his children of today, who, grown to manhood and womanhood, are found, not in a tenant but the tenement house. Etymologically a tenant house and a tenement house are the same. Sociologically, they are as far apart as Paradise and Purgatory. From the old-time tenant paradise, with its simple fare of corn bread, cabbage and pork, with now and then a squirrel or a rabbit, with barefoot children, with access to "the old swimmin' hole," and the violets with the stars above and a mother's love and a mother, too, who was the friend, an associate of the farmer's wife. These, with the debating societies, the spelling match, the revival, and a Saturday in town, have passed out of sight. They disappeared with

the coming of the gang plow, the cultivator and the binder. While the population of the country has increased so rapidly, the rural population has decreased. The old log tenant house is a hog pen, or burned down with just an old chimney left, the loneliest thing on earth, telling the glory of departed days. The farmer and his sons no longer need the continuous services of a tenant family. But, and this is the crux of the situation, the farmer can plant larger crops than he can harvest. This fact propagates and perpetuates a floating population that creates the tramp. The fact that help is found from somewhere to gather the harvests of the Dakotas, to cut the broom corn of Illinois and husk the maize proves that there is an army of men who have no regular employment but have a regular habit of going hungry and sleepy.

A familiar sign in Chicago is "Wanted 200 men for R. R. work. We ship tonight." There is something sinister in the idea of shipping men. It sounds all right for hogs or corn, but to ship IMAGES OF GOD seems uncanny. The fact at issue is that somewhere there is a field white to harvest, but no neighborhood laborers. At another point there are the men with empty stomachs willing to work and without work, and hungry enough to be shipped. I do not pretend that the Tramp is a saint. I merely resent the idea of calling every man we see peering out of a box car or risking his life on the brake beam a hopeless, homeless happy-go-lucky tramp, whose joy, like the miller's, is "to wander, to wander." The man is a legitimate social product. He is the offspring of existing economic forces. The pater- nity cannot be denied. That the cast-off child of such parentages should become a vagabond is nothing strange. Tramp as he is, he is a social animal, and whether he works or hibernates, his environment is almost wholly bad. Whether lumbering, or railroading, or harvesting, he is deserted by all save the outcast woman and the man who makes merchandise of his appetite. In the winter his only home is the cheap lodging house or the police station, things incredible and discreditable to twentieth century society. Society cannot disown its own. I merely ask what are we going to do with him? He is ours. Society has no more right to spurn or mistreat him than a mother would have to neglect her idiotic or cripple child. Fortunately, there is evidence at hand that the vagrant and the criminal will respond to a patient scientific treatment. Where we use a policeman's club we ought to use a doctor's skill and a nurse's love. When we turn him over to the constable we ought to give him into the hands of a cook. I was greatly interested in the philosophy of a quiet little man down

in the Illinois reformatory, who holds what he regards, with pardonable pride and truth, the most responsible position in that institution, to wit: that of cook. It is a matter of record that a physician was given, by request, the twelve laziest, most worthless boys in the reformatory at Elmira. Being toughs, he began with them as the housewife does with a tough piece of meat: He parboiled them every day for a month in Turkish baths. After he had, so to speak, roasted the devil out of them, he began to feed them with the intelligence that an Illinois farmer feeds his hogs and forgets his children. In less than a year he put eight of those incorrigibles on the honor roll of the institution. So many instances of this sort are being brought to light that the old terrors of the doctrine of heredity, the gospel of despair for the living, and remorse for the dead, has given way to the larger social hope of a social redemption through scientific environment. And that to the opportunities of such a gospel even the tramp is amenable.

#### Labor Movement Week at Chautauqua.

Significant of the growing emphasis, breadth, fearlessness and intelligence with which the ethics of industry are being popularly discussed is the exceptionally frank and thorough-going way they were handled in the week devoted to the purpose at the great New York Chautauqua Assembly.

##### MR. WRIGHT ON LABOR IN LAW.

United States Commissioner of Labor Hon. Carroll D. Wright presented a carefully prepared and valuable development of the rights of labor in statutory and common law. He thus summarized the concrete results of statute law:

1. It has withdrawn much child labor from the factory and workshops.
2. It has given a general guaranty of education to working youths.
3. It has secured added leisure to the great body of workers, and this means the opportunity to advance their standards of living.
4. It has lessened casualties by protecting dangerous machinery and requiring fire escapes on buildings.
5. It has insisted upon cleanliness and generally good sanitary conditions in work rooms, with a perceptible influence upon the health and homes of operatives.
6. It has extended or modified the common law relating to employers' liability to an employe for bodily injury sustained in service.
7. It has recognized the rights of labor under the labor contract and as an incorporated body.
8. It has secured the privilege of weekly payments, exemption from fines, and the payment of

wages to a certain amount under the bankruptcy of the employer.

9. It has furthered the interests of industrial arbitration and conciliation.

10. It has established bureaus of statistics of labor, whose duty it is to collect statistics and to investigate labor conditions.

11. It has evolved and provided a most efficient inspecting force for the enforcement of labor laws.

More far-reaching still are the reversals of unjust and long established precedents in the common-law in the recognition of the legal status of labor organizations, which were under the ban of conspiracy so late as the first quarter of the last century, and of the employer's liability for the injury or death of employes, which has steadily given more ample protection to the life and safety of working people. In treating the question whether there is any solution of the labor question, Mr. Wright was necessarily less thorough, very slightly referring to single-tax, socialism and all other radical solvents. He declared: "The question is not how to kill or remove the cause, but to soften the struggle—for there is to be a continual struggle." A religion which allies ethics and economics and an evolution which believes in the potency of effort are the highest forms of solution yet offered.

Mr. Wright also conducted a labor conference, in which he was quizzed closely on industrial conciliation and arbitration, and also the factory system.

#### WHAT LED TO THE COAL MINERS' STRIKE.

In a candid and matter-of-fact way Mr. S. J. Strauss, of Wilkesbarre, Pa., explained the situation involved in the anthracite coal strike from the viewpoint of both miners and operators. When the strike of 1877 ended, he intimated that the immigration from Eastern and Southern Europe which then set in was "well planned from this side of the water, so that there would be in the anthracite region an overflow population at all times, and strikes would therefore become practically hopeless." It was thus "calculated to revolutionize the circumstances of this mining," and he grimly remarked: "New twenty-five years

At the beginning of the strike of 1900 there were 10,000 members of the United Mine Workers' Union in the region; at its end there were 100,000 who had learned to speak for themselves. The operators then "recognized the union by uniting against it," and, under the pressure of political influence in the Presidential campaign, by conceding the terms it demanded. After discussing the specific points at issue with luminous fairness, he claimed "there never was a strike in which the

strikers were so well prepared, under the law, for winning." All that was necessary for the union was "to keep its hands on the certificated miner." This it could easily have done, and needed not to make the strategic mistake of calling out the pump and steam workers almost to the destruction of the mines. "They can win the strike only by obedience to law." Their only recourse is "from within their own ranks by putting down the tendency to disorder and the boycott, and by securing toleration between union and non-union men. In these days," he concludes, "when capital has organized into unions, the employer as a competitor has been eliminated; and it is only natural that the employe as a competitor should be eliminated. The only basis I can see is that there shall be just what unionized labor is striving for—a conference between unionized labor and unionized capital."

#### WHAT LABOR UNIONS REALLY ARE.

In the most straightforward way and with the very best spirit, Frank P. Sargent, the United States Commissioner-General of Immigration, described what a labor union really is, by what the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen had been to him, and to the elevation of that craft. "In 1873 the average wages of the firemen was \$32 per month, and they worked as many hours as their employer wanted, and without extra pay. Today the average wages of a fireman per month is \$62 for an average workday of ten hours, with extra pay for every hour of overtime. In 1873 the firemen had no standing in the communities in which they lived; today they and their families are in the best of society, prominent in the churches, schools and elsewhere. While the strike is held as a weapon in reserve, we have held that weapon in the background and in seventeen years of flourishing life there have been only two conflicts in which the strike weapon has been used.

"So, labor, be patient! Organized labor, go carefully! You are on the right track, so long as you respect law and keep order. If men want to go to work in your places in those mines, let them go. Do not beat them down with clubs or knife them like assassins. Your position is right, absolutely right, and there is a current of influence and power at work in this country far greater than you or I can understand.

"So I ask you, when you think of organized labor, reflect not upon the individual outbreaks which represent only that which organized labor seeks to avoid, but think of the underlying principles of trades-unionism and the great work it has done and is doing towards uplifting the toiler."

In many respects the most outspoken advocacy

of the economic necessity and public utility of organized labor was made by Senator Hanna:

"We have to be thankful for an era of prosperity unequalled in our history. We are all so busy now that we are liable to forget whence it comes. It is our duty while enjoying this prosperity and its fruits, when we come to consider the material interests at stake, to remember that there are two factors along that line which contribute to it; the men who work with their hands, and the men who work with their brains; partners in toil who should be partners in the benefits of that toil.

"I have been an employer of labor for many years. I am not a novice at that. I know men pretty well. But I know another thing—that the natural tendency in this country, aye, of the world over, has been to selfishly appropriate the larger share to the benefit of capital. As long as labor was in a situation to which it was bound to submit, that to a very large degree would continue. It is human nature. But, in the evolution of the twentieth century, when thinking men are beginning to think seriously of this great question, the time is coming, aye, it is here, when we must make up our minds that not only will we give consideration to those who are in our employ with a view of more close and friendly relations, but a larger proportion of the profits.

"All strikes do not originate from that source; they are not always because of a demand for higher wages. There are other grievances. At least, the men imagine they are grievances. If they were acting in their individual capacity for some slight grievance and asked to appear in their employer's presence to ask consideration, how much would be shown them? Not much. Therefore, when they band together in an organization for their own benefit and which will furnish them the opportunity through their organization to reach that source of power which can grant the remedy, I say, organized labor is justified.

"It does not end there. Nearly all of the labor organizations with which I am familiar have connected with them a benevolent feature. That bond of fellowship which induces them to unite their strength in their interests also prompts them to help one another and their families. What greater incentive can be urged to induce the amalgamation of labor than this? Let the capitalist who is organizing and forming combinations think of this. How much of that principle enters into the organization of capital? I never heard of one of them helping the other fellow in whom he had no interest, and I am one of that class. I am an employer of labor, and I am will-

ing and ready to criticize the evil in both classes—and it exists. I do not expect in my feeble way to change the great current of selfishness which moves men, but while my life and strength lasts, I can, as I am doing today, appeal to my fellow-countrymen and to all classes of citizens who are interested in this social question, to appreciate that the time now is when something must be done.

"Start there, then, with your proposition of practical work and admit that strikes have been settled, not because the men started wrong and had then been convinced and started right, but on the hypothesis that half the time the men were right, and that there are reasons why more than half the time advances should be made on the side of capital to settle by fair means the labor difficulties.

"This organization of capital has come to stay, just as organized labor has come to stay, and for the same reason it is necessary. You cannot separate the interests of capital and labor. If it is good for one to be organized for any purpose, it is good for the other for the same reason. They are both good. They are both necessary, as applied to our conditions today and our development for the future.

"Our experience has shown that of the men who are associated with our organization (the National Civic Federation) on the part of labor, twelve of them, all leaders of great labor organizations, are just as competent, in our conferences upon this subject, just as earnest and just as honest in their treatment of this matter as the other side. Recognize that fact, give them credit, and the battle is more than half won. Make them feel that your interest in them is for the mutual benefit of both, and believe in their sensibility and their ability to manage their affairs as well as you can manage yours, and you will create a trust that no law can break; the kind of trust for which you need no constitutional amendment. Trust one another, whether your associate in business, or the man in your employ, and you will establish a principle in business that will be universal and invaluable to business houses. It is a great, broad principle on which the very foundations of our government rest."

Russia has in her student class a set of fine, brave men. These in time will unfold a richer Russia than the world dreams of. The Slav is far more radical than the Saxon or the Teuton, and when our reforms come they will go much deeper to the roots of things than any reforms in the world that have preceded them.—Tolstoy.

### The Leader of the People.

BY EDWIN MARKHAM.

Swung in the Purpose of the upper sphere,  
We sweep on to the century a-near.  
But something makes the heart of man forebode;  
There is a new Sphinx watching by the road!  
Its name is Labor, and the world must hear—  
Must hear and answer its dread Question—yea,  
Or finish as the tribes of yesterday.  
Thunder and Earthquake crouch beyond the gate;  
But fear not: man is greater than his fate.  
For one will come with Answer—with a word  
Wherein the whole world's gladness shall be heard;  
One who will feel the grief in every breast,  
The heart cry of humanity for rest.

So we await the Leader to appear,  
Lover of men, thinker and doer and seer,  
The hero who will fill the labor throne  
And build the Comrade Kingdom, Stone by Stone;  
That kingdom that is greater than the Dream  
Breaking through ancient vision gleam by gleam—  
Something that Song alone can faintly feel,  
And only Song's wild rapture can reveal.

Thrilled by the Cosmic Oneness he will rise,  
Truth in his heart and morning in his eyes;  
While glory fallen from the far-off goal  
Will send mysterious splendor on his soul.  
Him shall all toilers know to be their friend;  
Him shall they follow, faithful to the end.  
Though every leaf were a tongue to cry "Thou  
must!"

He will not say the unjust thing is just.  
Not all the fiends that curse in the eclipse  
Shall shake his heart or hush his lyric lips.

His cry for justice, it will stir the stones  
From Hell's black granite to the seraph thrones;  
Earth listens for the coming of his feet;  
The hushed Fates lean expectant from their seat.  
He will be calm and reverent and strong,  
And, carrying in his words the fire of song,  
Will send a hope upon these weary men,  
A hope to make the heart grow young again,  
A cry to comrades scattered and afar!

*Be constellated, star by star;  
Give to all mortals justice and forgive:  
License must die that liberty may live.  
Let Love shine through the fabric of the State—  
Love deathless, Love whose other name is Fate.  
Fear not; we cannot fail—  
The vision will prevail.  
Truth is the Oath of God, and, sure and fast,  
Through Death and Hell holds onward to the last.*  
—From *Lincoln and Other Poems*.

### What Trade Unionists Think of Settlements

The New York State Commissioner of Labor devoted a large part of his report for 1900 to an exceptionally thorough and satisfactory treatment of the history, description and public utility of social settlements in that state. The following excerpts are good reading for Labor Day:

#### RELATIONS OF THE SETTLEMENTS TO TRADES UNIONS.

"The attitude of the settlement toward trade unions is most cordial. Recognizing their value, it seeks to co-operate with them in promoting the labor movement, to which subject the residents have given much reflection, and have often assisted in the formation of unions. One of the aims of the Settlement is to increase mutual understanding between employer and employed, and it always advises rational modes on both sides in adjusting disputes. It urges that the workers should receive through their organizations not only thorough instruction in the principles and philosophy of trade unionism, but also knowledge as to the large social and economic questions, thus fitting them to assume important and active positions in all great movements that tend to uplift the masses.

#### VIEWS OF WORK-PEOPLE.

"With regard to the effect of Settlement work, from the viewpoint of its constituency, it may be of interest to here note the opinions of several critical workingmen who are club members at a house located in a section of New York City composed of wage earners, and not in nor of the slums. Three of these men were interviewed. One, a trade unionist, who is designated as the Nestor of the club of which he is a member, said:

"The Settlement idea is a grand one. My attention was called to it some years ago through my boys taking books out of the library, which institution of itself is worthy of high praise, because of the great good it is doing in the neighborhood. I joined the Settlement and am a member of a club or association which discusses social and various other subjects. At our meetings the intelligent forces of the working masses and the people of higher education are brought together. Distinguished clergymen, captains of industry, workingmen, and eminent professional and public men take part in the discussions. There is no adverse criticism among the speakers, and every one is welcome to take the platform. The Settlement is non-sectarian and non-political, every kind of persuasion being represented under its roof. It is one of the humblest of its kind. Its methods are attractive and everyone helps in the good work. I cannot speak too highly about what I think of it, for it certainly tends to elevate the masses."

“This is the view taken by another member of the club, a young trade-unionist:

“Ultimately the Settlement will be a fine thing. It brings together men of all vocations, and in this way they are better enabled to get a clearer insight into life. In our club all have independent ideas, and freely express them. We discuss different questions, and these discussions bring out truths, for the subjects are argued intelligently. Although we pay dues, the work is not self-supporting. We would rather it was conducted without outside aid. Nevertheless, it is not a charity in any sense of the word; yet many people in this vicinity have an idea that it is, and will not attend on that account. I think the work the Settlement is doing is all right. It promotes the social life. If there were enough room in the house so that the same club could meet every night it would be more beneficial, and would probably attract many young men who now congregate on corners or in saloons for the purpose of association. In my judgment, if such a thing were possible, great good could be accomplished if the state would adopt the Settlement idea and carry on the work something akin to the public school system. By opening attractive quarters in every crowded block and following out the Settlement plan of entertaining and instructing young people, a very large number of youths would doubtless leave the corners and drinking places and spend their time more profitably in public club rooms sustained in this manner.’

“Here is the opinion of the third workingman:

“Settlements are a great benefit in certain localities. For instance, there is the University Settlement, which is doing a splendid work down town. It is in a crowded district, where the people need such a thing, and take advantage of it. Up here, where men are able to pay their way, the Settlement cannot reach the people it is trying to reach. The objection is that it is not self-supporting. Most of the members of our club, all of whom pay dues, would like to see it so. We, however, do not consider it a charity, for if we did the house would soon be empty. When the house was first opened there was a feeling that those who came over from Fifth avenue were patronizing, but such was not the case, and of late that idea has been entirely eliminated. The people of means who contribute toward the Settlement are sincere in the belief that they are doing a real good to the community, but if there is a notion that in this way social equality can be brought about between the rich and poor, I am afraid it never will be realized. I must say, though, that any association whose main purpose is to bring men together is certainly beneficial.’”

## ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD WORKERS, NEW YORK CITY.

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY  
MARY KINGSBURY SIMKHOVITCH,  
248 East 34th Street, New York.

### POPULAR USE OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS.

There is a decided tendency in New York to increase the use of the public school buildings for purpose of recreation and of general neighborhood usefulness, and the movement has resulted during the summer in the opening of schools on Sundays for the holding of concerts and in the opening of the roofs of schools on week day evenings and having the music and dancing there for children. On one roof there are often as many as 2,000 or 3,000 children. This is all in addition to the work of the vacation schools and play grounds, 65 in number, and of the 12 play centers that are in operation throughout the year. The concerts and the lectures given through the winter under the auspices of the Board of Education are of great value, as they appeal to the adult population, and it is greatly to be hoped that the movement will spread and grow until these buildings, erected and maintained at the public expense, shall be in constant use, winter and summer, day and evening, for the advancement of all the interests, educational and social, of the entire population of the district.

The vacation playgrounds of the Board of Education are more thoroughly organized and much attention is being given to industrial work, especially basket weaving. The vacation schools are open in the morning and the play grounds only in the afternoon instead of all day as heretofore, and this arrangement is proving much more desirable than the previous one.

Through the interest and help of Mrs. Henry Parsons the Dewitt Clinton Park, until recently an unkempt waste, has been converted into an outdoor school in gardening and agriculture. This land, which had never been improved, has now been plowed and fertilized until it has become a field fit for farming. All this has been accomplished by the work of the children in this neighborhood who have been interested in the plan. The little plot of ground has been divided into 100 smaller sections, each of which has been assigned to a boy. Each boy has been given packages of flower and garden seeds. Mr. Austen, chief gardener of Central Park, addressed the children before the seeds were distributed, explaining the different characteristics of the vegetables and telling them how to plant and cultivate them. The plan and aim of Mrs. Parsons, it should be understood, is solely educational, not



philanthropic, and is designed to reach all children that remain in the city and can thus benefit by the instruction. The movement for which she is largely responsible purposes to make farming a subject of study in the curriculum of the public schools in Greater New York. In this intention she is being supported by many local organizations for civic improvement.

Similar work is being done in six of the Board of Education play grounds. The boys have done all the work of preparing the ground, planting and caring for the flowers and vegetables, and there has developed among them a strong pride in the gardens and a marked feeling of responsibility towards them.

#### Another Neighborhood House.

Articles of incorporation, approved by the State Board of Charities, have been filed with the Secretary of State by the Hamilton House, with headquarters at No. 32 Hamilton Street, New York City. It is proposed to improve the condition of the neighborhood by maintaining reading and playrooms, day nurseries and other kindred conveniences. The directors of the institution for the first year are as follows: Franklin S. Billings, Mary H. Brown, Thatcher M. Brown, Eleanor G. Crawford, Morean Delano, John H. Denison, Winthrop E. Dwight, James S. Gilbert, William R. Jelliffe, Louis A. Ripley, Willet C. Roper, Frances L. Seymour, Walter S. Sullivan, Pearl L. Underwood of New York City, and Oswald Garrison Villard of Dobbs Ferry.

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### Relation of Colleges to Social Service.

ABSTRACTS FROM A REPORT PREPARED FOR THE C. S. A. BY MISS S. E. FOOTE SMITH '96, ALUMNAE ELECTOR.

The primary purpose of the College Settlements Association is "to found and support settlements and direct their general policy." The association has always aimed to take such a place in the general altruistic movement as should be filled by a body of people educated to the modern scientific principles underlying any realization of that altruism. To this end the Settlements have attempted to co-operate with existing remedial and educational agencies, and the general association has collected and published such settlement bibliographies, information, and studies as it has considered of probable service to people interested in social work. Beside these things, a committee has helped to supply speakers on social work to our colleges, clubs, or other bodies of people desiring such talks.

As our work extends, and more and more people are interested in it, and able to give their time to it, it has been felt that we are not fulfilling our whole duty. The association forms a natural link between the colleges, their courses and students, and the practical philanthropic work of the world.

Almost every woman of today is confronted by some phase or other of social problems, whether in private life or in the capacity of a professional social worker. We, as college graduates, feel the justice of the two-fold criticism that college courses deal too little with the practical side of such problems, and that the college graduate finds

herself utterly at loss in her first experience with their administration.

Truly, our colleges are not intended as training schools in philanthropy, but just as truly are we losing one of our greatest privileges for a real education, if we leave out those elements essential to just and sane ideals and service in society. The educational value of field work in sociology has been demonstrated as of the same use, in the training of the mind, as laboratory work in sciences. There is, then, a double reason for its introduction into our college courses. The association has felt this for some time, but has had, up to this time, only the power of individual alumnae to impose on the colleges any demand for co-operation. Now, however, several of the colleges have asked for the help of the association, and it is hoped that the present report may prove a preliminary step in that direction.

The aim in preparing this report has been three-fold: First, full and definite information of the actual courses now given in our colleges, with statistics of students engaged in the courses, the general trend of interest in them and a history of students of the last decade who have entered social work as a profession. Second, an expression of expert opinion on the advisability, ways and means of bringing college courses into touch with the practical field. Third, a description of work already done by any institutions, in co-ordinating practical work with teaching of theory and history.

A college course has usually been able to give students only a modicum of field or observational work. In some colleges the location of the college, or other limitations, make impossible any but the most elementary efforts at such work. This should be borne in mind in any comparison between the college courses noted in this report. The great excellence of the Barnard-Columbia work is due, not only to its staff of university professors, but also to its location in a great city and to the peculiar advantages derived therefrom. Wellesley also has the advantage of co-operation with some of the civic work of Boston, while more remote colleges are barred from these broader fields of work.

A very strong feeling is evidenced in replies to this circular letter—that our college courses could be made vastly more vital and useful by more work along the line of institutional investigation, field work, and practical knowledge of the administration of charities and corrections. Several of the college departments have evolved partial answers to these problems.

But very suggestive work is being done by other institutions than those directly within the confines

of our association. The work of the New York Charity Organization Summer School of Philanthropy, that of the Hartley House Fellowship at Barnard, and of the recently instituted Special Training Course in the School of Economics and Political Science of the University of Wisconsin are given at some length, because of their suggestive value here. Michigan University has a fellowship for five months' residence at Chicago Commons.

Doubtless much useful information could be obtained from the work of other organizations, but these have seemed most directly connected with the problem in hand.

*Summary of expert opinion:*

The colleges and settlements or other social agencies could be mutually most helped as follows, by:

(a) (1) The establishment of resident fellowships (one person suggests that these should be for two years, if possible), and (2) arranging short terms of residence for students.

(b) Clubs should be formed in colleges to study definite social questions and interest themselves in one settlement, or group of settlements.

(c) More talks before the college classes and clubs should be given by practical organization and settlement workers. (The need of this was emphasized by almost every answer to this question).

(d) (1) Publication of an adequate *current* bibliography of social articles, the collection of the articles themselves at some central points where colleges and settlements could have access to them, (2) notice of especial work done by students along social lines and of desire of students and settlements to gather or tabulate information, statistics, and other material.

(e) Special graduate and other courses at college opened to social workers. The colleges should be welcomed to attend lectures and courses by social organizations. Settlements and organizations have much material that would provide the practical side for the theoretical college work, and exchange of these commodities would be mutually beneficial.

(f) Establishment of fellowships where students could be given field work to supplement definite college courses.

(g) Work of students as volunteer visitors for C. O. S., Penny Provident, should be encouraged.

The following detailed suggestions are by Mrs. Elsie Clews Parsons, Hartley House Fellow (acting assistant to Prof. Giddings in Department of Sociology at Barnard College), and Treasurer of C. S. A.:

In answer to question 3. The college can be

useful to the C. O. S. in many ways, among which I would suggest:

1. In providing volunteer workers from among students in actual attendance. This is done to some extent in New York City, and to a larger extent in Cambridge, through the Students' Volunteer Committee, of which Mr. Birtwell has had charge for many years.

2. By providing from the faculty members of the Board of Managers, Chairmen of District Committees, etc.

3. By supplying expert statistical advice in regard to forms used in the ordinary work of the society, statistics to be collected, and books to be selected for reference libraries.

4. By giving workers an opportunity to attend special courses where these are given at convenient hours.

5. By providing speakers for public meetings.

6. By studying and analyzing case records and aiding the practical workers to draw general conclusions from them.

7. By attending charity conferences to become actively interested in the questions which are discussed in such conferences.

8. By encouraging their graduates to enter professionally upon this kind of work when it can be made to their advantage to do so.

The societies can aid the colleges:

1. By offering, in some instances, a satisfactory career to college graduates.

2. By providing material for laboratory study and statistical inquiry.

3. By directing the work of students who wish to do volunteer work and who otherwise might enter upon it in a haphazard and misdirected way.

4. By giving practical talks or occasional courses of lectures upon subjects which are of interest in sociological courses, and which can best be treated by practical workers.

5. By providing literature (periodicals, annual reports, pamphlets, etc.) useful for the study of social questions.

They can be mutually helpful:

1. By promoting good legislation, both state and local, and in arousing public sentiment against that which is pernicious.

2. In securing the appointment of good officials, both in public offices and in private societies.

3. In educating public opinion upon charitable and social questions.

4. In raising the professional standard of social work in various ways, such as the organization of summer courses, of evening lectures, and of useful periodicals.

Summary of answers to the question, "Will

you outline a college course especially adapted to prepare workers for your distinctive work?"

Economics, Theory and Practical Investigation.  
Sociology, Theory and Field Work.

Civics: Municipal Problems, Anthropology and Ethnology.

History: Industrial Crises and Development, Lives of Reformers, Poor Laws.

Psychology: Education, Aesthetics, Ethics, practical and theoretical, Comparative Religions.

Music, Chemistry, Physical Science.

In *The House Beautiful* for June, Wallace Rice, in an illustrated article on "Miss Starr's Book Binding," at Hull House, has this to say:

"The proof of the workwoman is her work, in the last analysis. Since Miss Starr's return to Hull House in Chicago, where she maintains her shop, much that she has done deserves high praise for its conscientious workmanship, for its faithful carrying out of the spirit of her master's designs (Cobden Sanderson), and for close adherence to the principle of binding none but worthy books, and those in the worthiest manner. In spite of the disadvantages under which the American bookbinder labors in respect of the finest materials, which must be had in Paris, and after much has been taken by the famous Parisian bookbinders, Miss Starr has achieved some noteworthy results in her chosen occupation."

Mrs. Henry Wade Rogers, long identified with the Northwestern University Settlement, has a suggestive article in the same magazine on the "Simplification of Life," of which these are the closing words:

"This gregariousness rushing on apace in American cities, this living in tiers and learning to bear patiently the sound of the neighbor's pianos and noisy children, to endure the odors and publicity and restlessness of apartment-house life, is, after all, a struggle to simplify life and yet enjoy all of the 'modern conveniences' and keep in close touch with the city's panoramic life. There is danger of sacrificing the wrong things in the effort to simplify. Work and care and duty are the very fabric of life, and not to be escaped, but gladly undertaken. What we get in exchange for them is the important point—whether gold or dross.

"Wisdom and co-operation are needed to guide and develop the growing feeling and effort to evolve the simple life, artistically ordered, out of the average chaotic and commonplace one."

Success is a very hideous thing, and its resemblance with merit deceives men.—"Les Misérables."

# The Commons.

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor from the Social Settlement Point of View.

GRAHAM TAYLOR, . . . . . Editor.

Entered at Chicago Post Office as Second-Class Matter, and Published the first of every month from CHICAGO COMMONS, a Social Settlement at Grand Ave. & Morgan St., Chicago, Ill.

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A Year.

## EDITORIAL.

Too few American settlements have had the advantage, which many settlement houses in England have all along found practicable and profitable, of having in residence those in official positions of civic, educational and philanthropic trust. Hull House and the University Settlement in New York have, perhaps, led the way among us, to this much-to-be desired end in which other settlements may well endeavor to follow, for the sake of both the settlement and civic service. CHICAGO COMMONS is glad to give and get the advantage of having one of its residents in the superintendency of Chicago's Municipal Lodging House. His valuable service to the city and the settlement cause may be suggested by his descriptive sketch of the new, but long and desperately needed, opportunity to apply intelligence, experience, justice and humanity to the problem of caring for homeless men. How well he has improved it, we, who knew Chicago before, can testify.

### The Labor Day Outlook.

As our contribution to Labor Day comment this year we cannot present anything more valuable than the summary of "Labor Movement Week," carefully compiled from the full reports in *The Chautauqua Assembly Herald*. The powerful appeal made by these strong men for far-sighted intelligence, tolerant patience and hopeful confidence are especially needed just now. For those under the frightful pressure of these fateful strike-times are not more likely to be violently bitter, on both sides, than those who judge and criticize from afar are likely to be pessimistic in their judgment of those at issue and of the outcome of the titanic struggle. No man to whom the facts of the situation are known, and by whom they are squarely faced, can make light of its gravity to either side, or to the still greater public issues at stake. But the seriousness of the situation and the fact that no one knows any single solution, either ready at hand or in plain sight, should paralyze the hope and effort for

an outcome worthy of the American democratic ideal and spirit. The imperative duty of the hour is to understand and interpret facts on both sides, and to deal in a just and conciliatory way with each successive phase of the situation within range of personal influence or corporate action, refusing either to be driven into paralytic pessimism or an inane do-less, easy-going optimism. The strength of the settlements is to quietly and firmly maintain their position between the lines, refusing to be stampeded from their belief in the good men on either side and the justice which lies somewhere within reach of both.

### The Relation of Settlements to Politics.

Arguments for and against activity in local politics apply of course only to those Settlements whose resident or neighborhood constituencies may be in vital touch with men, and within the sphere of political influence. Settlements which have no voters in residence and few men within reach of their influence, of course, can have very little or no political significance in their districts. Settlements handicapped by too much non-resident control or repression lack that freedom which only a large degree of household and local autonomy can give and which is absolutely essential to actual participation in ward politics, or indeed in any other sphere of neighborhood life. Even with these conditions in possession, a Settlement cannot hope to exert any real political influence until its men residents have been long and closely enough identified with a fair proportion of the voters to be accepted by them as personally identified with them and as having actual interests at stake. The intrusion of "carpet baggers" and outside "reformers" is rightfully resented as an impertinence in local politics, where home-rule is jealously guarded as an inalienable right and a safeguard of personal liberty.

Even when free from such insurmountable hindrances some Settlements hesitate or decline to take any part in politics, because whatever part may be taken will surely be divisive and will cost friendly relationships with some of the neighbors. The primary purpose of the Settlement is rightly held to be the social unification of the people, and everything that threatens to impair its unifying influence may well be cautiously considered, but not always avoided. For a fatally short-sighted view of the function of a Settlement, as well as the relation of local politics to it, is seriously involved. Settlements must not be blind to the fact that the arbitrarily superimposed party lines, which are so irrelevant to all real interests at stake in local politics, are hopelessly divisive. They not only introduce to a neighborhood and

foster political and moral corruption, but prevent the people best qualified to suppress and eradicate such evils from working together. They array one set of neighbors against another in strife over fictitious issues, or as unwilling "constituents" of self-seeking, self-nominated bosses, who are in politics only for what they can get out of the people for themselves. Meanwhile the meretricious "success" of these ward bosses in gaining prominence, place and spoils sets them up as exemplars to the aspiring boys and young men, who are tempted to think them to be the kind of men whom the people really honor and support, like whom they must be if they would be honored and advanced in life. Precept and example set forth by settlement, school or church carry very little weight against this argument of practical success.

The Settlements must choose, then, between dividing precept from example, ideal from practice, and risking antagonism, which at worst is likely to prove only temporarily and superficially divisive. In one instance, where a Settlement initiated a movement of independent voters which resulted in the overthrow of the local bosses of both political parties, and in the imprisonment of two of their dupes for attempting to steal an election by fraudulently changing the figures on the tally-sheet of a voting precinct, the fierce threats against the house and its residents were idly harmless, and most of both gangsters' retinues soon became friendly, including one of the two dethroned bosses who was thus ousted from the office of alderman. In another instance, where the effort of a Settlement failed, against far greater odds, to dispossess an almost impregnable entrenched ward boss, it aroused a much more serious antagonism, but its social influence, friendly relationship and extensive neighborhood work have not been perceptibly impaired or impeded. Even if its political prestige suffers for years to come, it is at worst only good-naturedly regarded as having been beaten at the game of chance and skill which politics is thought to be. In being willing to suffer defeat, and take all the risks, in standing for its ideals through thick and thin and to the bitter end, this Settlement did more to rally and unify the loyalty of the people to the highest and best than it ever could have done in maintaining a compromising attitude in the interests of a superficial harmony.

Strictly non-partisan must the position of the Settlement be, however free the party affiliations of its residents are left to their individual preference. To stand in between all party organizations, willing to help each, is a far stronger position than to identify the Settlement with any one of them, even the most independent. For it thus

encourages independent voters in all parties, and strengthens every influence within the organization tending toward worthier principles and nominations. The Settlement's neutral ground and independent influence are a standing offer of help to the better elements in all parties, which one after another they are generally sure to seek. A Settlement hall at free command for such political uses may, if wisely used and as wisely reserved, be no small factor in local politics. The balance of power can thus very often, though not always, be held and wielded by a non-partisan political club centering at, or inspired by, a Settlement. but the power thus in balance must be placed and kept in the hands of voters of the district organized and trained to hold and wield it. It must never be claimed as the prerogative of the Settlement, much less of any outside organization that presumes to reform politics for the people.

With such wisely and effectively constituted and managed efforts to co-operate with the better elements of all parties in striving for higher capacity and integrity in city politics as the Chicago Municipal Voters' League, Settlements may safely and with reciprocal advantage affiliate. Yet the independence of the local organization, fostered by the Settlement, should be preserved organically intact from absorption, even by such justly popular city-wide movements as these, if it is to possess and perpetuate real political influence in the locality and actually to play practical politics.

*(Reprinted by the courtesy of THE NEIGHBOR, to whose columns the article was originally contributed by Graham Taylor.)*

In connection with the article on "The Burden of Christopher," the novel by Miss Florence Converse, of Denison House, Boston, published in the July issue of THE COMMONS, the name of the publisher of the book was, through an oversight, omitted. "The Burden of Christopher" is published by Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston.

#### Miss Scudder's Atlantic Articles on Democracy.

In the *Atlantic Monthly* for May, Vida D. Scudder, of Wellesley College, opened a series of papers to answer the question how we Americans, without abandoning home, profession or personal interests, may further the cause of social unity and help to draw all our citizens into one invisible common weal?

The intellectual and moral disunion prevailing among us is the hidden weakness in our democracy which the writer takes as her point of departure. The dramatic fact, which at once stimulates and appals, is that all the elements of disunion that

human history has evolved are at play among the people gathered on our shore. Racial hostility blends with religious antipathy; both enhance that class antagonism present in every civilization, but for obvious reasons more conscious and aggressive in a democracy than elsewhere. These dark-winged spirits of discord seek to hold their mighty sway in a country dedicated as no other land has ever been to the creation of a universal fellowship. Baffling are the intellectual differences to the social explorer who ventures beyond all those interests which form a common world wherein the sons of privilege abide together. But still more so is the absence of a common ethical consciousness. Strange and interesting are the variations in ethical type among differing social groups. For example, the strict regard for existing rights, which makes justice the ideal virtue of the privileged classes, is offset by a people who have conquered no such right, with their favored virtue of generosity. To the one the other seems as shiftless as to the other the one seems inhumanly hard. The appeal of the situation is to the average man to co-operate all he can with those forces making for vital fellowship and shaping the nation into one harmonious whole. Upon the average man's attitude in private life depends the success or failure of the spiritual democracy.

In the June *Atlantic* the writer proceeds to discuss, under the title, "A Hidden Weakness in Our Democracy," democracy in education. Admitting that industrial conditions at present absolutely forbid the manual worker from entering on any large scale or in any general sense into the intellectual heritage of the race, she claims that these same workers possess faculties even now ready to yield quick response to a wise culture, and only await a wider freedom to help in enlarging and uplifting our intellectual life. Though not easy, it is possible to discover by delicate experiment the common ground where educated and uneducated can alike rejoice to wander, but by no shorter or easier way can the enrichment of the worker's life be promoted than by living the common life in common.

Miss Scudder's third article on "Democracy and Society" will be eagerly read in the pages of the *Atlantic* for September. Her "singularly well considered essay upon 'Democracy and the Church'" is announced for the October number.

The gloomy voice of the people could be heard hoarsely growling. It is a startling and sacred voice, composed of the yell of the brute and the word of God, which terrifies the weak and warns the wise, and which at once comes from below like the voice of the lion, and from above like the voice of thunder.—"Les Miserables."

### Chicago Commons.

The political pot has been boiling fiercely all summer, as the movement for an independent candidate to represent our district in the state legislature has centered at Chicago Commons. The two parties nominated only three candidates for the three offices. So an independent effort became necessary to save the election from being the sorry farce it has been for several years, and to assure the possibility of having at least one reputable representative. As under the proportional representation system each voter can cast three votes for one candidate, we have a good chance of electing the capable and honest nominee selected by our district "legislative" league from a field of no less than seven or eight worthy aspirants. By the courtesy of *The Neighbor* we are permitted to make editorial use of an article contributed to its columns, which is timely to our situation at Chicago Commons and may be to that which other Settlements confront.

#### OUR PLAYGROUND SHOULD NOT CLOSE.

The four months' lease and management of the public playground opposite Chicago Commons was one of the ventures of the summer. Well warranted has been the investment which our neighbors put into it and the gratuitous personal service which, at no small cost, has been contributed by the half dozen young women and men to the child-life of our neighborhood. Children and parents alike have shown their appreciation of the privilege of play (which ought to be every child's right). The need of the playground will not cease with the summer. All through the fine autumn weather, which often continues into December, it can be in constant use. In winter the commissioner of public works has offered to flood it for use as a little skating park. For \$50 per month we can probably continue our lease and directorship of it. Who will assume this great service to the children of our streets at this comparatively small cost? Our lease expires at the end of this month.

#### SAFE MILK FOR BABIES AND THE SICK.

Although the summer heat has not caused the usual suffering among little children, the excessive rains have brought much sickness to many homes. So the supply of pasteurized milk, which in cooperation with other Settlements and the city health department, has been eagerly sought, has brought us in friendly contact with many families.

#### DISTRICT VISITING NURSE IN RESIDENCE.

The residence at Chicago Commons of the visiting nurse of our district has been of great reciprocal advantage both to her work and that of the Settlement. Never has there been such widespread need of her skilled and tender service all about us as just now.

# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor from the Settlement Point of View.

Number 76—Vol. VII

Seventh Year

Chicago, November, 1902

## THE NEW PROMETHEUS.

BY JOHN FINLEY.

Who, who shall bring us back the fire again?  
We thought a new Prometheus now had come,  
Champion of men, unmindful of himself,  
Willing his high prerogative to lose  
If he might, sharing, mend the lot of all.  
He failed? But so the old Prometheus failed  
When he did first essay to arbitrate  
'Twixt gods and men, inviting praise and hate;

And though he suffered torture through long  
years,

His vitals by the vultures daily plucked,  
Yet brought he fire at last to men again;—  
And so may he, who recking not of pain,  
Nor counting gain, nor minding adverse fame,  
Is still un baffled in his vicar task.  
The pent-up fires may be for us unloose!  
Here's strength unto his purpose and his arm!  
—From The Independent.

## MINNEAPOLIS CONFERENCE OF EMPLOYER AND EMPLOYEE.

BY PROFESSOR FRANK L. M'VEY, UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA.

In 1901 Mr. G. L. Rockwell of Minneapolis organized an Eight-Hour league and proposed early in that year to hold a convention, national in character, to discuss the various phases of that proposition. He associated with him a number of influential citizens of Minneapolis who early recognized the futility of a discussion of a single question of this kind. There was a tendency to drop the eight-hours convention idea and let the whole matter pass, but at this point the originator of the eight-hours convention suggested that a wider application of the idea be had and that the convention be made an employer and employe conference. This change in the scope of the convention was accepted and an executive committee was formed consisting of Cyrus Northrop, president of the University of Minnesota, Thos. Lowry, president of the Twin City Transit Company, J. B. Gilfillan, lawyer, Marion D. Shutter, pastor of the Church of the Redeemer, A. B. Cutts, general passenger agent of the Minneapolis & St. Louis Railroad, Ira B. Shut-

tuck, proprietor of Nicollet House, Lucian Swift, manager of Minneapolis Journal, and Prof. W. W. Folwell. The originator of the plan, Mr. Rockwell, was named as secretary. It was found that special attention would have to be given to the organization of the program and the preparation of the literature necessary to set forth the purposes of the convention. To this task Dr. W. A. Schaper of the University of Minnesota was called.

### PARTY OF THE THIRD PART RECOGNIZED.

In the past many conferences of employers and employes had been held, but the secretary of the literature committee was anxious that this conference should recognize two factors in the problem that had been omitted in previous conferences. These were the government and the public. The program then must not only be one that would move forward with its subjects for discussion, but also include the four interested parties to the discussion: employer, employe, the government and the public. In this it is the writer's belief that the program was unusually successful.

The organization had scarcely been completed when secret opposition was found bearing upon the conference and its success. Efforts especially from so-called capitalistic quarters were made to call the convention off, but the persistent efforts of the secretaries and the chairman of the committee finally resulted in the plans being carried out. The community, and many of the labor leaders feared that with the original intention of the convention in the way of the new venture great opposition might spring up against the movement. In this they were not disappointed. When, however, the consent of President Roosevelt was gained to address the conference the way was clear for the consummation of the plan. Invitations were sent to men in all walks of life throughout the United States to be present. Many of these were accepted, but after all is said and done the "conference of employer and employe" was a meeting of employer and employe with the first suspicious to the last and conspicuous by his absence. The notable exceptions to this rule were the men upon the program

## GROUPING OF SUBJECTS AND SPEAKERS.

The program itself may be divided into groups of subjects and speakers. Such a division will suggest very clearly the careful plan the maker of the program, Dr. Schaper, had in mind. The thesis of the meetings is found in the title of Carroll D. Wright's paper, "Is There a Solution to the Labor Problem?" After this comes a discussion of the various efforts that have been made to secure some answer to the problem. These were: I. Arbitration. II. Better Labor Conditions. III. Employers' Efforts for Betterment. IV. The Place of the Government and the Public. In these discussions the speakers may be grouped as follows:

**EMPLOYEE**—Frank P. Sargent, Commissioner of the Bureau of Immigration.

E. J. Gainor, Secretary of the Executive Board of the National Association of Letter Carriers.

W. H. Jackson, President International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

W. E. McEwen, Secretary-Treasurer of Minnesota Federation of Labor.

**EMPLOYER**—Herman Justi, Commissioner of the Illinois Coal Operators' Association.

E. Sutro, Sutro & Son, Philadelphia.

W. D. Wiman, John Deere Plow Co.

Jas. Kilbourne, Kilbourne & Jacobs Co.

A. B. Stickney, President of Great Western Railway.

**UNIVERSITIES**—Cyrus Northrop, University of Minnesota.

John Bates Clark, Columbia University.

Frank L. McVey, University of Minnesota.

Chas. Zueblin, University of Chicago.

Richard T. Ely, University of Wisconsin.

**SOCIAL WORKERS**—Jane Addams, Hull House.

Florence Kelley, Secretary National Consumers' League.

Mrs. Elizabeth A. Wheeler, Social Secretary of the Shepard Co.

Julian V. Wright, Assistant Manager of Labor Bureau, National Cash Register Company.

William H. Tolman, Secretary of the League for Social Service.

**THE GOVERNMENT: STATE**—F. W. Job, Chairman of the Illinois Board of Arbitration.

Samuel R. VanSant, Governor of Minnesota.

**FEDERAL**—President Theodore Roosevelt.

Frank P. Sargent, Commissioner of the Bureau of Immigration.

But few of the speakers failed to make their appearance upon the platform of the conference. Among these were the two representatives of the federal government, one prevented by an operation and the other by business engagements. The other absentee were Prof. Richard T. Ely of the University of Wisconsin, and Mr. E. Sutro of Philadelphia. In order that the reader may get the full scope of the conference the program is given in full at this point.

## MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22.

## EVENING SESSION, 7:30 P. M.

1. Music, orchestra.
2. The National Conference of Employers and Employes, called to order by David P. Jones, Acting Mayor of Minneapolis.
3. Prayer, Rev. Dr. Marion D. Shutter.
4. Address of Welcome, Samuel R. VanSant, Governor of Minnesota.
5. Election of officers and perfection of a temporary organization.
6. Opening Address, Cyrus Northrop, President of the University of Minnesota.
7. "Is There a Solution to the Labor Question?" Carroll D. Wright, United States Commissioner of Labor.
8. Discussion of the paper to be opened by Richard T. Ely, Director of the School of Economics, Political Science, University of Wisconsin.

## TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23.

## MORNING SESSION, 10:00 A. M.

1. "Arbitration, Its Uses and Abuses," Herman Justi, Commissioner of the Illinois Coal Operators' Association of Chicago.
2. "Arbitration from the Point of View of an Arbitrator," F. W. Job, Chairman of the Board of Arbitration of the State of Illinois, Chicago.
3. Opening the discussion of the above paper, Avery C. Moore, Grangeville, Idaho.

## AFTERNOON SESSION, 3:00 P. M.

4. "Some Views on Arbitration," Frank P. Sargent, Commissioner Bureau of Immigration, Washington, D. C.
5. "Is Compulsory Arbitration Inevitable?" John Bates Clark, Professor of Economics, Columbia University, New York.
6. "Employers vs. Employes," E. Sutro, of E. Sutro & Son, Philadelphia.

## EVENING SESSION, 8:00 P. M.

7. "The Opportunity of the Social Secretary," Elizabeth C. Wheeler, Social Secretary of the Shepard Company, Providence, R. I.
8. "The Economic Efforts of the Eight-Hour Day," Frank L. McVey, Professor of Economics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis.
9. Discussion opened by Prof. J. B. Clark, W. H. Jackson, President of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Chicago; George F. Gordon, letter carrier, Minneapolis.
10. An address, W. D. Wiman, Vice-President John Deere Plow Company, Moline, Ill.

## WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24.

## MORNING SESSION, 10:00 A. M.

1. "The Rewards of Industry: How Produced and Divided," A. B. Stickney, President of Chicago Great Western Railway, St. Paul.
2. "The Social Waste of Child Labor," Jane Addams, Hull House, Chicago.
3. "The Indirect Employer, the Purchaser," Florence Kelley, Secretary of the National Consumers' League, New York.

## AFTERNOON SESSION, 3:00 P. M.

4. "The Government as an Employer," E. J. Gainor, Secretary of the Executive Board of the National Association of Letter Carriers, Muncie, Ind.
5. "Some Advance Work," Julian V. Wright, Assistant Manager of the Labor Bureau, National Cash Register Company, Dayton, Ohio.

## EVENING SESSION, 8:00 P. M.

6. "Some Phases of the Labor Question," Col. James Kilbourne, President and General Manager of the Kilbourne & Jacobs Manufacturing Company, Columbus, Ohio.



7. "The Higher Industrial Life, or the Golden Rule in Business" (Illustrated), William H. Tolman, Secretary of the League for Social Service, New York.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25.

MORNING SESSION, 10:00 A. M.

1. "The Relation of the Public to Capital and Labor," Charles Zueblin, Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Chicago.
2. "Future Relations of Labor and Capital," W. E. McEwen, Secretary-Treasurer Minnesota Federation of Labor.

AFTERNOON SESSION, 3:00 P. M.

3. An address to the Conference of Employers and Employes, Theodore Roosevelt, President of the United States.

EVENING SESSION, 8:00 P. M.

4. Business meeting and perfection of a permanent organization.

Delegates and visitors are asked to register at headquarters in the West Hotel immediately upon arrival.

The convention was opened by the acting mayor, Mr. D. Pevey Jones, of the city, who, after a few remarks introduced Hon. Samuel R. Van Sant, the governor of Minnesota. In a brief speech of welcome the governor called attention to the high character of the labor legislation in the state of which he was governor and introduced President Northrop of the University of Minnesota as the chairman of the evening. In an earnest address which put the object of the convention on a high plane, President Northrop opened the program. The following extracts from his address will make clear the importance of his discussion:

PRESIDENT NORTHROP STRIKES THE KEY NOTE.

"We are in the midst of great prosperity. Capital and labor are both in demand, are both abundant, and for the present are both in no condition of distress. At the same time, there is not a little unrest and not a little feeling of insecurity for the future. Some mighty conflicts have been going on, and others, no doubt, are to come.

No doubt capital has a right to combine—and, no doubt, also, labor has a right to combine. But might never yet made right, and it never can. No man has any right to live exclusively for himself, and no aggregation of men has any right to live exclusively for themselves. Capital owes a duty to labor, and labor owes a duty to capital.

I cannot put my fingers on the absolute cause of contention. Under ordinary conditions, capital ought to be contented with a fair reward for its services. But ordinary conditions no longer exist, and neither labor nor capital is to-day satisfied with what would be a fair reward but for the abnormal condition of things.

I suspect that the watering of stocks, the multiplication of the millions of capital by arbitrary arithmetic without adding a dollar to the value, has something to do with the trouble, and that the unrest of labor is in a large degree occasioned by the necessity of earning a reasonable profit, not on actual capital, but on inflated and watered capital.

This will explain why labor is so dissatisfied with conditions that would once have been deemed most happy. And it is not surprising that labor should grow disquieted over its modest rewards, when capital multiplies itself at its own sweet will and demands to-day interest on a hundred millions of stock representing precisely the same property that yesterday was but fifty millions.

This convention has been called in the interest of peace and harmony. It is not intended to denounce capital, nor to denounce labor. It is not intended to promote the interests of any political party or the theories of any particular school of economics. It recognizes the fact that the present methods of settling disputes between labor and capital are terribly costly, opposed to the best interests of the people and not productive of permanent good to any one.

It desires to find some way by which strikes and lockouts can be avoided, and capital and labor work together without interruption. For this purpose, the ablest thinkers of the country have been invited to attend the convention and address it. Many of them have accepted and will speak during the week. The President of the United States will speak the last day of the convention, and I doubt not that he will have much to say that will be most interesting."

U. S. LABOR COMMISSIONER CARROLL D. WRIGHT.

Upon Hon. Carroll D. Wright rested the presentation and discussion of what might be called the thesis of the conference. From the viewpoint of many of his audience the address was regarded as academic and in sense it was, but for a broad view of the labor question it is doubtful if the situation has ever been so well put. In substance he said:

"It is perfectly natural and human that men should seek an immediate panacea for existing evil. John Stuart Mill has said that there is not any one abuse nor injustice by the abolishment of which the human race can pass to happiness. How much greater are the difficulties when we try to solve the whole range of this mighty question.

The question is not how to kill or remove the cause, but to soften the struggle. To this end many remedies have been suggested. We will now consider some of these methods. First, through legislation. Now, if any effort has proved fallible, it is the attempt to secure good, pure individual character by statutory enactment.

You may read the history of the world in its statutes; yet statutes are not the leaders, but the followers of the popular voice. Laws are but the crystallization of public sentiment, and as such they may exert an educational influence. But they can never serve as a solution of social and economic problems.

Then there is compulsory inspection of factories, which is mere police regulation. We have had this inspection for years, yet the problem still exists. We have laws fixing liability for accidents to employes, but they have not relieved the strain.

Laws for the betterment of sanitary conditions have wrought worthy reforms, but they have not touched the heart of the problem.

Lessening the hours of labor has not proved beneficial, but to a very limited extent. As for arbitration, while I am favorable to the system in adjusting differences between nations or between employers and employed, yet I cannot see in it a solution.

Much of the harm resulting from a neces-

sary reduction of wages consists in the spirit of suspicion engendered. The worker fights against the cut because he must fight again for an increase.

The single tax doctrines and nationalism are questions too vast for discussion. But it is safe to say that when the single tax advocates can demonstrate to us that one-half or even one-tenth of the benefits they claim for their system are profitable, we will all gladly become single taxers.

Socialism is the most ambitious remedy that has been offered. Socialism is not a vital principle, because it has no God in it. It embodies no God because it does not recognize the God-given qualities in human nature. It is not a constructive force. It has no justice, no humanity, no progress.

The decalogue is as good a labor platform as any. In religion we find the highest form of solution yet offered. Next to religion comes constructive evolution—that evolution which believes in the potency of effort.

The economic man is growing into the coordinate man. We are to have a new law of wages, grown out of the religious thought. The old struggle is for existence. The new struggle is for a wider spiritual margin. The application of this religious idea is the true solution of the labor problem.

The whole question must be placed on an altruistic basis. Man's average of conduct is not better than his character. His treatment of his fellows is consistent with his sense of justice.

Out of this new struggle is growing a new political economy. It holds all things contained in the old, but there are many additions. The new economy looks largely to the care and comfort of the men. The new religion is one of progress, and one of its results will be the alliance of ethics and economics.

Religion forecasts the social destiny of man. The remedy may effect a relief, but not a cure. There is to be a continual struggle, so let us soften that struggle as best we may.

This position reaches into the coming revival of a religion which shall hold in its power the church, industry, commerce and the whole social fabric. Whoever aids the struggle for higher standards in rational ways is the friend of humanity; whoever retards it by irrational ways is the enemy of humanity.

#### ARBITRATION.

The sessions of the morning and afternoon on Tuesday were devoted to arbitration. The speakers in the morning were Mr. Herman Justi, commissioner of the Illinois Coal Operators' Association, Mr. F. W. Job, chairman of the Illinois State Board of Arbitration, and Prof. J. B. Clark of Columbia University. The speakers were by no means agreed as to the final outcome of arbitration. Mr. Justi was opposed to arbitration, while Prof. Clark went so far as to assert that the existing conditions would make some form of compulsory arbitration inevitable. The following are extracts from the address of Mr. Justi:

"The subject of this address is suggested by the freedom with which the term 'arbitration' is used as a word to conjure with. Its meaning seems to be little understood. To many people it is something new, and to the popular mind its very novelty places a dangerous glamor

about it. The gravity of arbitration and all that it involves is little appreciated, and herein lies one of the prime causes for its abuse. Wise labor leaders and thoughtful employers of labor view it alike with apprehension.

The most persistent advocates of indiscriminate arbitration are generally of the class who know least about the danger of arbitration, for the reason that the proposition to arbitrate is seldom carried home to them. Those who have most to say upon the subject among the class of our citizens who are at the same time the most intelligent, are notably our clergymen, our lawyers and our editors. Some of the difficulties of arbitration as they appear to others might be carried home to them. Suppose the city clergyman's salary is to be decided by a board of arbitration, and it is submitted to one composed of rural preachers, who are admitted to be honest and intelligent men. The salary of the famous city clergyman would in all probability assume the sorry proportions of a bar of soap after a day's hard washing.

In the coal mining industry of Illinois, arbitration by outsiders would be well-nigh impossible, whether the interests of employers or employees are to be considered. Why? Because in the coal industry of Illinois certain fixed or accepted principles of political economy were thrown overboard long ago. It is no longer a question of the survival of the fittest—a question of natural conditions—a question of the earning capacity of the workmen. It is the competitive conditions which must be taken into consideration in order to determine the scale of wages for mining coal; it is a question of giving or of dividing work in mines, and among miners in the different coal fields of the state. Arbiters not thoroughly familiar with the peculiar conditions of the coal mining industry in Illinois might succeed in either arbitrating some of the operators out of business or in arbitrating a large number of deserving workmen out of employment, because most men not in the industry itself would be governed by the general laws of trade or of political economy. Is it surprising, therefore, that corporations representing great industrial interests, or labor organizations representing the sacred and vital interests of laborers, hesitate to arbitrate and especially to arbitrate through an alien body?

I am convinced that only by organization can common labor get the maximum wages for its hire. I am equally well convinced that only through organization of the employer class will capital obtain from organized labor the most and the best service in return for the wages paid.

In no age of the world has the labor problem seemed either more complicated or more important, and in solving it we must look to experts or specialists—to wise, strong, fair men, who will consecrate their lives and dedicate their talents to its proper solution. It is a great, vast, intricate problem, and it is not enough, therefore, that we have 'good Samaritans,' wise philanthropists, kind and generous men and women in large centers of population helping to solve it, but what we need is more such lives as these, consecrated to humanity in the lowly walks of life and in out-of-the-way places.

An occasion like the present confers upon society only the minimum of good unless the lessons here learned and the resolutions here formed are religiously enforced day by day.

Let us arise to the needs of our times and remove the dangers by which we are threatened. Let us apply to all public questions, but more particularly to that most vital question affecting the relations of capital and labor, our

well-earned national virtue, common sense, and the boasted quality of our race, the spirit of fair play."

ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF ARBITRATION.

The discussion at this point was continued by Mr. F. W. Job, who spoke as an officer appointed by the state to encourage reconciliation and moderation in labor disputes. The paper read by Mr. Job was exceedingly suggestive of the future possibilities of state boards of reconciliation that were willing to prevent trouble before it occurred and by bearing the expense remove one of the obstacles to arbitration. The refusal of either side to take the initiative in the settlement of a labor dispute is overcome by the existence of the state board. Upon this point Mr. Job says:

"We found, among other things, that neither side ever wanted to pose or be considered as a party which had suggested the meeting of the participants in the strike.

Accordingly we originated a system of what might be called 'butting in' to labor troubles and of framing and delivering what we regard as a tempting invitation, to conferences, which we soon found was effecting results. With these principles in mind we coupled with our invitations to combatants the guarantees.

First—That a conference with each other and with our board would do them no harm, if it did them no good, and would at least leave them where we found them, if it did not settle the trouble.

Second—That our board could be relied upon not to carry tales from one side to another. We realized that we knew that no trouble was ever settled by the mediator or peacemaker who carries stories from one side to the other.

Third—That it would not cost the contestants a single cent; that the state paid the bills.

We find that when we have reached the point where we can get the employer and his employe to agree to meet and reason together that they are always well on the road to reconciliation.

By far the most common source of our trouble is the recognition of the union, and this brings me to the subject of why, in my opinion, there are so many strikes at the present time. From my humble point of view I believe the recent advance in the cost of living and of the commodities used by laboring men, which I think can be put conservatively at from 30 to 40 per cent during the past year or eighteen months, and the unusual prosperity of the country, which has made the manufacturer too busy in many instances to attend to the question of what wages his employes are getting, I believe these things have caused many of the recent strikes. The advances in prices have resulted in men's forming unions for the betterment of their conditions, and in a great many instances strikes or lockouts have followed.

Of course, I believe that the state board of arbitration is, or should be, one of the most important boards in any state, and I have gone to some pains to make an investigation into the work done by various boards throughout the country, with the most surprisingly varying results. I find that twenty-four of the states of our union have boards of arbitration, or labor boards which exercise the functions of arbitration and mediation. In most of the states the salary paid boards of arbitration is so small

that good citizens cannot be induced to accept the positions.

We do not think that there is any short cut to the solution of all labor troubles. We do not claim to have a panacea to fix up every case. There is one thing this board does find, however, and that is that a great many employers and employes who formerly were the last to think even of the matter of conciliation and arbitration are now the most eager to take the matter up, and, in fact, are clamoring for it."

In the afternoon Prof. Clark was the only speaker. Mr. Sargent was detained by government business and Mr. Sutro of Philadelphia was also prevented from coming. The papers of these gentlemen were read by title. Mr. Sutro suggested shorter hours and a half-holiday on Saturday with fair wages as one of the best methods of avoiding labor difficulties. He also suggested the advisability of sending a commission to Europe to study the labor question there.

PROF. J. B. CLARK OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, N. Y.

In perhaps what was the most important paper of the conference Prof. Clark called attention to the changed industrial conditions of the present and the inadequacy of a trade union as a force to deal with a great trust organization. Further than this the public has a right to be considered. Both facts alter the situation very materially and they bring the state to this dilemma. Will the government relentlessly enforce the law and prevent strike breaking or will it develop a system of compulsory arbitration? Prof. Clark made it very clear that to dream of world dominion on one hand and to fight among ourselves on the other was sure to weaken the industrial organization. Portions of the speech are printed below:

"It is an inspiring thought that, as the evil is institutional, the remedy may be so, and that by some change in the system we may bring peace to the world without waiting for it to people itself with better men than those who are now living.

New Zealand settles such differences by compulsory arbitration, and this example has begun to provoke imitation. Indeed, the results of this experiment have led at least one prominent New Zealander publicly to tell Americans that the people of his island live in a vestibule of paradise and that Americans are living in a purgatory which may be the vestibule of something worse. We need to inquire whether the conditions of our country are less favorable for compulsory arbitration than are those of New Zealand. If the differences between the countries count in favor of such a system, by all means let us try it in some of our own states.

What are some of these differences? First, our system of industry is more complex than is that of New Zealand. The different branches of it are closely interdependent and the paralyzing effects of a strike in one of them extend through the whole system. The injury that it causes goes far beyond the area of dispute. This increases the need of some measure for

promoting harmony. Secondly, our country is full of trusts and a strike instead of shutting up one mill out of a score or a hundred in the same industry, leaving others to minister to the needs of the public may paralyze them all and cut off the supply of some needed article.

Every such strike is largely against the public and many of them occurring in quick succession might have effect enough to impoverish a country, otherwise full of resources. The existence of trusts puts many strikes on a radically new footing. A motive for yielding to strikes is removed. When one employer out of a score in the same industry finds that his men have gone on strike, he is under strong pressure to make concessions to them. A trust has no such rivalry to fear and can bide its time before yielding to its men.

On the other hand, the trust has much to gain by first holding out till its men are near the end of their resources and then making some small concession that will bring them back to their work. It can charge the cost of such a concession to the public and exact a large profit besides. It can mark up the price of its products and make the public pay twice over the costs that it incurs in fighting its men.

Theoretically, competition gives to the laborer the value of the product that he specifically creates. The mill and the men together turn out certain quantities of cloth, shoes, pig iron or what not; and there is a distinguishable part of this joint product which is traceable to the labor alone. The value of this separate part of the output of cloth, shoes or pig iron, as the case may be, is the natural pay of the men who make it, and this is what competition would give to them if it worked in entire perfection. It does not work in perfection, and one of the things that interferes is the inequality of strength that is apparent when consolidated capital makes a bargain with unconsolidated labor. What a trade union can compel an employer to pay is thus partly governed by what idle men here and there are willing temporarily to accept, and that may be an amount that by no means represents their entire earning power. Strike breaking freely allowed appears to cause wages again and again to fall somewhat below their normal level, though it may allow them afterward to rise slowly toward or to it.

Yet there is not in our civil system any provision for restraining this strike-breaking operation. Idle men have an absolute right to take work when it is offered them, and employers have a perfect legal right to offer it. The only influence that prevents the offering and accepting of such work is that which trade unions themselves exert, and they exert it in a way that easily runs into a breach of social order.

The only compulsory arbitration that I am willing to recognize as possible hinges on that claim to a tenure of place which organized workmen assert and vindicate in their own irregular way. It legalizes that right to the extent of protecting from eviction men who accept terms that are pronounced just—but after it leaves men who reject just terms to go elsewhere and shift for themselves.

Compulsory arbitration might easily go beyond this and it has been supposed by many persons that it would do so and that it would encounter constitutional difficulties. It has been thought that in announcing to a corporation what would be the rate of wages, the tribunal would virtually say, 'You must pay this, and you must run your mill, whether you want to or not.' This would be an interference with the rights of capital. It has also been supposed that in announcing the fair rate

to the workmen, the court would say to them, 'You must take this amount and actually work, whether you wish to or not,' which would be a clear interference with personal liberty. This kind of compulsory arbitration would encounter practical as well as legal difficulties. If, on the contrary, you say to a body of strikers, 'Continue at work while we investigate your claims. If you demand only that natural rate of pay which represents what you produce, you shall be protected in your tenure of place. If you ask more we will announce the rate which is natural and fair and give you the first option of accepting it. If, then, you refuse to take it, your tenure of place is forfeited, the employer may put new men in your places and they will be protected by the fullest power which the state can exercise.'

This is the only logical outcome of the present anomalous and intolerable condition. As it is there are those who would have the state put forth its ultimate power wherever a strike occurs and protect to the uttermost the non-union men whom the employing corporations may bring in to break up the movement at its inception. This is now what the law itself formally requires. Letting the present semi-anarchism continue and increase would be thought of only if there were no way of avoiding it. There is one way only of avoiding it, and that is by creating competent tribunals which shall declare on what terms the workmen now in a given industry may keep their places in preference to other men and on what condition the other men may be allowed to come in under guaranties that they will make them safe. It is an adjudicating of the organized workmen's claim to their tenure of place, enforcing this claim where it is made on just terms and otherwise declaring it forfeited.

In general, it may be said that there is anarchy inherent in the present situation, and in two ways consolidations are making it worse. First, they enable employers to put the cost of strikes on the public, and then make them willing at times to have production stopped. The burdens fall most heavily on working men, who are the most numerous and most sensitive part of the public. They feel the injury most and have most of it to feel. Consolidations also make the workman's tenure of place more important to him and impel him to defend it, though he can do this only in irregular ways. The scale on which all this is taking place is growing larger as the consolidation of capital and the organization of labor progress, and it is a question when the evil will become too great to be borne.

I should like, if there were time, to try to prove that the kind of compulsory arbitration that I have suggested is practicable, and to try to prove that a court which settles the question of the workman's tenure of place has an obvious and practical way to enforce its decrees.

It could be shown, if there were sufficient time, that so much of authoritative arbitration as this signifies would protect both labor and capital from wrongs which they now suffer through irregularities of the present industrial state, and that in all probability it would result in insuring rates of wages that would come nearer to the normal standard based on the productivity of labor than do the rates which now prevail. If law is to rule, and if democracy is to succeed and become permanent, if our country is to be rich, contented and fraternal and is to have its vast strength available in the contest for the prizes of a world-wide commerce, a system of authoritative arbitration is inevitable."

## DISCUSSION OF ARBITRATION FROM THE FLOOR.

The discussion from the floor on the general subject of arbitration was unusually interesting. The speakers were in nearly every case members of trade unions. It was brought out very clearly that the rank and file were in favor of compulsory arbitration, but that there was very pronounced opposition to such a proposal by the labor leaders. This opposition of leader and led was explained by Mr. E. J. Gainor, secretary of the executive committee of the Letter Carriers' organization, as based on the fear that the functions of the former would be materially reduced under a compulsory arbitration law. The discussion further developed the notion that arbitrators were regarded as dishonest and that labor could not trust the decisions. As evidence of this many references were made to "government by injunction" and the bias of judicial officers. The discussion then drifted into government ownership of public utilities as a means of solving the difficulty.

## BETTERMENT OF LABOR CONDITIONS.

The evening session was given over to another general subject, "The Betterment of Labor Conditions." The first speaker was Mrs. Elizabeth C. Wheeler, social secretary for the Shepard Company of Providence, Rhode Island. In a paper of some length she presented the work of a social secretary in a large department store. This new profession, if it may be so called, is peculiarly a woman's work, requiring great tact to meet the many situations of a day. In part Mrs. Wheeler said:

"The position of the social secretary is the result of the industrial change that has been worked in the past half century. There was a time when the employer and the employe worked together in the same shop, sometimes on the same bench.

With the coming of the corporation idea and the factory system, all this was changed, and the personal relations between the employer and the employe began to vanish. That such should be the case was only natural. Their little personal affairs, their trials and their joys which were discussed by employer and employe alike years ago are now unknown to the employer.

Here is where the social secretary steps in and acts as an intermediary between employer and employe, learning the wants of the employed, studying the real facts of the case, and then presenting them concisely to the employer. Her work does not end here, she must look after the social side of the girls in the factory or in the store.

It is a new position created by the development of industry and is growing steadily, so that I look to see the day when there will be an international convention of social secretaries held every year."

It was the intention of the program-makers and of the committee to devote the principal

part of the evening to the Eight-Hour Day and its discussion. A great interest in this question had been created in the city of Minneapolis by the demands of the millers in the flour industry for an eight-hour day instead of the two-shift system then employed. Owing to the lateness of the hour the discussion from the floor was postponed until the following day. Prof. Frank L. McVey of the University of Minnesota presented the principal address of the evening upon this theme. The point insisted upon by him was the necessity of doing as much work in eight as in ten hours in order to maintain the same wages. If trade unions prevented men doing their full part in the business of production wages could not be maintained in the long run. He said in part:

"The introduction of machinery at the close of the last century with the attendant high cost of capital forced longer hours of labor than existed under the old domestic system. Human endurance was for many years the sole check upon a day's labor. The whole tendency of modern industry, even with the shortening of hours, is in the direction of increased exertion. The essential element in the machine organization is the human one, the most precious and the most difficult to replace. The energy of a worker in any industry should always be equal to that of the day before. If the pains of labor are heavy the tone of the workmen is lowered, and his surplus energy disappears while he tends to become a mere automaton, valuable to society for the net surplus he creates for others. The round of production of energy into goods, goods into utilities, and utilities into energy, is broken down by any such heavy burden. We must, therefore, halt, certainly from the viewpoint of the community, any movement likely to increase its working power. Whether the eight-hour day is able to do this is the question with which we must deal in the course of the evening's discussion. \* \* \*

The arguments back of the philosophy of the eight-hour day may be grouped under the three heads of economic, social and human necessities. It is demanded by economic necessity for the reason that the modern factory can turn out more goods than are needed to supply the wants of people. Machines and inventions are continually introduced, resulting in no higher wages for the worker, and the piling up of goods for which there is no market. The increased purchasing power of his wages may be lost at any time by the competition of the unemployed, who tend to force the employed to take a lower remuneration. The worker is thus confronted by lower wages to balance lower prices.

The employer, too, is compelled to keep in the procession of low cost, producing cheaply when he needs the supply, closing his mills when the demand falls and his supply is sufficient. This condition of affairs produces the unemployed.

It is the presence of the unemployed that creates the social necessity for the eight-hour day, so it is urged. A large body of unemployed, increases the burdens of society, enlarges the ranks of criminals, and those dependent upon charity. The trade unions are jeopardized by the greater difficulty of keeping up their organization and their rates. Union wages fall, demand for commodities declines,

the weaker concerns fail, and consolidation of interests results, bringing another social problem for solution.

The wear and tear upon human life steadily increase under modern methods of production. This is the third reason urged for the adoption of the eight-hour day. If men are to stand as heads of families, as electors, and even as operators of machines, they must have time for rest, for education and for family life. The responsibility of government increasingly falls upon the working classes in a democracy. Shorter hours of labor alone can give the worker the leisure for the careful study of present day problems, thrust more and more upon the electorate for decision. \* \* \*

As a means of solving the unemployed problem the eight-hour day has no value except as it abolishes overtime and all its kindred evils. The phenomenon of non-employment is due in a large measure to sickness, shiftlessness of individual laborers, and the fluctuations of commercial credit resulting in the closing of mills and the discharge of workers. Upon the first two the eight-hour day has no visible effect, upon the third by abolishment of overtime it may have a most important bearing. Employment and production would be rendered more stable and periods of non-employment and overtime would be arranged by continuous employment of the worker. \* \* \*

The eight-hour day will secure larger contentment and cheerfulness for the working people of the world. The economic value of this gift is yet to be appreciated, but there can be no doubt of its great productive power when applied to industry. Under its influence the old rate of daily production will be maintained and little or no change will result in the long run in the effects upon wages, profits, the unemployed, and foreign commerce."

Prof. J. B. Clark discussed the paper briefly and to the point, saying that the shortening of the hours of labor was the register of civilization, and therefore as civilization advanced the hours must necessarily become shorter and shorter. He put his argument in a few words, as follows:

"If you want a man to work for you one day and one day only, and secure the greatest possible amount of work he is capable of performing, you must make him for twenty-four hours. If you would have him work a week it will be necessary to reduce the time to twenty hours a day; if you want him to work for a month a still further reduction to eighteen hours a day. For a year, fifteen hours a day will do; for several years, ten hours; but if you wish to get the most out of a man for a working lifetime, you will have to reduce his hours of labor to eight each day."

The closing paper on the program was given by Mr. W. P. Wiman, vice-president of the John Deere Plow Company of Moline, Ill. Mr. Wiman contended that the present status of labor organization was responsible for the unwillingness of the employer to enter into arbitration, either voluntary or compulsory, or to take the matter of their differences before a court of law. Continuing, Mr. Wiman said:

"The fact that for the most part labor unions are not incorporated and have no legal entity, while the corporation is the reverse position,

places a barrier between them. The labor union is bound by no court, except the court of public opinion, while the employer is bound to fulfill all his contracts under the penalty of the law.

Of what use is it there? he asked, for an employer to enter into an agreement with a labor union, which is not bound by law to keep the agreement on its part, while should the employer fail to live up to his he can be brought into any court and redress given. The employe is stronger than the employer in this regard. What do labor contracts mean?

Is there a sufficient consideration to make them binding on the part of the employer and the employe. They are not mutually binding, because the employer has no means of forcing the union into fulfilling what it promised to do, and that the sole purpose and intent of a contract.

This is the present state of affairs existing between the employer and employe, and in my opinion the settlement of labor difficulties depends to a great extent upon the mutual liability of labor contracts."

A large audience greeted the speakers on Wednesday morning. Mr. A. B. Stickney, president of the Chicago Great Western Railroad, was the first speaker. His paper was in marked contrast to the papers of the conference in its rigid adherence to the "laissez faire" doctrine and the necessity of letting the merciless law of existence take its course.

#### MR. STICKNEY VERSUS MISS ADDAMS.

Mr. Stickney, in opening his address on "The Rewards of Industry," dwelt on the universal necessity for work. He pitied the unfortunate rich, who were so put to their resources for entertainment that, as in a recent case among the moneyed idlers of New York, they found it necessary to import a marmoset of exceptional intelligence, attire him as a gentleman of fashion, and dine him in the place of honor at an expensive dinner, in the hope, possibly, that he might relieve the dull monotony of idle existence.

"Work or starve" Mr. Stickney held to be the fundamental law of existence. This law nature enforced without mercy. Nothing could be obtained from nature without work.

Nature guarded the secrets by which man might wrest a living from her with the profoundest secrecy. To discover nature's secrets and to profit by their solution, had been the work of man from earliest times. During all the past centuries, while the hand has reaped the crops grown in nature's lap, the brain of man has been at work battling for the secrets of nature's laws.

The three elements of human activity, linked in an indissoluble partnership, were the wage earners, the profit earners and the interest earners.

As joint producers these three became joint owners. Each had rights in respect to others' rights. This huge partnership in production was conducted in petty departments scattered over the world. In each of the departments each of the partners was engaged, and the aggregate production of each department must always be the aggregate reward of all the wage earners.

That nothing could be divided which had not first been produced, was a fundamental truth of the wage question. Thus had evolved the complicated and difficult problem which had

led to the fixing of values and the use of money in effecting exchange.

The first conflict in trade arose between the wage earner as seller of labor, and the profit earner as buyer. It seemed beyond question that wage earners, by exercising more care and intelligence in exchanging money for products, could increase their percentages in the division more than the possible 5 or 10 per cent increase in the money compensation received from labor through the doubtful medium of a strike.

The supreme power of the universe rules the economic affairs of mankind by the silent law of cause and effect with a merciless hand. It recognized neither legislation, organized capital nor organized labor as its superior. It does not recognize the modern theories of the eight-hour day and ten hours' pay, or that every man is by right entitled to sufficient to enable him to live the life of a respectable American citizen, or to support his family in respectability and to educate his children.

On the contrary, it says 'work or starve.' If you work, you are only entitled to a fair proportion, determined by the law of cause and effect, of the pile of products to which your work has contributed, and you can take nothing from the pile which has not been put into it. If you have only contributed eight-hour days you can only withdraw eight-hour products, and your fair share of the aggregate pile is all that you can get. With such share, you must live the life of a respectable American citizen, and you must, with their assistance if necessary, support your family in respectability and educate your children.

"There is no hardship in its rule. It requires the energies of industry to be divided between the different occupations in such proportions as shall produce the amount of each kind of products that is wanted, and when this is done largest possible rewards will be produced and there will be an abundance for all. There will be no idle men, no idle capital, no over-production or under-consumption."

Much to the delight of the audience who had received the dogma of the merciless law with some impatience, Miss Jane Addams, of Hull House, Chicago, the next speaker, took some exceptions to Mr. Stickney's statements. The following is an account of her address:

On being introduced, Miss Addams preceded her address on "The Social Waste of Child Labor" with a rather forceful reply to the remarks of Mr. Stickney on the inevitability of work and the necessity of work for all. Miss Addams did not want the children to be included in so hard a theory of life, and she took exception to the point of view that labor organizations existed with the prime object of securing increase in wages.

Miss Addams declared that only a few of the strikes in history had been brought for the purpose of getting more money compensation for work, and she pointed out that on the contrary every strike had been precipitated by the desire of the employed to prevent having their compensation reduced to the detriment of their families.

To President Stickney's explanation of the coal strike as due to the fact that more workmen had been attracted there by the high wages paid, than were necessary to do the work, Miss Addams replied that:

"The men had not gone there because of high wages, but had been induced to go through the

efforts of the operators themselves whom she held responsible for existing conditions, saying that they had deliberately brought men into the fields with the idea of increasing the supply of labor and thus diminishing its cost.

The speaker drifted naturally into her own topic of child labor, by showing the most active work for the betterment of conditions in localities where child labor was employed, had been done by the labor organizations. In England, where such remedial laws as the intelligence of the nation suggested, had been passed, there were really earnest efforts to control or eliminate the evil of child labor. Factories were properly inspected, they were sanitary as a rule, and children under the law could not be worked more than half a day, and it was a fact that needed ventilation that such work as had been accomplished in England was due to the initiative of organized labor, which had hammered away at it until given support by the philanthropists and law-makers of the nation.

Miss Addams made a very touching plea for the unfortunate factory children of North Carolina, whose vitality is sapped by long hours of work to which they are physically unequal. She was vigorously applauded on closing."

Mr. Stickney did not answer Miss Addams' objections to his statements.

MRS. FLORENCE KELLEY ON THE CONSUMER'S RESPONSIBILITY.

The morning session closed with an address by Mrs. Florence Kelley, secretary of the National Consumers' League.

"Mrs. Kelley's address was an appeal to the consumer for discrimination, by means of which much good might be gained for the cause of labor and, as well, for the interest of the worthy employer of labor.

Mrs. Kelley insisted that the mothers of the land were blind who would purchase New York sweatshop clothing for their children, knowing that these tenements in which such goods are made are the worst breeding resorts of the tubercular bacilli in this or any other country, that the sweatshop clothing is the most certain means of transmitting such disease that can be thought of.

The speaker insisted that the remedy for impure foods, and more than ninety per cent of the food in the market was impure, was an insistence on the public's part which would brook no denial. The remedy lay largely in the hands of the women in this country."

GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER.

"Two employers of labor were discussed at Wednesday afternoon's session of the convention. 'Uncle Sam' was the first and received many compliments and considerable criticism by his critic, E. J. Gainor of Muncie, Ind., secretary of the executive board, National Association of Letter Carriers, who read a paper on 'The Government as an Employer.' Opening with a statement of the obvious fact that the tendency in this country, as well as elsewhere, is toward what opposing politicians have termed 'paternalism,' in other words, the public ownership of public utilities, Mr. Gainor argued that such a policy would prove inimical to the best interests of American manhood, unless the government should radically change its methods. In effect, his paper was a plea for the further extension of civil service reform.

Taking his own branch of the government service as an example the speaker referred to

the many advantages of employment under the government, such as retention in service during good behavior; an eight-hour day; the avoidance of strikes; an annual vacation with pay; proper sanitary conditions in the buildings occupied, and the absence of favoritism.

Then he turned the page and discussed the disadvantages of government employment. He pointed out the fact that heads of all government departments are taken from civil life; that the postmaster in a city does not rise from the ranks, but is appointed from outside the department, while the same thing, he said, was true of all other departments. This, he argued, deprived the government employe of a stimulus for his ambition, and tended to make him a mere machine, desirous only of transacting the duties allotted to him in the manner prescribed by regulation.

In civil life, he said, the capable employe was promoted as it is necessary to have capable men in important positions, while the head of a government department usually knows nothing of that department's workings until after his appointment.

He charged the government with keeping too close a surveillance over its employes outside of working hours, and said that offenses which would pass unnoticed by an employer in civil life would, if committed by a man in government employ, be the cause of an instant investigation. Admitting that this produced a good moral effect, he argued at the same time that it was unwise to restrict individual freedom."

#### NATIONAL CASH REGISTER COMPANY'S EXPERIENCE.

The second employer was the National Cash Register Company, whose work and the improvement of labor conditions were interestingly presented by Mr. Julian V. Wright, assistant manager of the Labor Bureau of the company, under the title of "Advance Work." Summarized the story he told was this:

John H. Patterson, the head of the company, had a factory to build, and built it in one of the worst sections of Dayton, Ohio. His employes would not move their families into the section, there were so many obnoxious surroundings. Out of pure wantonness, the windows of the factory were broken by idle boys. Gardens were laid out, acres of them, and their use, with tools, water supply, seed and other things, were given to boys who would apply. Soon all the boys in the neighborhood were too busy to throw stones at factory windows. The gardens blossomed, dismal surroundings disappeared. Residents in the neighborhood caught the fever of improvement, flower gardens blossomed out everywhere, and the factory, to keep up simply parked the grounds around and among its factory buildings.

With all these attractive surroundings, work would seem to be play; but the company would not tax its employes too heavily; so the hours of work were reduced for men from sixty to fifty-six and for women to forty-four, and wages have remained where they were on the sixty-hour schedule. Even the street car accommodations of the women are a matter of attention on the part of the company.

That is only a part of the wonderful tale told. Its system of business organization by committees and boards of heads of departments is another long chapter quite as wonderful and pregnant with reasons for the success of the company. The comparatively small cost at

which it has all been done and the rewards are other things to make the eyes stick out.

Yet, in spite of it all, Mr. Wright said he did not regard the labor question as settled. The settlement of that would depend, however, upon a belief in the integrity of each other's purposes by employer and employe, and a more general recognition of the interdependence of the one upon the other."

#### SHORT HOURS AND NO STRIKES FOR THIRTY YEARS.

The Wednesday evening session brought to the conference the experience of a manufacturer who in a period of thirty years had never had a strike. This paper was read by Col. J. F. Kilbourne of the Kilbourne-Jacobs Company, of Columbus, Ohio. The manly position taken by this speaker in his relations to his employes was an object lesson to the whole conference. What Mr. Kilbourne had to say upon the eight-hours day is reproduced in part:

"One thing which can and should be done to better the condition of workmen, is to shorten the hours of labor. 'Man does not live by bread alone,' and workmen should have greater opportunity for recreation, for sports, and for reading and study. It is their just due, and one which they have a right to demand from society. Shorter hours would lead to the shortening of the list of the unemployed, and assist in securing better wages.

Released from the effect of the constant pressure of large numbers of unemployed, forced at times to accept work at any price to escape starvation, workmen could easily secure better terms. The eight-hour day is possible with labor well organized under conservative leaders. Legislation can supplement and confirm what they accomplish, but cannot secure the end sought without their united and harmonious demand. This ought to be made, and I hope to live to see the time when eight hours will be the limit of a day's work for manual labor in this country.

I am aware of the objection which is made that the effect of such shortening of time means an enhancement of the cost of production, which competition with those working longer hours would make fatal, but I am contemplating a reduction so widespread that this would not apply. If an eight-hour day is established in this country in any important trade, the same would be quickly established in England, and then, more slowly, perhaps, in other competing countries. If one trade is thoroughly successful, the others would quickly follow. Just men, whatever their position in life, will oppose child labor and excessive hours of work, not for the reasons already given, but for the sake of a happy home without which neither virtue nor religion thrive."

The evening closed with an illustrated lecture by Mr. W. H. Tolman, Secretary of the Institute for Social Service, of New York City on the "Golden Rule in Business."

#### PROF. ZUEBLIN ON THE RIGHTS OF THE PUBLIC.

The position of the public in the conference had not yet been clearly stated. It remained for Prof. Chas. Zueblin of the University of Chicago to deal with this point. In clear and emphatic language he presented the reasons



why the public was a factor in every industrial dispute. This interest rests upon the principle that both capital and labor should receive such rewards as lead to industrial efficiency and because consumption is the root of all production. As capital and labor are dependent upon the public for their rewards the public has a right to control the conditions under which these rewards may be sought. In discussing further the points involved in his subject, Prof. Zueblin referred to the benefits conferred upon the working man, by the trade unions and to the probable ownership of public utilities by municipalities.

#### LABOR LEADER'S OPTIMISM.

Mr. W. C. McEwen, the secretary-treasurer of the Minnesota Federation of Labor, followed in an address on the "Future Relations of Labor to Capital." Mr. McEwen was very optimistic. He looked upon the future as a time when the trade union would be an absolute necessity in the conduct of business and so recognized as such by employers. He emphasized a point already brought out in the convention, that of a labor department in the great corporations; a department that would devote its time to dealing with the difficulties existing in the works.

Mr. Powderly's unexpected presence gave the conference an opportunity to hear him upon the labor question. His special advice to the laborer was to save and buy shares in the corporation for which he worked. He regretted the failure to study the great question except at times of strikes, a view of the situation that was highly acceptable to his audience.

#### PERMANENT ORGANIZATION AT CHAUTAUQUA NEXT YEAR.

On account of the absence of Pres. Roosevelt Thursday afternoon was left on the conference's hands. The committee on resolutions had already reported in the morning recommending the appointment of a committee of seven to take up the matter of organization. The nominating committee, consisting of Mr. W. D. Wiman, Prof. Frank L. McVey and Mr. E. E. Clark, presented the following names as a permanent committee: Hon. J. B. Gilfillan, Minneapolis; Mr. E. E. Clark, Cedar Rapids, Ia.; Mr. J. F. Kilbourne, Columbus, O.; Mr. James Duncan, Washington, D. C.; Mr. Herman Justi, Chicago; Prof. J. B. Clark, New York City; Prof. Graham Taylor, Chicago. A majority of the committee met at the West Hotel and decided to hold, if possible, a similar con-

ference at Chautauqua, N. Y., in July or August of the coming year.

Very little opportunity was given on account of the length of the program for discussion. It was therefore proposed that Thursday afternoon be devoted to this purpose. The millers' request for an eight-hour day made that question the logical one for discussion. Early in the afternoon a resolution was introduced advocating the eight-hour day. This at once raised the question of the advisability of passing such a resolution and much of the time was taken up in its disposal. The conference finally refused to pass any specific resolutions and adjourned *sine die*.

#### WEIGHING THE RESULTS.

The value of the conference as a force in the settlement of industrial difficulties can only be guessed at. A writer in the Minneapolis Journal had the following to say about the conference:

"The first session of the national convention of employers and employes, held at the exposition building last night, was not remarkable for enthusiasm nor a large attendance. Yet it was a gathering of historic importance. Not because it was to discuss the familiar 'labor question,' not that it was to provide a specific remedy that can perfect man's nature and practically remove the primal curse, but because it was the first voluntary, national acknowledgment of capital, labor and government in modern times that, despite progress, despite prosperity, there is radical wrong in the economic situation and that there is need of radical remedy.

Heretofore there have been conventions innumerable to discuss special phases of the labor problem. Disputes in particular industries or in particular groups of industries have called forth assemblies with a limited program. But the assumption in reference to the labor world at large has always been optimistic. It was taken for granted that, as a rule, money is doing all for toil that civilization can expect, and that toil is fulfilling every just demand. Even the notable meetings held in eastern states to set forth men of national reputation as permanent arbitrators of labor disputes have never found fault with the general relations of the master to the man. Arbitration, it was assumed, might be necessary in those few cases where misunderstandings of the real situation would arise. The object of the notable meetings was to provide arbitrators of sufficient distinction and therefore of sufficient influence.

But the present convention in Minneapolis is an organized confession by American leaders of social philosophy and of organized labor, by officers of the federal government, and, in a much less degree, by leaders of capital, that a hundred years of specific remedies for isolated symptoms of the labor malady may have removed the symptoms but have only suppressed the actual disease. Legislation, arbitration, conciliation—all have failed to attain the principal object. A new cure must be sought by the combined wisdom of the nation.

The peculiar importance of the first session and the nature of factors at work were reflected in the audience. It was not a large audience for the big exposition building. Few seats were

occupied outside of the main floor, the 'parquet,' so to speak. But in the faces of the 1,500 or more men and women was a seriousness rare at secular gatherings. Whether they fully realized it or not, these hearers were influenced by the fact that their position somewhat resembled that of the first American congress. A question of pressing weight was to be solved. The solution, or the attempted solution, might affect for good or for evil the social, commercial, political, the national life of generations.

And no less reason for such seriousness was advanced by the first speakers when they frankly admitted that the remedy sought would probably not be found.

Still another proof of the value of the convention, of its necessity, indeed, had come to many in the audience through their knowledge of the great coal strike, its effect on their own purses, and its portentous possibilities in the industrial future.

The intent eyes were those of bankers and of labor leaders, of social philosophers and of college students, of prominent merchants and of women well known to society. It was a select audience. Its average of intelligence was exceptionally high. In that respect it surpassed the usual convention, whether political or otherwise. And the interest of the listeners in the general subject was manifested by the churchly quiet that prevailed during the evening, in the unbroken attention given to the most philosophic arguments of the longest address."

Undoubtedly the chief value of the conference was in breaking down some of the suspicious the different factors in the problem have of each other. Certain it is that the general feeling during the meeting was unusually conciliatory and friendly. The employer was not present in any numbers. The conference was in a sense forced to justify itself and in this it was highly successful. Yet the opposition to it from many sources indicated a feeling that there is no common meeting ground and my business matters are nobody's business but my own.

As yet no provisions have been made for the publication of the addresses and the discussions from the floor. It is hoped, however, to secure sufficient funds at an early date to make publication possible. Until such publication is made the report here given is the only consecutive one known to the writer.

A people cannot be forced to move faster than it wishes by a surprise, and woe to the man who tries to compel it; a people will not put up with it, and then it abandons the insurrection to itself.—"Les Miserables."

### HAND SEWING LESSONS.

A text book for normal classes, public schools and homes. It presents the popular methods in print, with explicit instructions.

*Cloth, price 35 cents; by mail, 40 cents.*

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### THE RESERVED SECTION.

["The rights and interests of the laboring man will be protected and cared for, not by labor agitators, but by the Christian men to whom God in His infinite wisdom has given control of the property interests of the country."—Mr. Baer.]

In the prehistoric ages, when the world was a ball of mist—

A seething swirl of something unknown in the planets' list;

When the earth was vague with vapor, and formless, and dark, and void—

The sport of the wayward comet—the jibe of the asteroid—

Then the singing stars of morning chanted soft:—  
—"Keep out of there!

Keep off that spot which is sizzling hot—it is making coal for Baer."

When the pterodaetyl ambled, or fluttered, or swam, or jumped,

And the plesiosaurus rambled, all careless of what he bumped,

And the other old-time monsters that thrived on the land and sea,

And didn't know what their names were any more than to-day do we—

Wherever they went they heard it:—"You fellows, keep out of there—

That place which shakes and quivers and quakes—it is making coal for Baer."

The carboniferous era consumed but a million years;

It started when earth was shedding the last of her baby tears,

When still she was swaddled softly in clumsily tied on clouds,

When stars from the shops of Nature were being turned out in crowds;

But high o'er the favored section this sign said to all: "Beware!

Stay back of the ropes that surround these slopes—they are making coal for Baer!"

We ought to be glad and joyous, we ought to be filled with glee,

That aeons ago the placard was nailed to the ancient tree,

That millions and millions of ages—back farther than Adam and Eve—

The ichthyosaurus halted, and speedily took his leave,

And so it was all saved for us, the spot with the sign: "Beware!

This plant is run by the earth and sun and is making coal for Baer!"

—W. D. Nesbit, in Baltimore American.

"When we are poor we always have very clear ideas of the duties of the rich; but when we gain money we are experts in the science of showing the poor how to behave."—Puck.

## IMPRESSIONS OF MISS ADDAMS' "DEMOCRACY AND SOCIAL ETHICS."

BY JANE E. ROBBINS.

"Democracy and Social Ethics" is distinctly a book of leadership; many of its thoughts may have been dwelling for some time in the obscure corners of our brain, but they come out for the first time into the clear light of day under the influence of its pages. The book is delightfully written and it expresses the best that is peculiar to American thought and feeling. There are many men and women identified with the progressive movements in our country to whom the ideals of a larger and more satisfying democracy have become almost a religion, and it is in the minds of these men and women that Miss Addams' words will find their most fruitful soil.

The one criticism that can be made most justly against the book is that some parts of it are too analytic to be an integral part of the great modern democratic life. The essay on charitable effort shows this defect most clearly. Some of the difficulties described as besetting the path of the young college graduate are simply the product of his over-analytic mind. The obstacles that he sees are really a figment of his imagination, born of "too much thinking and too little active responsibility." Let him go ahead simply and naturally and his difficulties will vanish, because they never were there. Instead of further analyzing the situation for such a young person, it is quite as well to laugh and to teach him to laugh. The difficulty, however, of reconciling a good deal of what is called "charity" with the democratic feeling is very real, and Miss Addams' words have undoubtedly helped many a puzzled "friendly visitor" to stick courageously to his task.

The social claim and the family claim are placed in sharp antithesis to one another; too sharp, perhaps, to be taken with absolute literalness, for after all society is made up of families; but the essay contains much that is suggestive, and it certainly ought to be helpful to our parents.

Under the heading, "Industrial Amelioration," Miss Addams gives a clear picture of the man who is both business man and philanthropist. His motives are beyond reproach, but he overlooks the necessity of getting "the consent of his fellow-men." This appeal for associated effort is one of the finest things in the literature of modern progress. It ought to be in the hands of every employer of labor who can be reached by an appeal made to the

democratic feeling that is supposed to be in the blood of us all.

There is a wonderfully true description of the district leader in the fine essay on "Political Reform," and this whole chapter will be of great value to those interested in municipal politics. To all Settlement workers the book is a source of peculiar pride and pleasure. We feel that if Miss Addams had not been living at Hull House she might never have had the illumination of this wider and more thoroughly human experience that has given her the power to speak with authority on social righteousness.

### COOK COUNTY CIVIC IMPROVEMENT CONFERENCE, NOVEMBER 22.

The second conference of Cook County Improvement Societies is announced for Saturday, November 22nd, in Fullerton Hall, at the Art Institute, Chicago, under the auspices of the American League for Civic Improvement. The hearing of reports, a feature of real interest and much value, and the consideration of business matters, will be followed by addresses delivered by speakers of note.

### SUMMER ASSEMBLY PROPERTY PUT TO WINTER USE.

The establishment of the Winona Agricultural and Technical Institute at Winona Lake, Indiana, is suggestive of the larger social service to which the great summer assembly grounds and equipment may be put. The waste of resource and opportunity in keeping these great popular centers closed and vacant eight months of the year, especially where located near the needy city population, is beginning to prompt such use of them as is happily inaugurated at Winona. The Institute is to furnish to boys of more than fourteen years of age such surroundings and training in agriculture, horticulture, and the use of tools and machinery, including thorough courses in English branches and English Bible, "as will assist them in their growth toward Christian manhood and useful citizenship." The expense of board and tuition is \$225, offset by the payment of 8½ cents for each hour's labor. Eleven free scholarships, kindly placed at the disposal of the Chicago settlements, are filled by boys nominated by them from their immediate neighborhood.

"Progress, man's distinctive mark alone,  
Not God's, and not the beasts'; God is, they are,  
Man partly is, and wholly hopes to be."

—Robert Browning.

## ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD WORKERS, NEW YORK CITY.

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY  
MARY KINGSBURY SIMKHOVITCH,  
248 East 34th Street, New York.

### Trained Nurses in Public School Service.

The Nurses' Settlement of New York is at present conducting the experiment (in co-operation with the Board of Health and the Board of Education) of introducing a trained nurse into the public school system, to work in conjunction with the medical inspector of the Health Board, who inspects and excludes cases of infectious troubles among the children. This work of the "School Nurse" has been carried on successfully for some time in England, and has been written of fully in the American Journal of Nursing. Miss Honnor Morton's account of how she established this system in London Board Schools appeared in the January, 1901, number, and since then items from the English journals, showing the extension of the work of several District Nurses' Associations to similar service in the schools of other places, have appeared in the Foreign Department of the Journal.

Miss Wald, the head of the Nurses' Settlement, has always cherished the hope that the trained nurse might be introduced into the large public schools of the crowded foreign quarters of the city, and has lost no opportunity of making the "School Nurse" of London known to those who might be interested in a similar movement here. Some little time ago Miss Whitelaw, who has had both teachers' and nurses' training, went back to public school work after having worked in the settlement as a nurse, and from her double standpoint presented a strong set of data to a school board official, showing the loss of school time often suffered by children who were excluded by the medical inspector from the school by reason of some slight infectious trouble, which by dint of not being attended to, remained uncured and debarred the child from its education, all too short at any rate for the children of the poor, who must at the age of fourteen leave school for wage-earning.

About the same time the subject of the medical inspection—its good points and its weak ones—was spoken of at the Nurses' Settlement by members of the Board of Education, and practical suggestions were invited from Miss Wald and her associates. The experience

of the nurses in the settlement was, that the medical inspection was deficient from the standpoint of the child, in that it excluded him, but did neither advise nor treat him, neither was he looked after. Their practical suggestion was that a nurse should work with the physician, carrying out under his orders the treatment for simple cases, without excluding them from the school, and following to their homes the more serious cases of eye, head, or skin trouble; seeing that they received medical attention, teaching the mother, when this should be necessary, and keeping a record of the time the child was absent, not allowing it to remain out of school longer than necessary. At present, while the truant officer has the oversight of delinquent children, he has no jurisdiction over those who have been sent home by the doctor. This suggestion was cordially received both by the Education and Health Boards, and not long ago the presidents of the two boards dined at the Settlement, where the plan was discussed and details for a month's experiment talked over.

The result was that Miss Wald offered to supply a nurse for one month, without cost, and on the first of October the experiment was begun, Miss M. L. Rogers, a resident of the Settlement, being the one selected to initiate it.

Miss Rogers has a group of schools in the near neighborhood, four in all, having a school population of about 4,500 children. She visits each one daily, having in each one an extemporized dressing room, with lamp for heating water, etc. Here she dresses or cleanses all such cases as the physician directs; mild cases of conjunctivitis, minor skin infections, such as ring worm, etc., and these children need not then miss their class work, as otherwise they would have to do as a matter of protection to the rest. She then visits those who have been sent home, and keeps records of them.

The teachers have received her in the most cordial and helpful spirit, and the medical inspectors have made the most careful and definite effort at thorough co-operation, that the work may be effective, and proceed without hitches.

So far the experiment seems eminently satisfactory, but whether it can be continued is of course a matter of uncertainty, as it would involve expense, and municipal appropriations are never large enough. However, that it has been begun is a matter of congratulation, and that it has the support and endorsement of the health and education officers is beyond question.

L. L. D.

### Settlement Women Appointed Tenement House Inspectors.

Of the eight women who have been recently appointed as tenement house inspectors for the Tenement House Department of New York City, seven have been connected with various social settlements of New York City and vicinity. Miss Mary B. Sayles, a graduate of Smith College, has during the past year pursued as fellow for the College Settlements Association an investigation of the housing conditions of Jersey City, while living at Whittier House, Jersey City. Miss Mary Nevins was in residence for a time during the past summer at the New York College Settlement. Miss Jeanette Moffett, who has pursued special work in Economics at Barnard College and who was in charge of the government social science exhibit at the Paris Exhibition, has been a fellow during the past year at the Woman's Branch of the University Settlement, New York City. Miss Emily Dinwiddie was for some time in residence at Whittier House. She is at present compiling for the Charity Organization Society of New York the current Charities Directory. Miss Helen D. Thompson, a graduate of Vassar, was during the past two years a resident of the Friendly Aid Settlement of New York City. She resigned a position as sanitary inspector for the Civic Sanitation Association of the Oranges to take the position of tenement house inspector. Dr. Gertrude Light has been associated with Hartley House, New York City, giving medical service in that district. Miss Mildred Fairfield has had club work at the University and the Nurses' Settlement, and has been engaged in the work of the University Extension Society.

### West Side Branch of University Settlement.

Through the generosity of friends we have been able to extend our usefulness to a new field where a house is to be put in order for more extended industrial work and better accommodations furnished for the kindergarten. The rapid growth of the work this fall has made many demands upon the limited space of our house as well as our ingenuity and this new old house is the solution to many of the difficulties. The neighborhood to which we lend part of our residential force, is largely Italian, with a representation of both German and Hebrew, with perhaps the usual number of Irish whom we no longer consider foreign when considering racial problems. Miss Margaret Batchelder, formerly of the College Set-

tlement, Rivington Street, holds the Thomas Memorial scholarship and will be in residence here during the year, making as her special work the investigation of child labor in factory and commercial establishments. Miss Mary B. Lippincott, formerly in the College Settlement, Philadelphia, four years, and as head resident at Kingsley House, Pittsburg, six years, will be specially charged with the organization and extension of the class work.

### A Church Settlement for Manila.

A comprehensive movement, having for its object the extension of the American national idea in the Philippines and of Christianity among the native Filipinos, has been started by the Protestant Episcopal Church of this country. It proposes to raise a fund of \$1,000,000, with which a central institutional church will be founded at Manila, and from which preachers and lay teachers will be sent to other parts of the islands where branch institutions are to be established. No attempt whatever, it is stated, will be made to work in antagonism with the Catholic Church in the islands.

It was said that of the \$1,000,000 required, about \$200,000 is in sight.

At the Manila Settlement there will be nine members of the clergy, two trained nurses, and several kindergarten teachers and lay missionaries, besides a physician. It is estimated that the maintenance of the Settlement will cost about \$5,000 a year, and the industrial school which will be established in connection with it will cost about \$2,000 more. In the school agriculture and woodworking are to be taught.

With the Mansfield House Magazine, we offer our hearty congratulations to the Browning Hall Settlement upon the opening of their new Men's Club. "The beautiful building, which cost about £5,000, stands upon a corner site, and is one of the finest buildings, architecturally, in Walworth. At the opening ceremony Dr. Chas. Booth unlocked the door with a golden key, and made a charming little speech, and the liberal-minded Bishop of Hereford offered the dedicatory prayer. The club is already provided with some good billiard tables, while the Dr. Dale library, in its naked eloquence, pleads for literary clothing. There is also a public restaurant in connection with the club, which will meet a need of the neighborhood. We wish our sister Settlement all success."

**COLLEGE SETTLEMENTS ASSOCIATION.**

## STANDING COMMITTEE.

*President:* KATHARINE COMAN, Wellesley, Mass.*Vice President:* HELEN CHADWICK RAND THAYER (Mrs. Lucius H. Thayer), Portsmouth, N. H.*Secretary:* SARAH GRAHAM TOMKINS, Marion, Mass.*Treasurer:* ELSIE CLEWS PARSONS (Mrs. Herbert Parsons), 112 East 35th St., New York City.*Fifth Member:* HELEN ANNAN SCRIBNER (Mrs. Arthur H. Scribner), 10 West 43rd St., New York City.

## STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUB-CHAPTERS.

*Chairman:* LOUISE B. LOCKWOOD, 441 Park Ave., New York.

## SETTLEMENTS.

New York City—95 Rivington Street.

Philadelphia—433 Christian Street.

Boston—91 Tyler Street (Denison House).

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY  
CAROLINE WILLIAMSON MONTGOMERY,  
5548 Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago.

**College Settlement Sub-Chapters.**

BY LOUISE B. LOCKWOOD.

The systematic work of establishing sub-chapters among the schools of our country was begun by the College Settlements Association four years ago. Believing that this movement had the two-fold advantage of uniting the schools in a common aim and of interesting our future women in the practical philanthropy of the times, the principals of our private schools were asked to co-operate with the colleges in forming these sub-organizations which should report progress to the Electoral Board either through a college chapter or through the standing committee.

School girls like to help. With a definite purpose at hand, a definite problem to solve, the need of service awaiting them in their own city at once aroused their interest. Their response and the hearty co-operation of the principals made the results surpass the expectations of the Board. In the winter of 1899-1900 five sub-chapters were started, and the following year two local committees, one in Boston and one in Philadelphia, were formed, who, supervising the work in these cities should report to the standing committee in New York. Letters to the principals of the private schools were followed by personal interviews, and where the principal approved of

the plan an address was made to the school by a settlement worker, and some special task proposed, Miss Davies, Miss Dudley and Miss Williams being most kind in assisting us in this way. Thirty sub-chapters appeared on our list at the close of that year's campaign and in 1901-1902 the number increased to forty.

The prescribed duties of these sub-chapters are light. Each contributes ten dollars annually to the general fund of the association and sends a report. If it is an independent sub-chapter this goes to the chairman of the local committee, thence to the standing committee. If it is a college sub-chapter it attends the meetings of the mother chapter, when that is possible, and keeps in touch with the elector. Barnard College has thirteen sub-chapters; Bryn Mawr, one; Wells, one, Wellesley, five; Swarthmore, one; Smith, one; Vassar, one. The rest are independent.

The sub-chapters are asked to work for the Settlement nearest their location—Denison House for those in Massachusetts; 433 Christian Street, Philadelphia, for those in Pennsylvania, while those near the vicinity of New York naturally confine their efforts to 95 Rivington Street.

What have these organizations done for the work? Perhaps the hundreds of dolls that have come to us at Christmas, dressed often by the girls themselves, are not the least, though among the most conspicuous proofs of interest—besides books, knives, horse reins for the boys, and gifts that have brought cheer to families in the neighborhood who otherwise would have had no festival. During the summer, boxes of flowers have brought a breath of country and thoughts of brooks and birds to friends in the crowded districts. "Library," at 95 Rivington Street, and "Bank" have been regularly supplied. Although we like to have suggestions come from among the girls themselves, they frequently request a definite piece of work be given them. Sewing classes, particularly in Lent, are quite common, during which sessions sheets for Mt. Ivy, towels, napkins and night gowns, etc., have been made. Besides these more general donations, the girls have come into direct connection with the Settlement, helping in the library, playing games with the children Saturdays. The boys' sub-chapter sent their glee club to act as orchestra for "Esmeralda," given by one of the Settlement clubs. One girl went into residence at Mt. Ivy and the interest she there conceived for the work was instrumental in forming the Junior League, an organization of young

women who give personal work and entertainments for the cause, \$1,500 being raised in this way. A reception was given by one sub-chapter to the others last winter at which music was supplied by a pupil from our music school, and an address made by Mr. James B. Reynolds. One school regards the kindergarten room at 188 Ludlow Street as its peculiar charge, and having furnished it artistically, will continue to care for it. Still another furnished money to turn the yard into a fit playground. A horse was donated from one school for Mt. Ivy. Tennis nets, bathing suits, shoes, pillows and numerous household furnishings have, moreover, been entirely supplied by these friends.

Again, it was thought by the sub-chapters that we were able this year to build a tank at Mt. Ivy, and for the first time have sufficient water to supply the house. Others helped toward our camp for small boys.

In Boston one sale resulted in \$250 for Denison House, and two others were no less encouraging. Blankets and linen were furnished by another, and still a third gave a play, the proceeds of which were devoted to Denison House, and two sub-chapters aided by articles and personal service the Woman's Club sale. In Philadelphia the story is practically the same, although it has been a little more difficult here to have the girls visit the Settlement. But through the assistance of Miss Davies the interest of the schools has resulted in a play given at the Settlement, the proceeds of which went to the Front Street House, a large Winged Victory for the Christian Street House, besides the general Christmas cheer, mentioned before. Here as in Boston picnics for the children, and a general meeting for the sub-chapters with tea and addresses were given to promote unity of action, and added enthusiasm resulted from both these receptions.

The foregoing are but a few of the many tangible results of our work. Behind these lies the ideal of strengthening through the younger members of the association the general cause of Settlements. To discover that service for humanity in their own city need not be a mere dream appeals to the school girl and boy, as perhaps no other cause can, and we find that they regard their work as an opportunity not only for preparatory years, but for greater help in college or home life. So that it is in the hope of thus uniting the sympathies of our coming generation that we look toward this undertaking as yielding constantly increasing results.

### Independent Sub-Chapters.

Anabel, Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Case and Child, 1527 Pine St., Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Classical School for Girls, 2042 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y.  
 Cutler's School, 20 East 50 St., New York.  
 Dwight House, Englewood, N. J.  
 Miss Brown's School, 66 Marlborough St., Boston, Mass.  
 Friend's Select School, 140 North 16th St., Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Miss Kimball's Sub-Chapter, Worcester, Mass.  
 Ossining, School.  
 Bradford Academy, Boston.  
 Miss Gillman, 324 Commonwealth Ave., Boston.  
 Miss Dana, Morristown, New Jersey.  
 Dana Hall, Wellesley, Mass.  
 Miss Emerson, 401 Beacon St., Boston.  
 Rosemary Hall, Greenwich, Conn.  
 Lockwood Collegiate, Mt. Vernon, New York.

#### BRYN MAWR SUB-CHAPTER.

Miss Shipley's School, Bryn Mawr, Pa.

#### SMITH SUB-CHAPTER.

Burnham School, Northampton, Mass.

#### WELLS SUB-CHAPTER.

Wells' Preparatory, Aurora, N. Y.

#### SWARTHMORE SUB-CHAPTER.

Swarthmore Preparatory.  
 Junior League, New York.  
 Miss LeBaron Drumm, 40 West Seventy-second St., New York.  
 Flushing Seminary, Flushing, New York.  
 Rogers Hall, Lowell, Mass.

#### BARNARD SUB-CHAPTERS.

Catherine Aiken School, Stamford, Conn.  
 Barnard Classes, 430 West 118th St., New York.  
 Bennett School, Irvington-on-Hudson.  
 Berkley Institute, 82 Lincoln Pl., Brooklyn.  
 Miss Annie Brown's School, 715 Fifth Ave., New York.  
 Misses Jaudon's School, 26 East Fifty-sixth St., N. Y.  
 Miss Low's School, Stamford, Conn.  
 Morgan's School, 15 West Eighty-sixth St., New York.  
 Riverside School, 315 Riverside Drive, New York.  
 Sach's School, 116 West Fifty-ninth St., New York.  
 Mrs. Well's School, 109 West Seventy-seventh St., New York (extinct).  
 Leggett Sisters' Memorial, Miss Botsford School, Staten Island.  
 Brooklyn Heights Seminary, 138 Montague St.

#### WELLESLEY SUB-CHAPTERS.

Miss Hills' School, 1808 Spruce St., Philadelphia, Pa.  
 Miss Peebles' and Miss Thompson's School, New York, N. Y.  
 Staten Island Academy.  
 Walnut Hill School, Wellesley, Mass.  
 Mrs. Staler's, 217 East King St., Lancaster, Pa.

# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor  
from the Social Settlement Point of View.

GRAHAM TAYLOR, - - - Editor

Entered at Chicago Postoffice as Second-Class Matter, and  
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A Year

## EDITORIAL.

Our readers will share the indebtedness we feel to Professor McVey for contributing to *THE COMMONS* the only consecutive report, so fully given to the public of the important and interesting conference of employes and employers recently held in Minneapolis. In anticipation of special demand, we have printed a larger edition than usual so as to fill orders for extra copies.

Next month we publish a descriptive report of the St. Paul Convention of the American League for Civic Improvement from the pen of the field secretary, and print in full Professor Zueblin's presidential address on "A Decade of Civic Improvement." Advance orders are solicited.

### Union Labor After the Miners' Strike.

With the close of the United Mine Workers' strike in the anthracite coal fields, organized labor has scored by far the greatest triumph it has ever won in America. The issue at stake steadily rose from the Pennsylvania coal pits until it lodged itself before the mind and conscience of the whole people at the national capital.

Unofficial though the action of the President was, it was sanctioned by an overwhelming public opinion throughout the entire country. Chicago was never more a unit than in the favorable attitude toward the miners taken by rich and poor, in press and pulpit, club, shop and office. Although prior to this dramatic turn of affairs, the right of labor to organize was conceded by an ever increasing number of people, a large majority have withheld their approval of what they have supposed to be the methods, spirit, and public utility of trades-unionism. A very considerable minority conscientiously and from patriotic motives regarded their influence as destructive to equality before the law and subversive to personal liberty. Before this great jury of the vast outside

majority, union labor has been on trial as never before.

The educative showing it made of its cause at the White House was so country-wide and immediate as to be almost magical. In the attitude of the President of the United States the Nation gave its first recognition of organized labor, and for the first time registered the Public as the third party in every issue between capital and labor that affects common interests. The informality or extra legal and unofficial character of the President's interposition detracted nothing from the national sanction with which the arbitration commission is invested. A decision of the Supreme Court or an act of Congress would not have so directly and emphatically registered the verdict of the whole people.

National recognition has been given, first of all, to the self-control under great provocation, the ability under the most exacting tests, and the loyalty to law and public welfare, under the most distracting class interests shown by the representative of organized labor in the person of John Mitchell, who towered head and shoulders above all others involved in the crisis, excepting only President Roosevelt, with whom he stood equal on the same high level of character and action.

The Nation recognized the wonderful discipline maintained by the United Mine Workers at first in keeping inviolate the soft coal miners' contracts with their employers, and then to a still greater degree through months of desperate struggle and hardship, in preserving order and loyalty among the mixed and polyglot multitude imported by the operators for the purpose of making the organization of labor impossible.

The employer's remedy for the all too clearly manifest evils and abuses of labor organizations is recognized to be not in such foolhardy and futile attempts to crush out all organization of labor as the National Manufacturer's Association rashly announces, but in co-operating with the better labor leaders and the public in promoting the more orderly organization and legal responsibility of labor.

The social settlements agree with *The Outlook* in urging this policy upon both labor unions and employers. Because, as its editor well says, "by fighting them they increase the power of the belligerent and the demagogical leaders, for in time of war the belligerents and the demagogues always come to the front. By co-operation with them they increase the power of the conservative and the constructive leaders.



for in time of peace constructionists always come to the front. This lesson is writ large in the history of the last few months. Whether the mine operators have yet learned to read such writing we do not know, but it is very legible to the general public."

### University of Wisconsin Settlement at Milwaukee.

We congratulate the University of Wisconsin and the city of Milwaukee upon their co-operation in establishing a social settlement under the most promising auspices. It is to take its name from the university and five of its directors from among those actively identified with the university work and life. Milwaukee furnishes ten of the directors and much of its support, toward which the university alumni are also invited to contribute. The Settlement Association is so fortunate as to have secured as warden Mr. H. H. Jacobs, who for several years has had a city-wide influence in his work at the Hanover Street Congregational Church and in other lines of social and civic service. An old three-story mansion, strategically located in the heart of the Polish district, at First Avenue and Becher Street, has been secured as the settlement house, into which Mr. Jacobs moves this month with his family and other resident workers. The easy proximity of the university constituency will afford the settlement a great source of personal service, and the settlement in turn will supply the university with its first natural point of contact for field study and social research. Encouragement to take advantage of this enlarged opportunity should come from the fact that the student sent by the department of economics to study in the Chicago settlement graduated into an instructorship in sociology and economics at the State University of Iowa. In our December issue we hope to present our readers with an illustrated description of the University of Wisconsin Settlement by its own warden.

### From Chicago Commons' Point of View.

The legislative campaign in our 21st Senatorial district that is just drawing to a close has been full of stirring incident. It is a "shoe-string" district, having the shamelessly "gerrymandered" dimensions of six miles in length and a width averaging ten to six blocks. The party "machines" placed only three men in nomination for three offices, thus leaving the people no choice. In obedience to the urgent demand of independent Republicans and Democrats the 17th Ward Community Club with headquarters

at Chicago Commons united the decent citizens of the district in a non-partisan Legislative League and nominated J. J. McManaman, an able young lawyer, as the people's candidate. This nomination was endorsed by the Legislative Voters' League and the Public Ownership League. With small means and no "organization" a thorough canvass has been made of each precinct. So encouraging was the response to this first independent legislative campaign that a small majority for Mr. McManaman appears on the face of the returns while the official count is being made. The close vote and the temptation to partisan manipulation may involve a contest. Our district rolled up next to the largest independent vote cast in Chicago. As the foundation for intelligent political action in local affairs we quote from the constitution of the Community Club:

#### OUR NON-PARTISAN CREED.

1st. We believe the time has arrived when national politics should not be allowed to interfere with local issues.

2d. We believe it to be our duty to encourage all parties to nominate honest and capable men for office.

3d. We believe it to be our duty when the established parties fail to nominate honest and capable men, to secure the nomination and further the support of an independent citizens ticket.

4th. We believe that defeat in a good cause is often the way to future victory, but that success achieved by dishonor is always the way to final destruction.

The Northern Illinois Teachers' Association, at their annual convention in Rockford, by a rising, unanimous vote, appropriated \$150 to the work of Chicago Commons, thus generously reciprocating the service of its warden in addressing them on "The Responsibility of the Public School for Social Ethics."

## The Commons

Is devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor from the Social Settlement point of view. It is published monthly at Chicago Commons, a Social Settlement at Grand Ave. and Morgan St., Chicago, Ill., and is entered at the Chicago Postoffice as mail matter of the second (newspaper) class.

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**Special Rates for Special Numbers of The Commons.** Any number under twenty-five copies, five cents each; over twenty-five and under one hundred, three cents each; over one hundred, two and one-half cents each.

**Changes of Address.** Please notify the publisher of any change of address, or of failure to receive the paper within a reasonable interval after it is due.

**Discontinuances.** Please notify us at once if for any reason you desire your subscription discontinued. In accordance with custom, and the expressed wish of many subscribers, we continue THE COMMONS to each address until notified to the contrary.

### Encouragement to Cancel Chicago Commons' Debt.

The statement of our financial crisis in the October number of THE COMMONS brought us from a friend the offer of the last \$1,000 of our total indebtedness. This leads us to include the payment of the mortgage on the lot adjoining our new building, purchased as the site of the proposed men's club house, and also the estimated expense of the settlement work to the end of this year, which is somewhat increased by assuming the responsibility for the day nursery and additional equipment.

#### OBLIGATIONS TO BE MET BEFORE THE CLOSE OF THE YEAR.

Building fund notes.....	\$11,227
Mortgage on new lot for men's club house .....	1,500
Note covering deficit in current account. ....	1,500
Day nursery maintenance and additional equipment .....	750
Estimated expense of settlement work to Jan. 1st.....	1,750
	<hr/>
Total liabilities .....	\$16,727
Contributions assured since Oct. 1.....	4,395
	<hr/>
Total needed to close the year free from debt .....	\$12,332

### Camp Commons Reunion.

As is their happy custom the boy and girl campers rallied for their camp reunion at the opening of the club work in October. Our large auditorium was filled by the children, their families and friends, among whom was a large delegation of "camp followers" from Elgin, who received an uproarious welcome. The "camp fire program" included songs and stories, "stunts" and cake walk, recitations and "jigging," such as brightened the golden summer days and merry evenings in the Penny Meadow.

### The Day Nursery.

The crisis which threatened the continuance of the day nursery which we reported in our last issue has been happily tided over. The Matheon Club has requested the residents of Chicago Commons to assume the responsibility for the management of the nursery, but continues its identification with the work which it has so long maintained by appointing a strong advisory committee and pledging at least five hundred dollars a year toward the expenses. We have rented suitable quarters in a first-floor flat adjoining the Chicago Com-

mons building on the south at 163 Morgan Street. Under the competent care of a matron especially trained for nursery work in our own kindergarten training school, the little ones and their mothers will receive the same careful service which has meant so much to their home life during the past four years. Toward the additional \$500 expense which Chicago Commons thus assumes we invite the friends of helpless infancy and struggling motherhood to send special contributions.

### Public School Co-operation.

The evening public school in our neighboring Washington school house has taken a surprising and inspiring turn in its history this autumn. All the years in which its work was confined to the common English branches it had a small attendance, especially of adults. When its superintendency was given to the principal of the day school it was put in vital connection with the neighborhood at once. In adding, by his own generous enterprise and that of those whose interest he enlisted, such social features as manual training, mechanical drawing, stenography and type-writing, sewing and cooking, clay modelling and the making of pottery, Principal William J. Bogan has been met more than half way by people of every race and class in our cosmopolitan neighborhood. It is an inspiring scene to witness between 600 and 700 men, women and children, most of them men, gathering five evenings a week for educational and social purposes on their own land and under their own roof. Whole rooms full of Scandinavian, Polish, Italian, Greek and German men learning English under teachers of their own nationality, impress the visitor with the limitless possibilities in the social extension of the public school. The truly democratic and social spirit which pervades every session has developed a contagious enthusiasm which permeates the whole school house. Chicago Commons has gladly turned all applicants for common English branches, which it used to teach, over to the evening public school. We are thus relieved from work which public schools can do better than the settlement, and are freer to develop such social, recreative, industrial, civic, ethical and religious features as the settlement can more effectively undertake than the schools.

"Be not so busy with your own career,  
However noble, that you cannot hear  
The sigh of those who look to you for help;  
For this is purchasing success too dear."

—Duer.

# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor from the Settlement Point of View.

Number 77—Vol. VII

Seventh Year

Chicago, December, 1902

[Written for The Commons.]

## A PAUPER'S PLEA.

BY JOHN P. GAVIT.

"Forgive us our debts."—The Lord's Prayer.

Forgive me, Lord, my countless debt to him  
Who toils for me!  
To all that host who give of life or limb  
To set me free.

My food, for which Thy bounteous Hand I  
bless,  
Is good to eat,  
But giv'n at last by those who have far less  
And poorer meat.

My feet are shod by myriad busy hands  
Of maids and men,  
Who go ill-shod, o'er street and field, and sands  
To work again.

My back is clad by folk in fetid air  
With faces gaunt,  
Who earn far poorer garb than I "must" wear,  
By toil and want.

What books and learning in the schools I had  
Has now my boy—  
The builders and the printers had been glad  
To share the joy!

And when I go abroad, these rushing days,  
By ship or train,  
The faithfulness of thousands guards the ways  
O'er hill and plain.

This warmth, that thaws me from the Winter's  
chill—  
In midnight holes  
The miners delve in hordes beneath the hill—  
What of their souls?

A pauper I, before the face of All,  
Kneel now to Thee;  
Thy needy children—yea, I hear their call  
True against me!

Beneath this load of Debt to Man I bow,  
Long on me laid;  
O shame, in all the worthless years till now,  
So little paid!  
Albany, New York.

## A DECADE OF CIVIC IMPROVEMENT— 1893-1902.



President Charles Zueblin's Address at the  
Convention of the American League  
for Civic Improvement.

The last decade has witnessed not only a greater development of civic improvement than any previous decade, but a more marked advance than all the previous history of the United States can show. At the beginning of this period, the most significant expression of civic interest in cities was to be found in the first social settlements of New York and Chicago, in the beginning of the expansion of the public school system, in the first struggles to transplant the merit system from federal to municipal offices, in the preparations for the World's Fair, in the isolated examples of village and town improvement, and in the development of municipal functions, such as street paving and lighting, as well as in the first attempts at administrative reform, which found expression subsequently in the metropolitan systems of Boston. The evidences of the education of public opinion are to be found in such facts as these: The first American Improvement Association was that founded at Stock-

bridge, Mass., in 1853, while the chief developments of village improvement have taken place in the last half dozen years. The first public baths were established at Boston in 1866; but outside of Milwaukee, which established a natatorium in 1889, the general movement for public baths in this country dates from 1893. The initial proposal for a vacation school was made in Cambridge in 1872; but the first vacation school was established in 1896. The first play ground was inaugurated by town vote in Brooklyn, Mass., in 1872, but the play ground movement dates from the equipment of the Charles Bank in Boston in 1892. In 1851 the first steps were taken in New York to establish Central Park, but the chief park extensions of most American cities have been made in the last decade. The chief municipal gas and electric light plants in American cities were inaugurated since 1893.

#### THE NEW CIVIC SPIRIT.

The movement for civic improvement may be said to have found a three-fold expression in, first, the new civic spirit; second, the training of the citizen, and third, the making of the city. At the close of the ninth decade of the last century, the new civic spirit was finding its chief expression in the adoption of certain important English social movements which had flourished for a number of years across the water, chief among which were social settlements and university extension. The accumulation of wealth during the eighties, the development of popular education and the increase of leisure gave an opportunity for the performance of public duties such as had not seemed to exist to the young American of the former generation. Unfamiliar with the duties of citizenship and social service, the altruistic individual of the nineties naturally drifted into movements which had received the stamp of approval in the older country. These movements have grown stronger as the years have gone by, in spite of or because of the multiplication of other movements; but for a time they absorbed the energy of the lovers of their kind who were not attracted by the familiar charitable organizations or by politics. They gave an opportunity also for the expression of the American interest in private and voluntary organization as distinguished from public work, which was supposed to involve the odium attached to the politician.

#### EDUCATION OF THE CITIZEN.

It was not long, however, before the contact with working people and the real facts of the light of the masses impressed upon the social

servants the significance of public activities. There consequently followed important movements for democratic education and municipal reform, which now constitute the chief factors in the training of the citizen. The expansion of the school curriculum, the multiplication of facilities in the school house, the extension of education to adults and to people engaged in wage earning occupations, are all comprehended within the decade just closing. Nature study, manual training, art in the public schools in decoration and instruction, gymnasiums, baths and play grounds, vacation schools, free lectures, these are familiar terms: but they were virtually unknown to the citizen of 1892. Along with the development of democratic education there has taken place a most marvelous transformation in the conduct of municipal affairs. Corrupt as are the American cities of to-day in contrast with those of Great Britain, they would be scarcely recognized by the spoilsmen of the early nineties. The first conference for good city government was held in 1893, followed two years later by the organization of the National Municipal League. Subsequently there sprang into existence two organizations representing municipal officials. The legislature of New York granted to the metropolis the first elements of the merit system in 1894. Chicago introduced civil service reform in the spring of 1895. Many of the American cities now have police and fire departments strictly controlled by civil service regulations, and scores of them perform their work of street cleaning and scavenging, some of them even of street and sewer construction, by the employes of the city.

#### THE MAKING OF THE CITY.

The new civic spirit which first found expression, and happily continues to find expression, in the training of the citizen, finally promises to crown its activities by setting the citizens to work in the making of the city. Here, again, the contributions of the last ten years are as notable as all those which have preceded. During that time the chief streets of most American cities have received their first good paving; street cleaning has been made possible as a result of the pioneer efforts of Colonel Waring in New York; telegraph and telephone wires no longer disfigure the main streets of New York, Chicago, San Francisco and a few other cities. The overhead trolley has been abolished in Manhattan and Washington. Parks and boulevards have multiplied, as have beautiful public buildings, including public schools and libraries. During the past decade, accord-

ing to Mr. Herbert Putnam, "There have been erected or begun five library buildings costing over a million dollars each, whose aggregate cost will have exceeded fifteen million dollars (Library of Congress \$6,400,000, Boston \$2,500,000, Chicago \$2,000,000, New York \$2,500,000, Columbia \$1,250,000, Pittsburg \$1,200,000), and various others each of which will represent an expenditure of over a hundred thousand to seven hundred thousand dollars each, while buildings costing from five thousand to one hundred thousand dollars now dot the country." The decoration of public buildings on a scale comparable to European accomplishment has been successfully undertaken in the Boston Public Library, the Library of Congress, the Appellate Building in New York, the Baltimore Court House, the Cincinnati City Hall and elsewhere. Many other individual attempts at the improvement and beautifying of towns and cities contribute to the greatest of recent civic achievements, the co-ordination of various efforts in a comprehensive plan for the improvement of modern communities. Once more we go back to the date 1893 for the first of these great accomplishments, the Chicago World's Fair. For the first time in the history of universal expositions, a comprehensive plan for buildings and grounds on a single scale was projected and happily accomplished by the co-operative effort of the chief architects, landscape architects and sculptors of America. The contrast between the white city of Chicago and the black city of Chicago was no greater than that between the old conception of the city beautiful and the new. Coincident with this great architectural triumph was the establishment of the Metropolitan park system of Boston, the most notable municipal undertaking in the history of American cities. Within eight years what was a dream of one man was more than realized for the benefit of more than a million people. The Metropolitan park system of Boston, comprising play grounds, city parks, rural parks, including forest, hills, river banks, and sea shore reservations is only a part of the great co-operative scheme of Metropolitan Boston. The district within eleven miles of the State House in Boston united for the mutual advantage of all the communities in the provision of water, the disposition of sewage, for rapid transit and recreation, in four great metropolitan commissions. The administrative problems have not been entirely solved, but the conception of a comprehensive plan has received an emphasis even beyond that of the Chicago White City. Most recently this

idea has had confirmation in what are known as the "Harrisburg Plan" and the "Improvement of Washington." The Harrisburg League for mutual improvements projected a plan for the employment of expert advice with regard to the city's water supply, the sewerage system, parks, boulevards, play grounds and street paving. The society provided the funds, amounting to over \$10,000, for the employment of these experts and the conduct of the campaign which resulted in the election of worthy officials and the passage of a referendum vote, authorizing the issue of over a million dollars in bonds. The Harrisburg Plan is a model of scientific method and enthusiastic citizenship, but it has a worthy rival as a spectacular accomplishment in the improved plans for Washington.

The magnificent plan of L'Enfant, approved by George Washington, is responsible for the Capital City's being one of the most beautiful cities of the world, but the failure to take advantage of all the elements of that plan or to be consistent with its beginnings, makes necessary the commission of to-day. L'Enfant's plan, in brief, took into consideration the topography and the supposed necessity of a water approach to the city, and then located the streets on the plan of two sets of wheel spokes laid on a gridiron with the Capitol as one hub and the President's house as the other. Along the axles of these two buildings was projected apart and they were to be connected directly by a broad street, Pennsylvania Avenue. The other public buildings were also to be appropriately grouped.

Even the fundamental features of this scheme have not been held sacred by their builders. The vista of the White House along Pennsylvania Avenue has been obscured by the Treasury and State Department buildings; curious and unsightly edifices have been erected along the Mall; the Washington monument, which should have stood at the junction of the axes of the two main buildings, occupies a site unpardonable in its isolation one hundred feet south from the axis of the Capitol, and several hundred feet east of the axis from the White House; the Pennsylvania railway has been allowed to cross the Mall at grade; and to mention but one other incongruity, last but not least, the Library of Congress has been so located that its dome diverts attention from the all important majesty of the Capitol.

The recommendations of the American Institute of Architects, on the occasion of the centennial celebration of the establishment of the Government at Washington, will fire the en-

thusiasm of all who read them. The subject has since been exhaustively studied by the new commission. They point out possibilities still latent in Washington, and the influence which their realization would have on the other cities of the country is immeasurable. The construction of the Houses of Parliament in London, on the Gothic model, though not an unqualified success, was the most important architectural event of the nineteenth century in Great Britain, and led to the revival of the minor arts as well. Even greater service will be rendered the cities of the United States when the noble plan of L'Enfant, projected at the beginning of the last century, shall be reincorporated in the best expression of the new century, happily now assured by the appointment of the present excellent commission, Messrs. Daniel H. Burnham, Chas. F. McKin, Frederick Law Olmstead, Jr., and Augustus St. Gaudens. The proposed improvements of the lake front in Cleveland and Chicago, the boulevard scheme for St. Louis, the great conception of a united park system taking in the multitude of beautiful lakes about St. Paul and Minneapolis, all testify to the growing appreciation of comprehensive schemes for improvement. The same tendencies are in evidence in the plans for rural improvement such as those of the Massachusetts trustees of public reservations, the Essex County, New Jersey Park Commission, the State Control of the Palisades, the National Parks in Wyoming, Colorado, California, Minnesota, Wisconsin and elsewhere.

#### A NATIONAL UNIFICATION OF IMPROVEMENT FORCES.

The beginning of the new century finds ideals and concrete accomplishments so far advanced that for the first time the public is ready for a national organization to represent and coordinate these interests. The American League for Civic Improvement would have been sadly premature in 1893. It is hardly appreciated even in 1902, but the friendly response from every state in the Union and from Canada, from city, town, village and rural district, from men, women, and children, from public official and private citizens, from practical workers, writers, teachers and dreamers, all point to the necessity of a unification of improvement forces throughout the land. We believe the brief experience of four years of pioneer effort with inadequate financial support and notable sacrifices on the part of the leading workers sufficient to warrant the claim that the American League for Civic Improvement has outlined a satisfactory plan for our co-opera-

tion. Whether it shall be the organization honored with the mission of carrying out this plan will be determined by the next few years of effort. In any case it is my privilege to testify that a year's association with the leaders in this organization gives me confidence in believing that the work they have done will lead to one of the most significant advances in the public life of America.

#### St. Paul Convention of American League for Civic Improvement.



BY E. G. ROUIZAHN, FIELD SECRETARY.

"This is a sublime movement, and it is bound to succeed." Thus did Archbishop Ireland characterize the movement towards higher ideals in all "that pertains to the city, citizenship and the citizen."

These strong words found interesting warrant in the evident enthusiasm and deep-seated convictions of the speakers and audiences, at the annual meeting of the American League for Civic Improvement held in St. Paul and Minneapolis, September 24-26.

The occasion was described by a St. Paul daily as having assembled "a small body of men and women with large ideas. In each of the delegates present at the opening session there appeared to be vested a great fund of executive force."

Again, an editorial writer in The Pioneer Press urged that "the particular value" of the League "is in emphasizing the interdepend-

ence of the various movements for civic betterment and in uniting the forces that are behind these movements. The phases of municipal activity are so various and there is such a diversity of tastes and inclinations that objects which appeal to one set of public-spirited citizens as of prime importance do not arouse the activity of another set. \* \* \* And all these matters, political, social, commercial, æsthetic and humanitarian, are so closely related to one another and so dependent on one another that they are really only subdivisions of a great and rapidly spreading movement—the effort to secure honest, efficient and intelligent municipal government in American cities, to the end that they may be safer, more convenient, more comfortable and in every way better to live in."

By bringing together the leading spirits of these diverse interests the conventions of the American League for Civic Improvement tend towards that coherence which gives added power and permanency to all the factors in the nation-wide movement.

#### VARIED INTERESTS REPRESENTED BY MANY SPEAKERS.

The list of speakers who addressed the recent gathering evidences that it was in truth a "clearing house" gathering.

Miss Jane Addams, of Hull House; Mrs. Florence Kelly, of the National Consumers' League; E. J. Parker, of the American Park and Outdoor Art Association; Dr. Justus Ohago, of the St. Paul Health Department; Dr. Ida C. Bender, of the Buffalo Public Schools; Mrs. W. E. D. Scott, of the Eastern Conference of Public Education Associations; Mrs. Louis Marion McCall and Earle Layman, of the St. Louis Civic Improvement League; O. McG. Howard, of the Farm, Field and Fireside; Mrs. Martin Sherman, of the Woman's Auxiliary of the American Park and Outdoor Art Association; Miss Mary E. J. Coulter; Geo. Weilbrecht, of the St. Paul Mechanic Arts High School; Edward W. Bemis, of the Cleveland Water Works; Charles Zueblin, of the University of Chicago; W. W. Folwell, of the University of Minnesota; C. M. Loring, of the Minnesota State Forestry Association; Miss M. Eleanor Tanant, of Louisville Neighborhood House; Dwight Heald Perkins, of Chicago Special Park Commission; H. A. Boardman, of the St. Paul Commercial Club; Scott Brown, of the Chautauqua Institution; Louis E. Van Norman, of Home and Flowers; Thomas E. Hill, of Duluth.

Judge W. W. Slabaugh, representing the Omaha Woman's Club; Mrs. E. P. Turner, of the Oakcliff, Texas, Improvement League; D. J. Thomas, of the Chautauqua Press; Mrs. Conde Hamilton, of the St. Paul Woman's Civic League; Charles Mulford Robinson, of the American Park and Outdoor Art Association; Rev. Marie Jenny, of Des Moines; Archbishop Ireland; O. S. B. Green, of the Minnesota College of Agriculture, presented reports and addresses.

Mrs. E. B. Heard, of the Carnegie Travelling Libraries of Georgia; Albert Kelsey, of the

Architectural League of America; Kenyon L. Butterfield, of University of Michigan, and others, sent papers and greetings.

#### TYPICAL CITY AND COUNTRY MOVEMENTS.

Mrs. Louis Marion McCall's paper upon "Improvement Organization in St. Louis," revealed a fascinating story of actual achievement in a great city, the fourth in size in our country. The business-like methods of the St. Louis League may well be adopted in numerous other cities. The American League of Civic Improvement plans to elaborate the practical application of Mr. Butterfield's theme, "The federation of rural social forces," an idea familiar to readers of THE COMMONS.

The practical program of the convention, supplemented by numerous smaller conferences, served to crystallize ideas and plans for the new year of propaganda and activity.

The convention recommended the establishment of a model school garden as a feature of the proposed "model" city and farm exhibits at the St. Louis Exposition.

By resolution the convention endorsed the adoption of a method of instruction in civic improvement by the public schools.

The intention of enlarging the section councils emphasized the League's service in claiming the co-operation of experts and authorities. The decision of the Executive Board to form city and state councils indicates the increasing efficiency of this organization as a federation agency.

#### HEADQUARTERS REMOVED TO CHICAGO.

The election of officers resulted in the selection of the following representative executive board: President, J. Horace McFarland, Harrisburg, Pa.; First Vice-President, Edmund J. James, Evanston, Ill.; Second Vice-President, Mrs. Louis Marion McCall, St. Louis, Mo.; Third Vice-President, General William J. Palmer, Colorado Springs, Colo.; Treasurer, Morton D. Hull, Chicago.; Recording Secretary, O. McG. Howard, Chicago; Field Secretary, E. G. Routzahn, Dayton, Ohio; Corresponding Secretary, Charles Zueblin, University of Chicago; Edwin L. Shuey, Dayton, Ohio; Frank Chapin Bray, Chicago; Mrs. W. E. D. Scott, Princeton, N. J.; Mrs. Conde Hamlin, St. Paul, Minn.; Albert Kelsey, Philadelphia; Mrs. Percy V. Pennybacker, Austin, Texas; Clement Studebaker, South Bend, Ind.

The choice of these officers accompanied the decision to remove headquarters to Chicago, thus adding the first national organization to the increasing array of Chicago's social machinery.

The greater facilities of the Chicago headquarters, which will include up-town and down-town offices and a civic improvement library, the personnel and geographical distribution of its officers and executive board, testify to the growing importance of the League and its purpose to serve as a clearing-house for all the allied interests of civic improvement.

The executive headquarters are now definitely located at 5711 Kimbark Avenue in conjunction with the offices of the Chautauqua Institution and the editorial offices of *The Chautauquan*. This location is a recognition of the complementary relations between the Chautauqua Institution, Chautauqua, New York, and American League for Civic Improvement. The leaders of these two movements—the one formed to promote individual and community search for culture and knowledge, the other designed to arouse and organize social forces for actual achievement—have discovered a vital “community of interests.”

The down-town office of the League, at 1303 Chamber of Commerce Building (Telephone Main, 3591), will afford a place for appointments and immediate access to the leaders of the movement. Both city and out of town friends of the movement are invited to visit either of the offices and to make freest possible use of the same.

#### Our City and County Improvement Societies' Conference.

BY MRS. ORVILLE T. BRIGHT.

The Conference of Cook County Improvement Societies, held at Fullerton Hall on Saturday, November 22d, brought together an audience which, if not altogether satisfactory in point of numbers, was entirely so as representing the varied civic interests of the county.

A notable feature was the predominance of men at each of the three sessions, the club women and the public school teacher being mainly conspicuous by absence.

Prof. Charles Zueblin presided at the morning session, which was occupied by reports from the different organizations of work either already accomplished or outlined for future accomplishment. Mr. Dwight-Perkins presented a resolution looking to the unification of all Improvement Societies of Cook County. In the discussion which followed and which was continued at the luncheon tables, there developed the usual diversity of opinion as to the feasibility of the project.

The resolution was carried and a committee appointed by the chair to take the necessary steps to carry out its provisions.

The afternoon session—with Mrs. Orville T. Bright in the chair—was devoted to the subject of school extension. Dr. Henry Leipziger, supervisor of the Municipal Lecture Course in New York City, delivered a most stirring and delightful address descriptive of the “complete education” work in that city. During the summer of 1901-1902 the Board of Education expended \$125,000 of the people's money on vacation schools and playgrounds, the average daily attendance being 150,000. In the vacation schools were taught basketry, carpentry, leatherwork, sewing, dressmaking, millinery, crocheting, knitting, drawing and painting, embroidery, chair-caning, cooking, nursing, housekeeping, Venetian ironwork, whittling, cardboard construction, fret-sawing and other forms of manual training.

In the evenings hand concerts were given on the roof playgrounds of seven large public school buildings and were so largely attended, not only by children, but by the mothers, often with babies in their arms, that this feature will be extended another year. Adult education finds a place in the New York public school system. Last year a series of free lectures and concerts were attended by over three-quarters of a million people, chiefly fathers and mothers from the tenements.

Several school buildings are kept open in the evenings as play centers all the year round. Here the children play games or are given books to read or have debating societies, all under the charge of a competent overseer. And all this is in addition to the regular evening schools.

No brief summary can do justice to Dr. Leipziger's address. When he had finished his account of this work so great, so noble and at the same time so wise, so sensible and practical no citizen was there of the “complacent city” to raise his voice for Chicago. Rev. R. A. White, who led the discussion, voiced the feeling of the audience when he expressed a sentiment of humiliation that our great city of the middle west should be so completely distanced by her eastern rival in this best of civic works.

Informal discussion turned toward the education bill now being prepared by the Civic Federation, and a resolution was adopted urging the authors of the bill to so frame it that it should give legal authority to the Chicago Board of Education to open the school buildings as social centers as well as for “school purposes.”

The evening session had for its chairman



Mr. John Wela. Two most interesting addresses were given. The first, by Mr. Horace MacFarland, was illustrated with stereopticon views and gave an account of the work of a few enterprising and loyal citizens of Harrisburg, Pa., in suppressing ugliness and creating beauty in that city. The second, by Mr. Dwight Perkins, presented "An Architect's Dream of Chicago."

Altogether the series of meetings should have been of keen interest to Chicago people generally. It is a matter for regret that more were not present. It is a matter for congratulation that these conferences have become annual affairs and doubtless the great success of this program will induce a better attendance another year.

### UNIVERSITY SETTLEMENT IN HAMBURG, GERMANY.

BY A. WESTENHOLTZ.

The Hamburg University Settlement was started very quietly and on a small scale in July, 1901, under the name of "Volksheim." The impulse was given separately by a number of people not over 30 years of age, who hearing the one about the other, joined in opening the work. These people were partly influenced by London ideas, partly by a movement going on at German universities for students to volunteer for the poor relief, and for the public popular lectures being held in Berlin. The Hamburg Settlement has practically left out all university extension ideas. They do not even have evening classes, the opportunities for instruction being abundant in western Germany and the Volks-Schulen very good. The chief aim of the settlement people is to bring together those that one day will have important relations in government or business with the laboring class; to give the former an opportunity of seeing with their own eyes the conditions in which the average worker lives, see his surroundings and get acquainted with his conceptions of government, socialism, labor, wealthy people and of the world in general. The bulk of the Hamburg workingmen belong to the Social Democratic party, that has a very strong hold over them, although none but a comparatively small number are real conscious and professed socialists. There was much talk at first of the Settlement intending to propitiate the hatred of the laboring to the wealthy class. That, of course, is an impossibility, as this hatred has not arisen from a revolutionary agitation, as many of the rich used to believe.

One can only bring to people what is really lacking, and that in the first place is some good and cheap enjoyment, a social and æsthetic center for the neighborhood. Besides that the Settlement has tried to remove as much as possible all prejudices. The Hamburg society considers only those of the workers, while the inner circle of Settlement people consider the enlightening of the "upper ten" on this subject not only easier but, perhaps, more necessary, too!

Although the money for the work is to a great extent given by distinctly "conservative" and "aristocratic" people, still this very circle of society will strongly object to the idea of any condescending attitude toward the workers. This is due to the fact that the money-giving people are mostly the fathers or other near relations of the progressive younger generation, and still further to the fact that the honorary president, who patronizes Volksheim, is a manufacturer, and for some time a Hamburg senator, who is himself doing much social work among the workmen of his factory. The Social Democrats have partly been appeased; they just remain neutral, seeing there is a very free spirit ruling in Volksheim. Still the Settlements have to be very careful. So, for instance, they have entered in their statutes a paragraph excluding all systematic political, social-political or religious propagandism, the latter being particularly feared in Germany.

The enterprises of Volksheim include a reading-room, providing all classes of newspapers and a small library, although there is hardly any demand for a library that lends the books for home use, which is done by another institution of the city. Twice a week they open an information office, where all difficulties and questions concerning bad landlords, testaments, things concerning law, where to get some subsidy, labor, insurance (Imperial German), may be sought. There are weekly club evenings for mutual instruction and discussion on scientific or other subjects.

One day is chess evening, Settlementists and customers of the House joining in this and other table games. Every Sunday there is an entertainment, for which an admission fee of two and a half cents is charged, or a concert. It is the only thing the people have to pay for. There is difficulty to get the grown up workers into the Settlement, as they are very tired at night and prefer being with their family. The favorite enterprise of the Volksheim men are the boys' clubs that meet on Sunday afternoon and evening to play table games, read and get

a lecture on some subject of interest or importance. Besides they have their gymnastics (Turner), weekly courses in stenography, English and other branches. The boys that belong to the club are of a somewhat higher class. This boys' work is the best—furnishes the best opportunity for bringing together the grown-up laborers and their families with the Settlement people.

It is still to be said that Volksheim does not deal with the "slums." Its chief object being to affiliate the real average workingmen and the Social Democrats. The slum work is not needed half as badly as it is in England, for instance, being done by the government poor relief and private charity organizations, as well as missions. Perhaps some day the Settlement will start a boys' club in that part of the city.

Volksheim has not got a house of its own nor hardly any residents. The young gentlemen and ladies, as well as the older gentlemen that gathered around the work, lecturing and giving information, just come over to the block quarter when it is their turn. A small number of them are to be found daily in the Volksheim rooms, who go to stay in that quarter for a few weeks. They just have a room or two in the neighborhood of one of the Volksheim Settlements. The Gesellschaft Volksheim pays a secretary, or better to say, gives a fellowship to some learned social-economist, who carries out and manages all the affairs of the association.

#### **Starr Centre Penny Lunch Club.**

BY PHILIP B. WHELPLEY, DIRECTOR IN CHARGE.

The Neighborhood Work that has been known for many years as the Starr Centre, situated in the Seventh Ward, Philadelphia, has recently been consolidated and is now under a director-in-charge.

Special effort is made to reach the colored population, which is very large in this vicinity. Co-operative clubs for the purpose of securing staple household articles have proved to be an excellent method of holding the interest of the colored people, and through the agency of these clubs ways have been opened for their social and educational betterment.

The harmful effects of poor foods are vividly demonstrated to settlement and neighborhood workers in all branches of their work, and the necessity of imparting to their neighbors the importance of good food and the knowledge of how and what to buy is forcibly borne in upon them.

To enlist the interest of parents in the food

question the Starr Centre of Philadelphia has instituted a Penny Lunch. These lunches are carefully prepared at the Centre and sold in the school yards at recess time. The Penny Lunch consists of:

FOR ONE CENT.

Two slices of bread with apple butter, one slice of ginger cake, one bun, one currant cake, one slice of white cake.

A FEW RESULTS.

Professor Atwater gives as a standard for one-fourth day's ration for children between two and six years (kindergarten age), the following:

Proteid.	Fat.	Carby.	Calories.
13.7 gr.	10 gr.	50 gr.	355

We were able to furnish:

Bread sandwich: weight, 2 oz.; cost, .0026; proteid, 5.43 gr.; fat, .90 gr.; carby., 31.25 gr.; calories, 158.50.

Gingerbread: weight, 2¼ oz.; cost, .0056; proteid, 3.42 gr.; fat, .92 gr.; carby., 38.26 gr.; calories, 179.48.

Currant cake: weight, 2¼ oz.; cost, .0064; proteid, 3.72 gr.; fat, 1.76 gr.; carby., 36.30 gr.; calories, 180.

A few words from the first annual report:

"The words philanthropy and charity to-day have such a different meaning from the same terms in the past that we look about us for other ways of expressing the new idea. In their origin these words had a beauty and power which no longer is theirs, but in the growing insight into the needs of those whom we call "the poor" we are struggling to restore their old significance. To-day, in the present, so alive with promise, if not with fulfillment, the question is asked, how may we best strive together to meet the needs of the needy? And the answer comes, not in words, but in patient, intelligent, persistent daily effort, an answer often without apparent result, but never futile.

FOOD OF THE POORER CLASSES.

"In 1889 a member of the Starr Centre committee, in visiting the neighboring homes, was deeply impressed with the fact that an intelligent knowledge as to the selection and preparation of foods would save the money of the people daily, to say nothing of their health. Cooking classes were, naturally enough, the first expression of this anxiety, and so, for two years, these were carried on." Penny Lunches have been served to five schools and eight play grounds.

The teachers are very willing to co-operate and do all they can to encourage the children

to buy the Starr Centre lunches in preference to the wretched candy and deleterious pastry that is sold in the neighborhood. Their names and addresses are secured, their homes are visited and the parents are instructed as far as possible regarding the selection of food, and what is perhaps of even more importance, the cooking of it. The working man, according to recent reports, spends more than half of his earnings for food. This cannot be entirely the result of the prevailing high prices—cooking, or, rather, the lack of it, must play a large part in bringing about this ratio. Prof. Atwater, in one of his interesting reports on food economy, says: "We are guilty of serious errors in our cooking. We waste a great deal of fuel in the preparation of our food, and even then a great deal of the food is badly cooked. A reform in these methods of cooking is one of the economic demands of our time."

Readers of *THE COMMONS* will remember an article in the August number descriptive of the Starr Centre Co-operative Coal Club. It may be of interest to them to know that the Coal Club was able to supply the members with coal at \$5.75 per ton through the strike period, up to September 20th, when hard wood was substituted with occasional small portions of coal—at normal rates.

This strike period has been bridged over by the club so far without physical suffering or financial loss to its members.

Men are like rivers; the water is the same in each, and alike in all; but every river is narrow here, is more rapid there, here slower, there broader, now clear, now cold, now dull, now warm. It is the same with men. Every man carries in himself the germs of every human quality, and sometimes one manifests itself, sometimes another, and the man often becomes unlike himself, while still remaining the same man.—From Tolstoy's "Resurrection."

Men think there are circumstances in which one may deal with human beings without love; and there are no such circumstances. One may deal with things without love; one may cut down trees, make bricks, hammer iron, without love; but you cannot deal with men without it, just as one cannot deal with bees without being careful. If you deal carelessly with bees you will injure them, and will yourself be injured. And so with men. It cannot be otherwise, because natural love is the fundamental law of human life.—From Tolstoy's "Resurrection."

## ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD WORKERS, NEW YORK CITY.

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY  
MARY KINGSBURY SIMKHOVITCH,  
26 Jones Street, New York City.

### Municipal Adoption of Trained Nurse Service for Schools.

The experiment of placing trained nurses in the public school service of New York City, which was reported in the last number of *THE COMMONS*, has proved so successful that the service has been adopted by the municipality and henceforth the city will pay the salaries of the school nurses.

Miss Rogers has received a badge from the Board of Health in recognition of her connection with the department. Other nurses will be appointed as soon as possible, that all of the schools in the crowded quarters may be covered.

During the month of October Miss Rogers had 264 school patients, made 137 visits in the homes, and gave 893 first aid treatments.

### Sunday Concerts in the Public Schools.

Sunday, November 9th, was a day of peculiar interest, and deserves to be remembered as having witnessed a historic event. On the West Side of the city, between Ninth and Tenth avenues, a schoolhouse was opened on Sunday for the use of the people of the neighborhood. The West Side Civic Club, an organization composed of young men living in the district, had succeeded in securing the use of this school for a public concert. The matter of opening the schools on Sundays has been in the air for a long time, and it has at last become a reality.

Although the matter had not been widely advertised, a large audience gathered. Fathers and mothers with whole families came in. The Board of Education furnished the light and heat and gave permission to use the building. The Civic Club paid the janitor and also the incidental expenses of programs, and through an auxiliary committee of their friends from uptown, had secured the music, all of which was volunteered.

There is to be a series of six Sunday afternoon musicales, at the end of which time it is hoped that the Board of Education will grant the Civic Club the privilege of continuing the concerts through the winter. Mr. Burlingham, president of the Board of Education, said that

no particular privilege had been granted, that the schoolhouses belonged to the people and the people had a right to use them.

The musical selections were all of a rather simple character and bright in nature. Many of them, however, were chosen from the classical composers, and intermingled with popular airs. The audience was not only large but enthusiastic, and a great movement, which it is hoped will spread to all parts of the city, has been fairly and happily launched.

#### **Work Room at St. Rose Settlement.**

St. Rose's Settlement, 323 East 65th street, has opened a workroom for women. The object is to provide employment for those who are unable by reason of family cares, delicate health or advanced age, to work all day, and who must often support not only themselves but also a family of small children or an invalid husband or parent.

Orders are taken for all kinds of plain and fine sewing, darning, mending, binding skirts, cleaning and mending gloves and lace, marking linen binding rugs, hemming towels, sheets and napkins, making ladies' and children's underclothing, etc. A competent directress superintends the work. Special attention is given to the sanitary conditions under which the work is done. The reports of the Board of Health are received daily at the Settlement and the houses from which the women come are frequently visited.

#### **Warren Goddard House.**

The Friendly Aid Society invited the friends of its work to the Warren Goddard House, 264-248 East 34th street, on November 24th, to celebrate the raising of the debt and to accept the tablet memorial of the first president, Warren Norton Goddard. An informal reception followed, to introduce Miss Leggett, the new head worker.

#### **Manhattan Trade School for Girls.**

A school for training girls for the skilled handwork required in trades employing women will open Nov. 1st, 1902, at 233 West 14th St., New York City. It will be called the Manhattan Trade School for Girls. Training of this character is not receiving sufficient attention in the United States. This school is the result of many months of careful investigation and discussion on the part of a number of men and women well acquainted with the conditions under which working girls live, and also with

the demands of certain trades for an adequate supply of skilled labor.

Workers are overcrowding the unskilled parts of trades where the wages are small and even declining, while trade itself is suffering for the need of well-trained helpers. A complete investigation of those trades requiring expert handwork was made by this committee. The opinions of employers, organized labor and the workers, were sought by them. Institutions offering training in handwork were inspected, and the conclusion was reached that courses of trade instruction to meet the needs both of trade and labor, though not lacking, are inadequate to the need. They do fit hundreds for earning a livelihood, but fail to reach the great class of workers who enter some line of trade work as soon as the compulsory school years are completed. Such girls are not skilled in handwork, nor are they usually able to select work best adapted to their talents. They must take the first position that offers, with small prospect of change to more congenial occupation. As there is no regular apprentice system, they gain their experience as best they can, generally taking several years to become expert in work which might be easily learned in half the time if the instruction were regular and adequate. The factory, the operating room and dressmaking establishment claim a vast majority of these girls. The families from which they come cannot afford to have them non-supporting when the compulsory school years are over. The problem of living is too vital for them even to make a temporary sacrifice for a future economic gain.

The desire of the Manhattan Trade School for Girls is to reach the very poor who are obliged to earn their living. Free instruction will be offered and a system of scholarships, amounting to one hundred dollars a year, has been provided that each girl may receive the amount which she would probably earn in her first year of factory work; she will thus be able to avail herself of the benefit of this instruction. The school is making every effort to obtain students who are really deserving. Public school principals, supervisors of handwork, settlement leaders and neighborhood workers have been appealed to for lists of girls who should be offered such instruction.

The investigations of the various trades have enabled the school to decide on certain courses of work which will prepare for trades which are now in need of workers, and which pay good salaries. The selection for the first year will be those branches of industry which use

the needle, the paste-brush and the sewing machine. Each one of these divisions has numerous attendant lines of development. The first classes to begin will be, probably, sewing, labeling, photograph mounting, box making, machine operating, and designing. From these beginnings other trades will open out as the pupils' talents will direct. Bright girls will be given the opportunity of advance into more skilled lines as quickly as possible. The object is to develop in each student the highest technical skill of which she is capable, while, at the same time, making her an intelligent worker and a high-minded, helpful woman. The courses of handwork will be supplemented therefore with other training, such as drawing and color work, business forms and methods, English, and practical courses in a knowledge of the development and needs of special trades. The future work in each of the courses has yet to be determined; the school holds itself in readiness to continue its classes into expert work of several years' duration if the students desire or need it. Other branches of trade will receive attention later. They are now under consideration.

The problems confronting such a school are large, but the solution is greatly needed in education, as well as in life. The board of management are careful thinkers and active doers of tried experience. They will study the problem as the work opens out. They desire to build up a school which may be fitted to the needs of American workwomen and American trade conditions. MARY SCHENCK WOOLMAN.

## NOTE.

The director of the school is Mrs. Mary Schenck Woolman, who is also director of Domestic Art Department, Teachers' College, Columbia University. She has been connected with this work for eleven years, and has studied the subject from many sides in the United States and in Europe. She has made a personal investigation of trades employing women.

The principal of the school, Miss S. R. M. Miller of Minneapolis, has been identified with educational work for many years; her judgment is ripe and her organizing power of a high order.

The officers are: President, Miss Virginia Potter; vice-presidents, Mrs. Theodore Hellman, Mrs. Henry Ollesheimer, Mrs. Anna Garlin Spencer, Felix Adler, Ph. D., John Graham Brooks; treasurer, J. G. Phelps Stokes; secretary, John L. Elliott, Ph. D.; assistant secretary, Miss Louise B. Lockwood.

## COLLEGE SETTLEMENTS ASSOCIATION.

## STANDING COMMITTEE.

*President:* KATHARINE COMAN, Wellesley, Mass.

*Vice President:* HELEN CHADWICK RAND THAYER (Mrs. Lucius H. Thayer), Portsmouth, N. H.

*Secretary:* SARAH GRAHAM TOMKINS, 1904 Walnut St., Philadelphia.

*Treasurer:* ELSIE CLEWS PARSONS (Mrs. Herbert Parsons), 112 East 35th St., New York City.

*Fifth Member:* HELEN ANNAN SCRIBNER (Mrs. Arthur H. Scribner), 10 West 43rd St., New York City.

## STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUB-CHAPTERS.

*Chairman:* LOUISE B. LOCKWOOD, 441 Park Ave. New York.

## LOCAL COMMITTEES.

Boston—Bertha Scripture, Chairman, Lincoln, Mass.

Philadelphia—Isabel L. Vanderslice, Chairman, 436 Stafford Street, Germantown, Pa.

## SETTLEMENTS.

New York City—95 Rivington Street.

Philadelphia—433 Christian Street.

Boston—91 Tyler Street (Denison House).

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY  
CAROLINE WILLIAMSON MONTGOMERY,  
5548 Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago.

## Fall Meeting of the College Settlements Association.

HELD AT 433 CHRISTIAN STREET, PHILADELPHIA,  
OCTOBER 25, 1902.

In the absence of the president, the vice-president, Mrs. Thayer, called the meeting to order at 10 o'clock. The roll was called, showing a total of twenty-one members present.

The following changes in the board were reported: Miss Emily S. Brown (Wellesley, 1904) to succeed Miss Tomkins, Miss Dolly Tannabill (Smith, 1904) to succeed Miss Weeden, Miss Frederica Le Fevre (Bryn Mawr, 1905) to succeed Miss Cornelia Campbell, Miss Emily Richardson (Radcliffe, 1904) to succeed Miss Boyd, Miss Katharine Green (Packer, 1904) to succeed Miss Lethbridge, Miss Frances Kerr (Woman's College of Baltimore) succeeds Miss Hendrix; Miss Mary R. Drury, of Bristol, R. I., will take up the work of Miss Emily Lovett Eaton, Radcliffe Alumnae Elector.

The resignation of Mrs. E. Kent Hubbard as non-collegiate elector was reported to the board.

Miss Williams, of Newark, N. J., was elected

to fill the place made vacant by Mrs. Hubbard's resignation.

The chief items of interest in the report of the standing committee were in regard to the fire at Mount Serf, the summer home of the New York Settlement, where some of the barns were destroyed by lightning last July, and in regard to the question of the Manila Settlement.

It has been proposed that the Collège Settlements Association take under its care the new settlement in Manila, which is to form part of the work of Bishop Brent and his corps of helpers. Miss Margaret Waterman, a graduate of Wellesley College, who was for some time a resident of Denison House, and who has long been closely connected with Boston settlement work, has gone to take charge of the settlement this fall. No action was taken upon the matter at this meeting.

After the reading of the reports of the electoral board and of the treasurer (both will appear in full in the annual report soon to be issued), Miss Lockwood, who had to leave on an early train, presented the report of the standing committee on sub-chapters, which showed a total of forty sub-chapters now in existence and the movement still making good progress.

Miss Lockwood, as chairman also of the committee on sub-chapter finances, appointed at the spring meeting, presented certain plans for the avoidance of confusion in the matter of collecting and recording sub-chapter subscriptions, and urged a closer relationship between the standing committee on sub-chapters, the college electors and the electors of sub-chapters.

The nominating committee was then elected, consisting of Mrs. Fitz Gerald, Miss Warren and Mrs. Doty.

Miss Lockwood was re-elected chairman of the standing committee on sub-chapters with power to choose her own committee [names will be printed in annual report].

The speakers committee reported plans for an active campaign this winter and asked to have sent to them any applications for help in the form of a speaker or address on settlement work.

The reports of the head workers of the New York, Philadelphia and Boston settlements will be printed in full in the annual report.

Mrs. Parsons, as chairman of the committee on fellowships, announced that the two fellowships voted at the May meeting of the electoral board for the year 1902-1903 have

been awarded to Miss Frances A. Kellor and Miss Lydia G. Chace. Miss Kellor is a graduate in law of Cornell University, class of '97. She has also been a graduate student in the department of sociology of Chicago University. She is the author of a text-book entitled "Inductive Sociology," and has also published several magazine articles on special sociological investigations, notably on the criminal woman. Her subject for investigation during the year is employment bureaus for women in New York and Chicago. She will reside at Hull House and the University of Chicago Settlement and at the New York Settlement.

Miss Chace is a graduate of Brown University, class of 1900. In 1901 she took her master's degree at Brown University. Her subject for investigation will be the physical defects of New York public school children. She will live at the New York College Settlement and will probably confine her investigations to the 5th school district, the district in which the Settlement is located, and of whose local school board Miss Williams, the Settlement's head worker, is a member.

Both Miss Kellor and Miss Chace were members during the past summer of the summer school of the New York Charity Organization Society.

The committee on fellowships also reported that a paper was written by Miss Sayles, the Association's fellow in 1901-1902, on the housing conditions of Jersey City, her subject of investigation for the year, and published in the July number of the Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science. This paper did not contain the full results of Miss Sayles' investigation, and both the editor of the Annals and the committee on fellowships think the full results ought to be published. The editor of the Annals states that he will be glad to publish the report as a supplement to the Annals January number, providing the Association pay the cost of printing. The cost will be \$400 for 3,000 copies, these copies to be distributed according to certain plans outlined by the committee.

The committee on fellowships also stated that Miss Sayles, association fellow for 1901-1902, had done excellent work. She is now employed in the Tenement House Department of New York City as sanitary inspector.

The board moved that \$400 be appropriated for the printing of Miss Sayles' report in full in the January number of the Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science.

Mrs. Simkhovitch, chairman of the committee on the enlargement of the fellowship and scholarship idea, appointed at the May meeting, was not able to be present, but her report was read by the secretary. The committee suggested that each chapter of the Association raise money each year or one fellowship or scholarship, or secure an endowment for fellowship, the work to be done at one of the Settlements of the Association preferably. The money should not be raised among the students, but if possible among those interested in the furtherance of the economic work at the respective colleges.

A committee of two was appointed to consider the matter and report at the spring meeting.

A committee was also appointed to look up the matter of extending the Association interest in western colleges and if practicable to start new chapters.

After a vote of thanks to our host, the meeting adjourned at 1 o'clock.

SARAH GRAHAM TOMKINS,  
*Secretary.*

#### NOTES.

The afternoon of October 25th was spent by the board of the C. S. A. in visiting some of the Philadelphia Settlements.

Miss Sayles has written a most interesting summary and account of her work, to appear in the annual report of the C. S. A. soon to be issued.

The editor records, with deep regret, the death of John F. O'Sullivan, A. F. of L. organizer. He has been a friend of Denison House and could not well be spared to the cause of labor. Our deep sympathy is extended to the wife who, as many know, was well known to Chicago and Boston people.

The work of renovating and fitting up the house next to the Philadelphia Settlement on Christian street is practically nearing completion. The lower floor already looks most attractive with its tinted walls and black woodwork. The board appropriated \$1,000 for this special work at the May meeting.

#### WORK OF VASSAR STUDENTS.

The work among the maids at Vassar College is carried on by three organizations, each taking a different phase of the work.

The Chapter of the College Settlements Association has organized a system of classes, which the students teach. The classes, with

the exception of the dancing class, are held in the students' rooms, so making it necessary that the number be limited. We found that five or six in a class was as many as could be comfortably accommodated. The most popular among the classes were those which were purely for recreation, such as the dancing and embroidery classes, but French and German, as well as reading, writing and arithmetic were studied and enjoyed. This year we have been asked to have a class in book-keeping.

The Christian Association of the College has weekly meetings. One meeting each month is a prayer meeting, led by one of the students. Another is usually addressed by some member of the faculty upon some popular subject. A third meeting is given over to having a generally good time, dancing, marching, playing games, and singing. The fourth meeting is led by one of the students, who gives an informal talk, which is intended to be of an interesting and practical nature, and to present to the maids those things which will broaden their interests. The attendance this year has been better than ever before, there being as many as sixty at the good-time meeting. A small room given over to the use of the chambermaids of one of the buildings is kept supplied with books and periodicals.

The Students' Association has charge of the scheme for the maids club house. This plan was started a little more than a year ago. It proposes that \$20,000 should be raised to build and endow a club house for the maids, where they may meet for classic recreation and rest. Permission has been granted by the trustees for such a house, and quite a little of the money has been raised. The students are much interested in it as they feel they can gain a practical as well as theoretical knowledge of social questions while in college. The maids are most enthusiastic, and especially at present, as we are starting to organize them into a self-governing club.

The work has not only been of great pleasure to the students and the maids, but it has also aroused interest in the authorities of the college, as shown by certain improvements in the maids' quarters.

ELIZABETH FENNO UPTON,  
*Vassar Undergraduate Elector.*

There are some men who toil to extract gold, but He labored to extract pity; the universal wretchedness was His mine. Sorrow all around was only an opportunity for constant kindness.—The Bishop in "Les Miserables."

# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor  
from the Social Settlement Point of View.

**GRAHAM TAYLOR, - - - Editor**

Entered at Chicago Postoffice as Second-Class Matter, and  
Published the first of every month from CHICAGO COMMONS,  
a Social Settlement at Grand Ave. & Morgan St., Chicago, Ill.

50 Cents



A Year

## EDITORIAL.

The indulgence of our readers who are identified with other settlements is unavoidably presumed upon once more in devoting so large a proportion of this issue of the paper to the interests of Chicago Commons. For years these pages have offered almost the only way this settlement has had of communicating with its supporters and friends, and we have been accustomed to issue a large supplement to the December number devoted wholly to its work. In broadening the scope of THE COMMONS to include the interests of all other settlement and social service, it is our purpose to reduce the references to the work of "Chicago Commons" to a minimum, consistent with the fact that the entire financial responsibility and heavy deficit in publishing this monthly journal is borne by the slender resources of this settlement. Another year, however, we hope to be able to relieve our readers of this disproportionate reference to our local interests. If the subscribers to this paper would help make it self-sustaining by co-operating to increase its circulation and advertising, they would not only afford Chicago Commons needed relief, but serve the cause for which all settlements stand.

Our readers will share our satisfaction over the announcement made on the last page that only \$4,737 remains to be raised to clear the debt on the Chicago Commons building before the close of the year. To have permanently established at the very center of Chicago's population the diversified work which expands not only reflexively but directly to other localities both in the city and in many other states; to have acquired without encumbrance the plant which is valued by our auditor at \$70,768.92 on the building and \$12,000 on the land, or, with the furnishing and equipment, \$85,000 in all; and to have started and maintained THE COMMONS without capital until its average

monthly circulation exceeds 5,000 copies, have filled eight years very full of manifold work, of care that carped somewhat at times, and with fellowships deep and wide.

The editor of THE COMMONS has the opportunity of presenting such "social aspects of life and labor" as appear on his settlement horizon to as many of the 300,000 readers of the Chicago Daily News as scan its Saturday Evening editorial page.

## Books of Social Significance.

The book lists are unusually full of titles of social interest and value, the contents of some of which we hope to indicate in brief descriptive reviews in subsequent numbers of THE COMMONS. Bishop Spalding, of Peoria, has added to his strong treatment of religious and educational subjects a little book on "Socialism and Labor, and Other Arguments" (McClurg & Co., Chicago, 16mo, 80 cents net; delivered 87 cents). "Some Ethical Phases of the Labor Question" are handled by Carroll D. Wright from the rare advantage of his point of view as U. S. Commissioner of Labor (American Unitarian Association, Boston, 12mo, \$1.00 net). Bishop Henry C. Potter renders good service in his vigorous and incisive analysis of the industrial ethics of citizenship under a title of "The Citizen and the Industrial Situation" (Charles Scribner's Sons, \$1.00 net, postage 10 cents). A study of the primitive Christian doctrines of earthly possessions in Dr. Orello Cone's "Rich and Poor in the New Testament" is an important accession to the literature of Biblical sociology (Macmillan Co., 8vo, \$1.50 net). Prof. F. G. Peabody, of Harvard, valuably contributed in the same line in his "Jesus Christ and the Social Question" as did Prof. Shailer Mathews, of the University of Chicago in his "Social Teachings of Jesus."

Descriptive of city conditions there are three notable volumes to report. Jacob A. Riis', already well known, "The Battle with the Slum" (Macmillan Co.) and "The Leaven in a Great City;" Lillian W. Betts' wonderfully realistic forth-showing "of the advance of social life among the working people in New York, the influence of the altruists and the churches in the lives of those who ask for nothing but the opportunity to earn wages, and the needs of a great class who, maintaining home and social standards, add by the bravery and purity of their lives to the financial, political and normal capital of the city." (Dodd, Mead & Co., 12 mo, \$1.50 net.)



"Americans in Process," edited by Robert A. Woods, is the title of another volume reporting the original investigations of the South End House, Boston, in American civic life as represented in that city. It is announced for publication early in the year.

Prof. Charles Horton Cooley, of the University of Michigan, writes with strength and originality of "Human Nature and the Social Order," duly emphasizing the first term of his title which has had all too slight emphasis at the hand of social theorists. (Charles Scribner's Sons, 8vo, \$1.50 net.) The new president of Oberlin College, Henry Churchill King presses the sociological point of view into the discussion of theology in his lectures before the Harvard Summer School of Theology, published under the title of "Theology and the Social Consciousness." (Macmillan Co., \$1.25 net.) "The Church and Its Social Mission" is another course of lectures delivered on the Baird foundation at Glasgow, by John Marshall Lang, of the University of Aberdeen, (New York, Thomas Whittaker). Dr. Josiah Strong has added another trenchant treatment of the religious aspects of the social movement, to the list of his widely read and influential little books, "The Next Great Awakening" (The Baker and Taylor Co. 12 mo. 75 cents), Rev. Wilber F. Crafts sketches the social aspects of religious progress in his "March of Christ Down the Centuries" (P. Anstadt & Sons, York, Penn. 12 mo. Cloth, 25 cents; paper, 10 cents). Social phenomena are very ably and empirically subjected to psychological analysis and formulation by Denton J. Snider in two volumes on "Social Institutions" and "The State." (Sigma Publishing Co., St. Louis, Mo. Sold by McClurg & Co., Chicago, \$1.50). There is no more practically valuable handling of the difficult and delicate subject of "The Social Evil," than in the report prepared under the direction of The Committee of Fifteen, with special reference to conditions existing in New York City. (G. P. Putnam's Sons). Its trustworthy analysis of legislative and police regulations, ancient, mediæval, modern in all lands and among many peoples, makes it an invaluable book of reference. The application of socialism to the interpretation and progress of agricultural interests is the interesting task of A. M. Simons, editor of the International Socialist Review, in his compact and forceful little volume on "The American Farmer." (Charles H. Kerr & Co., Chicago, 50 cents). In "American Municipal Progress," Prof. Charles Zuehlin of the University of

Chicago has given us chapters in municipal sociology, which add not only to the literature of the subject, but will promote the practical work of the American League for Civic Improvement, of which the author was the founder and first president. The statistical supplement to James S. Dennis' massive and unique volumes on "Christian Missions and Social Progress" is a valuable addition to that laborious work, which will prove to be a permanently useful reference book, "Centennial Survey of Foreign Missions" (Fleming H. Revell Co. \$4 net). Three novels of note have social themes, "The Leopard's Spots," by Thomas Dixon, Jr., is the special pleading of the white man's burden under the negro problem. Henry Kitchell Webster, who early won deserved repute as the author of those striking stories of commercial life, "The Banker and the Bear" and "Calumet K," has added to his influence and constituency of readers very markedly in "Roger Drake, Captain of Industry." (Macmillan Co., 12 mo. \$1.50). Charles M. Sheldon, whose romances of the religious life have been so widely circulated, has based his last story, "The Reformer," on the housing problem as it is presented in the report of the Chicago City Homes Association on "Tenement House Conditions in Chicago," the plates from which are used as illustrations. (The Advance Publishing Co., Chicago.)

Teach the ignorant as much as you possibly can; society is culpable for not giving instruction gratis, and is responsible for the night it produces. This soul is full of darkness, and sin is committed, but the guilty person is not the man who commits the sin, but he who produces the darkness.—"Les Miserables."

## The Commons

Is devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor from the Social Settlement point of view. It is published monthly at Chicago Commons, a Social Settlement at Grand Ave. and Morgan St., Chicago, Ill., and is entered at the Chicago Postoffice as mail matter of the second (newspaper) class.

**The Subscription Price is Fifty Cents a Year.** (Two \$ Billings, English; 2.50 francs, French—foreign stamps accepted.) Postpaid to any State or Country. Six copies to one address for \$2.50. Send check, draft, P. O. money order, cash or stamps, *not above 5-cent denomination*, at our risk.

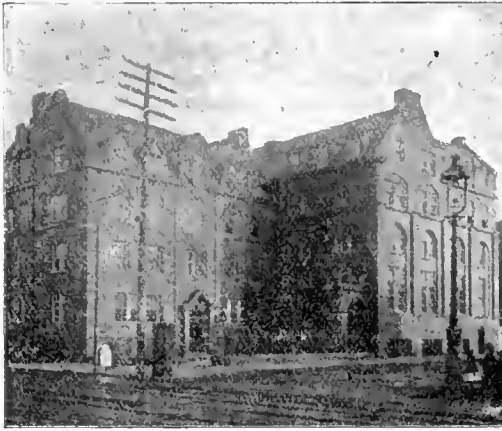
**Advertising Rates.** One page, \$25.00; Half Page, \$15.00; Quarter Page, \$8.00; One Inch, \$2.00. For each insertion.

**Special Rates for Special Numbers of The Commons.** Any number under twenty-five copies, five cents each; over twenty-five and under one hundred, three cents each; over one hundred, two and one half cents each.

**Changes of Address.** Please notify the publisher of any change of address, or of failure to receive the paper within a reasonable interval after it is due.

**Discontinuances.** Please notify us at once if for any reason you desire your subscription discontinued. In accordance with custom, and the expressed wish of many subscribers, we continue THE COMMONS to each address until notified to the contrary.

# CHICAGO COMMONS



**Its Work  
for the  
Ninth  
Winter  
1902-1903.**

**Grand Avenue and Morgan Street.**

Social Clubs for men and women, boys and girls.

Gymnasium Classes and Baths for all.

Choral Club, Children's Chorus and Orchestra.

Instruction in piano and other instruments.

Educational classes and co-operation with evening public school.

Day Nursery and Kindergarten.

Penny Savings Bank.

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District Visiting Nurse.

Manual training.

Cooking School for women and girls.

Loom for weaving carpets and rugs.

Pleasant Sunday Afternoons, with music, song, pictures, stories.

All rooms open for recreation and socials, every Saturday evening.

## **What it is and how Supported.**

Chicago Commons is a "Social Settlement," located at the corner of Grand Avenue and Morgan Street. It was founded in May, 1891, and is the home of a group of people who want to share the life of the neighborhood, its comforts and discomforts, its privileges and responsibilities, its political, civic, and personal duties and pleasures. They offer their home as a social center for the neighborhood, where they desire to be friends, fellow citizens, neighbors.

By the service of the residents and other friends, who volunteer to teach classes, work with the clubs, or furnish "the talent" for social entertainments and public occasions.

By the share which every class and club assumes in the expense of lighting, heating and caring for the rooms.

By the gifts of the friends of the work toward the cost of the summer camp and outings, support of assistants, printing and other incidental expenses.

The whole work of Chicago Commons is dependent upon the volunteer co-operation of its friends in and outside of the neighborhood. It has had no endowments, and needs what every one can do to help.

## Clubs, Classes and Social Occasions

OCTOBER 1902 to JUNE 1903

### DOMESTIC SCIENCE: Miss BOND, Director,

COOKING:—Adult, every evening except Saturday, 7:30 p. m.

Children (10 to 14 years) Every afternoon except Saturday, 4 p. m.

Monday evenings during February free demonstration lessons will be given to women at 8 p. m.

SEWING:—For girls (6 to 14 years) Saturday, 9 a. m.

DRESSMAKING:—On application.

KITCHEN GARDEN:—Monday, 3:45 p. m. MISS BRADLEY.

BATTENBERG AND EMBROIDERY—Friday 9 a. m. 8 p. m. MISS HAMILTON

### MANUAL TRAINING: MR. LAUGHLIN AND MR. MCLEAN.

BOYS:—Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 7:30 p. m. Saturday 9 a. m.

GIRLS:—Monday, 4 p. m.

Fees—10 cents per month in advance.

### GYMNASIUM:

Adult—MR. TODD, Director.

Monday, Italian Young Men; Tuesday, Young Men;

Wednesday, Young Men; Friday, Young Women.

Class work begins at 8 p. m. and includes calisthenics, apparatus work and games. Individual work may be had half an hour before the class. A nominal fee is asked, and some form of gymnasium suit is required.

Boys—H. F. BURT, Director.

Boys:—(12 to 14) Saturday, 10:30 a. m. (8 to 12) Wednesday 4 p. m.

Working Boys Class:—Thursday 7:30 p. m.

Italian Boys:—Saturday, 9 a. m.

Girls:—(8 to 14) Tuesday, 4 p. m.

Fees:—10 cents per month, 25 cents for working boys.

### SOCIAL CLUBS:

Woman's Club:—Tuesday 2 p. m. MRS. CONANT, President.

Mothers' Meeting:—Friday evening. MISS STONE.

Shakespeare Club:—Tuesday, 8 p. m. MR. CRAWFORD.

Progressive Club of Young Women:—Monday 8 p. m.

Girls' Junior Progressive Club:—Tuesday 8 p. m. MISS TAYLOR.

Girls' Clubs:—(8 to 14) Monday, Thursday, Friday, 4 p. m. and Monday, 7:30 p. m.

Community Club:—For Men, daily, 7:30 to 10:30 p. m.

Weekly meeting Thursday, 8 p. m.

Young Men's Club:—Thursday, 8 p. m.

Boys' Clubs:—Every evening, 7:30. MR. BURT.

Applications to join Boys' Clubs, Manual Training and Children's Gymnasium received Friday afternoon and Saturday morning.

### EDUCATIONAL:

Music:—Adult Chorus, Wednesday 8 p. m. MR. GORDON, Director.

Children's Chorus, Wednesday 4 p. m. MISS SPRAGUE.

Stringed Orchestra training will be given on demand by MR. NEWELL.

Piano, Wednesday afternoon and evening. MISS HAWKINS.

Saturday afternoon and evening. MISS HYRES.

Mandolin, Guitar and Banjo—Wednesday afternoon and evening. MR. NEWELL.

Violin;—Wednesday afternoon and evening. MISS GARFIELD.

Fees; Adult Chorus, 25 cents a month. Instrumental, 50 cents an hour. Class instructions 25 cents a lesson.

ART:—Drawing, Water Color, Mechanical Drawing, Wednesday.

Fees; 50 cents for 10 lessons, in advance.

ITALIAN-ENGLISH:—Every evening at 7:30 p. m. MISS PHILIPS and MRS. RICKETTS.

ELOCUTION:—Children, Tuesday, 4 p. m. MRS. CRAWFORD.

Adults, Tuesday, 8 p. m. MRS. CRAWFORD.

Fees:—50 cents for 10 lessons in advance.

NOTE—The educational classes aim only to supplement the privileges offered at the Free Evening Public Schools and other educational centers. All desiring to avail themselves of the popular educational advantages offered in the evening classes or correspondence courses by the Lewis Institute, Madison and Robey streets, the Armour Institute of Technology, 33d and Armour streets, The Athenaeum 18 Van Buren street, Association College, 153 La Salle street, will be advised and put in communication with the representatives of these institutions by MISS WAUGH.

### **Other Features and Occasions.**

KINDERGARTEN AND TRAINING SCHOOL—Daily, except Saturday and Sunday, from 9 to 12 a. m. The Kindergarten is held for children under 7, Miss STONE, director. The school is under the management of the Pestalozzi-Froebel Training School, Mrs. Bertha Hofer Hegner, principal. The training school classes for kindergarten teachers are held four afternoons each week, from Monday to Thursday

MATHEON DAY NURSERY—163 Morgan street, one door south of Chicago Commons, Miss IDA NOETZEL, matron. The nursery is open daily, except Sunday, from 6:30 a. m. to 6:30 p. m. for the children of working or sick mothers. Provision is made for lunch at noon and for the sleep, play and safekeeping of the children; charge 5 cents a day.

MOTHERS' MEETING—A meeting is held by Miss Stone, director of the kindergarten, every Friday evening, in the kindergarten rooms for the mothers of the neighborhood, to give them a pleasant and restful evening in each others company, and to afford help in the care and training of their children.

PENNY PROVIDENT BANK OF CHICAGO—For the safe keeping of small savings. Deposits of one cent to \$5.00 will be received by Miss INGLIS at Chicago Commons, every Tuesday from 2 to 6 and 7 to 8 p. m. No money will be received or paid out at other times. Bank books drawing interest will be given on deposits of \$5.00 and over.

**PLEASANT SUNDAY AFTERNOON**—Every Sunday, 3:30 p. m.

Varied and interesting program, musical, literary, stereopticon, and descriptive of different lands and people, aimed to please and profit those of all ages and nationalities. Families especially invited to come together. Children under 12 admitted only with adults.

**FREE FLOOR LECTURE COURSE AND DISCUSSIONS**:—Every Tuesday evening, 8:15 to 10 p. m. Present day industrial and economic questions will be discussed each week by well qualified speakers. Open to both men and women.

**SEVENTEENTH WARD COMMUNITY CLUB**;—Social, reading and recreation rooms open every evening to members and guests introduced by them, 7:30 to 10:30 p. m. Special entertainment provided every Saturday evening. Lectures on departments of the city government and other municipal interests will be given the last Thursday evening in every month by city officials and other specialists.

**ORCHESTRAS**—Two neighborhood orchestras meet at the house weekly, one under Mr. Schow's directorship, on Monday evenings, another under Mr. Swanson's leadership, Wednesday evening.

**HAND LOOM**—For weaving Carpets, Rugs, or Curtains, may be used on application to **MRS. CARR**.

**VISITING NURSE**—**MISS MCPHEETERS**, representing the Visiting Nurse Association of Chicago. Calls for her services will be received at Chicago Commons, Telephone Monroe 1030, or at Michaelson's drug store, 116 N. Center avenue, Telephone Monroe 403. The nurse will attend free all persons unable to pay for her services, but any patient who can do so will be expected to pay from 5 to 25 cents a visit. This money is used in the charity work of the Association.

**OPEN-HOUSE SATURDAY EVENINGS**—All the public rooms are reserved on Saturday evenings for free entertainments and social occasions. Everyone welcome. Come to the neighborhood parlor first to meet the residents and each other.

**ROOMS ARE OFFERED** for private gatherings, weddings and other family festivals, parties and social occasions, special meetings of neighborhood organizations, trades unions and churches. Apply at the office of Mr. Todd as long in advance as possible. No rent is charged, only a share in the expense of maintenance is expected.

**THE NEIGHBORHOOD PARLOR** is open all day and evening for the free use of the neighbors, who are invited to come in to read or rest and meet each other or the residents.



**CHICAGO COMMONS PROSPECTS.****To Close This Year Free of Debt.**

Auditor's valuation of plant.....	\$85,000
Total liabilities on Sept. 1, 1902.....	\$16,727
Reduction by payments from Sept. to Dec..	4,540
Balance due on notes and current accounts.	12,187
Amount subscribed or guaranteed by friends.	7,450
Remainder of debt to be raised in Dec.....	4,737
FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE SETTLEMENT WORK NEXT YEAR.	
Maintenance of building, \$200 per month...	\$2,400
Day Nursery, rental and support, \$100 per mo.	1,200
Full service of six paid residents, \$325 per mo.	3,000
Summer camp, outing and playground.....	1,100
Stenography, printing and periodical.....	760
Unclassified and special expense account...	600
Estimated expense for 1903, per month, \$830.	\$9,960

Besides the gratuitous services of twelve resident and many non-resident workers, and the receipt of \$1,300 annually toward the maintenance of the work from all the settlement and neighborhood organizations sharing its privileges, Chicago Commons' sole dependence for its support is upon the larger and smaller contributions of its friends, not only in Chicago but throughout the country. To plan for the year's work and avoid a deficit at its close, we need to receive most of the subscriptions in December or January, with some assurance when their payment may be expected.

**Our Ninth Winter's Work.**

The announcement to our neighbors of what is going on at the house this winter, reproduced in the four preceding pages, will give in brief space and graphic form a realistic and suggestive idea of our settlement service. We are depending entirely upon it to give the information of our work needed to elicit its support next year. When the debt is paid, we expect to commemorate the achievement and what it stands for by an illustrated descriptive souvenir of the building and the social service of which it is the center.

**BURYING THE POLITICAL HATCHET UNDER A LOVE FEAST.**

The reception given Mr. and Mrs. McManan after the official assurance of his election to the Legislature by 526 votes majority, was not only the event of the month, but one of the most inspiringly hopeful occasions ever enjoyed at Chicago Commons. The Independent was congratulated by both the Republican and Democratic aldermen of our ward, the Representative of the Legislative Voters' League, the Municipal Voter's League, the Referendum and

Public Ownership Leagues, and by hosts of friends old and new. The blending of those of different nationality, party, sect and condition in the new bonds of social faith and fellowship begets the hope of making independent politics a patriotic basis for social unification.

**SOME GIVINGS OF THANKS.**

Thanksgiving united the kindergartens of the public school and the Commons in happy array within our big circle, rallied around our resident visiting nurse thirty convalescent children whom she had nursed through typhoid fever, gathered many groups for parties and united Italian, Armenian, and American churches with the Tabernacle in the giving of thanks.

Our Woman's Club is rejoicing over a "linen shower" which filled their new chest to overflowing with material for the visiting nurse and resident physician. Two of the residents have successfully established a clothing exchange through which clothes sent in by outside friends are sold at rates which help the very poor without making them the recipients of charity.

**Trade Talks and Economic Lectures.**

WITH QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSIONS.

CHICAGO COMMONS FREE FLOOR!

Grand Ave. and Morgan St.

EVERY TUESDAY EVENING, 8:15 to 10 o'clock sharp.

**TOPICS AND SPEAKERS FOR DECEMBER.**

- Dec. 2. "How a Twentieth Century Newspaper is Made." Stereopticon talk, W. B. Corwin, of the Chicago American.
- Dec. 9. "Our State Board of Arbitration," Frederick W. Job, Chairman of the Board.
- Dec. 16. "The Social Waste of Child Labor," by Miss Jane Addams, Hull House.
- Dec. 23. "Moral Issues in the Labor Movement," Prof. W. D. Mackenzie, editor "American Weekly."
- Dec. 30. "Child Labor in Illinois," Mrs. S. S. Van der Vaart, Chairman Federated Industrial Women's Clubs.

Chicago Commons Free Floor is a friendly conference for men and women interested in economic problems, and hoping for the betterment of industrial conditions and relations through the education of all the people, and the tolerant respect for each other's opinions.

**SELF IMPOSED REGULATIONS OF DISCUSSION.**

All sides. No favors to any. Stick strictly to the point. One at a time. Three minutes apiece. Keep your temper or be still. Don't think you know it all. Be fair. Trust the truth. All freely welcome.

# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor from the Settlement Point of View.

Number 78—Vol. VII

Seventh Year

Chicago, January, 1903

## THE CRY OF THE AGE.

BY HAMLIN GARLAND.

What shall I do to be just?  
What shall I do for the gain  
Of the world—for its sadness?  
Teach me, O Seers that I trust!  
Chart me the difficult main  
Leading out of my sorrow and madness;  
Preach me the purging of pain.

Shall I wrench from my finger the ring  
To cast to the tramp at my door?  
Shall I tear off each luminous thing  
To drop in the palm of the poor?  
What shall I do to be just?  
Teach me, O Ye in the light,  
Whom the poor and the rich alike trust:  
My heart is aflame to be right.  
—From The Outlook.

"The Present Time, youngest-born of Eternity, child and heir of all the Past Times with their good and evil, and parent of all the future, is ever a 'New Era' to the thinking man \* \* \* to know it, and what it bids us do, is ever the sum of knowledge for all of us."—Latter Day Pamphlets.

## STORY OF A WOMEN'S LABOR UNION.

BY MARY E. McDOWELL.

The first union of women workers, of the great packing houses of the Union Stock Yards, Chicago, was organized at the University of Chicago Settlement last April with twenty charter members. It is known as "Local No. 183 of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butchers' Workmen of North America."

Three years ago a small group of four girls, inspired by an Irish girl, one who had worked for a good many years in "The Yards," whose love for the cause of labor was deep and intelligent, organized a strike at Libby, McNeill & Libby's. The strike resulted disastrously to all involved; the leaders were dismissed and have never been reinstated. This same young girl, a victim of the conditions under which she worked, when dying of consumption, was still a leading spirit. She sent to Miss McDowell, Head Resident of the settlement, an

urgent request to organize the women and girls of the packing houses. She felt that the time was ripe and the girls needed only to be called together. Miss McDowell had been reported in the press as urging women to organize, especially those who were competing with the men, as they were doing in "The Yards." These girls read the paper and very soon both men and women workers knew that the Head Resident of the University of Chicago Settlement "believed in the unions."

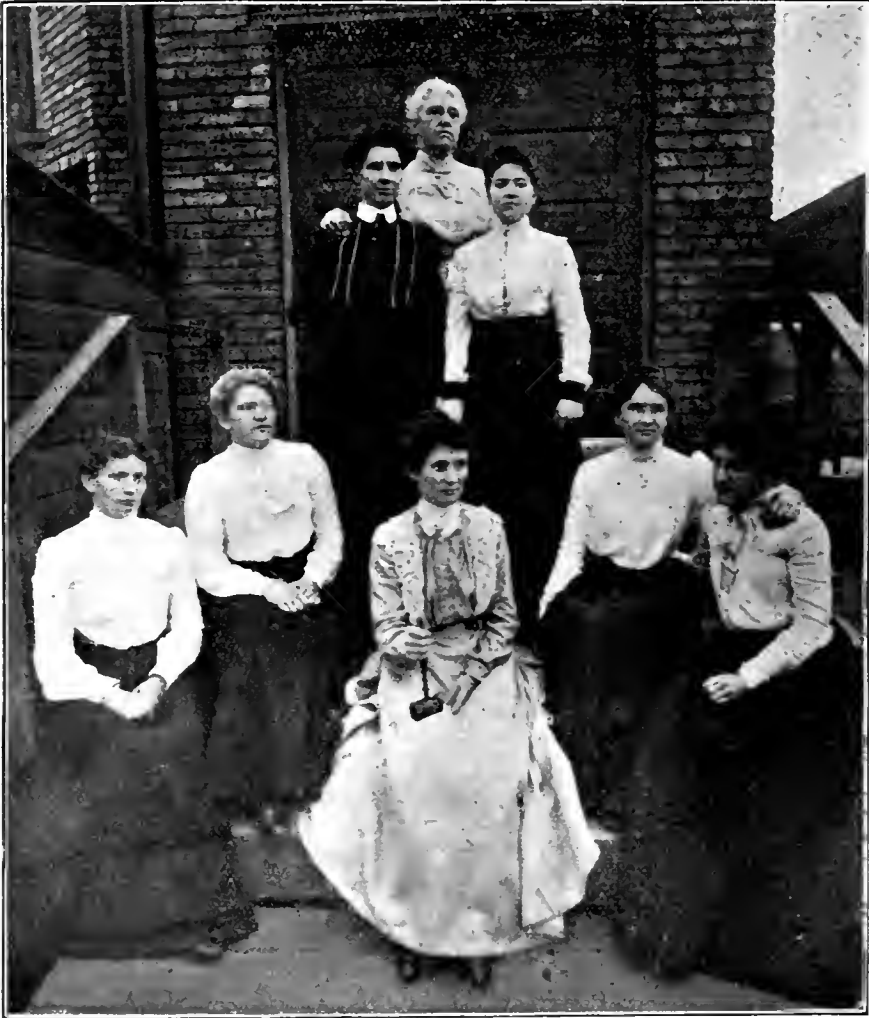
Miss McDowell secured the help of Mr. Michael Donnelly, President of the A. M. C. & B. W. of North America, a man whose energy, tact, conservative policy and business ability has so successfully organized the conglomerate mass of workers in the Stock Yards that he had been able in a year to gain one victory after another without a strike. From the first his policy with the women workers was broad and generous. Rare is the occurrence of such an organization being formed except for fight. "This union," he said, "was to be formed first for the education of the members and then to grow strong enough to be able to ask in a dignified manner for better wages, hours and conditions." He congratulated the girls on the opportunity they had of meeting at the settlement, and even used this fact as an argument in favor of his peace policy. The first six months were most discouraging. The leaders were dismissed on the plea of "slack work." Some of them have not yet been reinstated. The girls believed they were discharged for the purpose of "breaking the back of the unions." The back was not broken, since Labor Day found the sixty odd members with sufficient spirit to enter the labor procession. The meeting following Labor Day 103 women workers were initiated, and since that day the membership has grown to 1,000, ranging in ages from sixteen to sixty years, and so many nationalities that several interpreters are used at initiations. Even the race prejudices that had often threatened a race feud in "The Yards" has been allayed.

It was a dramatic moment when the Guard, an Irish girl, announced at the union's meeting. "Sister President, a colored sister asks ad-

mission. Shall we admit her?" The President, another Irish girl, obeying a higher law than that found in "Robert's," answered, "Admit her by all means, and let every member give her a hearty welcome." Seven more colored girls were initiated at meetings following.

About 2,000 women and girls are employed in the different departments of the packing houses

resulting in violence, disturbance of the work and only disaster to the workers. The difference between that uncivilized method of the past and the rational method of the present self-governing organization with 1,000 members is seen in recent experiences. The day of hysteria is past. Now the girls meet in committees from the different packing houses, com-



OFFICERS OF LOCAL UNION NO. 183.

and are for the first time gathered together about a common interest—members of a great organization whose ideal is "The welfare of each is the care of all." In the past when a woman worker had a grievance, real or fancied, when a raise of wages was asked for, it meant a struggle that was radical, unorganized, often

pare the scale of wages, agree upon their demands, and bring them before the union, where they are criticised and discussed in an orderly manner. The scale of wages is then presented to their business agent, who takes it to the Executive of the International Union. Then, if it seems reasonable and has



the "O. K." of the International, it is presented by the business agents to the employers. The educational influence of this procedure must be evident to even a prejudiced person. One evening, at supper time, the settlement residents were summoned to the gymnasium. When they arrived the room was found filled with a large number of the union girls, whose happy faces proved that they had won a victory. "Twenty-five cents a day had been granted "without a kick" on the demand of their representatives, who had been treated with respect. The union has tremendous work ahead of it if conditions of their working lives are to be changed.

vative policy of the executive of the Meat Cutters' Union, and has in turn given to the settlement a vital relation to the third largest industry in America. The Head Resident of the settlement meets with the union, and is counted a member not only by the girls, but by the men, who have honored her by giving her the right to attend their packing trades council. She considers this the richest experience the settlement has had in its history of nine years. Sunday afternoons she invites the members to have tea at the settlement, thus enabling them to talk over special problems of the organization.

University of Chicago Settlement.



LOCAL UNION NO. 183 IN CHICAGO LABOR DAY PARADE.

The first woman delegate to the International A. M. C. B. W. of ——— was sent by this woman's union, and was received so naturally that she said she forgot she was the only woman present. The fact that this union was organized and has had its home at the settlement has done much to strengthen the conser-

"Infinite is the help man can yield to man."  
—Sartor Resartus.

"Do the duty that is nearest thee"—that first, and that well; all the rest will disclose themselves with increasing clearness, and make their successive demand."

# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor  
from the Social Settlement Point of View.

GRAHAM TAYLOR, - - - Editor

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A Year

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## EDITORIAL.

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### Spirit of the Settlement House.

The interior life of the settlement furnishes not the least of its problems. Indeed, what the settlement has to contribute to the solution of neighborhood or community problems, or whether it has any contribution to make toward it, is very largely determined by the way in which it solves the problems of its own life. For its influence upon the people outside its walls can be no deeper or more real than the relationship of the people living under its own roof.

These problems begin with the relation between the authoritative or contributory constituency and the household of resident workers. Liberty for spontaneous development and activity is the charm of settlement service, if it be not the secret of its power. Any exercise of authority or surveillance beyond what is absolutely essential to the corporate life and co-operative work of the household, robs it of its distinctive spirit and strength. Non-resident control of the residents' household life and neighborhood work, is, to say the least, more often a disastrous failure than a conspicuous success. Those with whom the ultimate responsibility rests can fulfil it in no better way than to trust the head worker and residents as long as the work can be satisfactorily committed to their care, or to supersede them with others to whom the free control of the house and its work may be entrusted.

The method and success in choosing residents test tact and judgment to the utmost. A clearly understood tentative residence of two or three months is both safe and just, not only to the settlement but to the applicant as well. At the end of that period the question of admitting the applicant to residence should invariably be submitted to the residents. For the household relations are far too personal to

allow the introduction of anyone to the group without the final consent of the others. The declinature of an application, even after tentative residence, may be based on so many grounds of mere expediency as to involve no reflection whatever upon either the personal qualities or qualifications of the one whose aptitudes may not fit the present needs. The head worker will always be considerate and courteous enough not to allow the possibly adverse decision to come to a formal vote.

The adjustment of the residents to each other and their work must be a natural growth from within. If at all promoted from without it must be by an art which ingeniously conceals the art. Time and patience, with self and others, are required to find and fit one's self into one's own niche. While the process may be ameliorated by the amenities of courtesy and sympathy, it can rarely be hastened, and may never be safely averted or avoided.

To grow together in the home life of the settlement, the conditions of fellowship must exist. One of these is that the number of new residents must not be disproportionate to the more permanent group. Upon the permanency and strength of the nucleus who remain at the center for years depend both the efficacy of the neighborhood work and the homelikeness of the household life. An atmosphere of fellowship and ideality must exert its pressure unconsciously upon all, if the tone of inner relationship and the standard of outer service is to be maintained. This cannot be made, it must simply be. To be, it must find self expression, and some medium of interchange. It may not even thus be foisted upon any, but it must be fostered in all.

This household fellowship—the having and sharing something in common—requires social occasions for its expression and growth. There are two such. One is the sacrament of the daily meal. At least once each day, generally at the evening meal, the whole household should be gathered in the joyous sanctity of friendliest fellowship. The privileges of guestship may well be extended by the whole group or by individual residents to friends in or beyond the neighborhood, to non-resident workers, and to those who come to render occasional service. There is no better way than this of deepening interest in the settlement, of forming real personal attachments and of exemplifying social democracy.

### The Settlement Vesper Hour.

The other occasion, referred to above, in which the fellowship of the settlement household may find fitting expression, is the vesper hour, of which we may be permitted to speak out of our own experience.

Having a group of from twelve to twenty-five residents, always representing varied religious predilections, differing antecedents and outlook upon life, one-third of them being in residence several years, and two-thirds from nine months to a year or so, some common point of contact where we could all exert and yield to the uplift of our common purpose, has always been felt to be a necessity. The half hour immediately after the evening meal proves to be the only time when we can all be together. So we naturally linger in the resident's parlor before going to our evening classes or clubs or other work. Someone plays a few moments on piano or violin. A hymn or song is sung. Another, usually the warden, though often one of the residents, sometimes a guest, reads or says something briefly that lifts us up and welds us together. A simple prayer is usually, though not always, said or sung. Once more we sing what is spontaneously suggested by one or another. The informal interview merges or shades off into conversation, and one by one we slip away or are called out to our appointments, carrying with us into our work and life the vesper glow and inspiration.

Variety and interest are gained by devoting one or two occasions each week to some specific purpose. One evening there may be musical vespers. On another we may exchange items of interest from the most socially significant news of the week, or from current literature and new books, or from the best things gleaned at some gathering which we have been privileged to share. Still another such opportunity has proven to be not too brief for reading a few pages at a time such books as Miss Addams' "Democracy and Social Ethics," Canon Barnett's misnamed volume, "Practicable Socialism," the South End House contributions in "The City Wilderness," and "Americans' in Process," Dean Hodge's "Faith and Social Service," Lillian Betts' "Leaven in a Great City," Bushnell's "Moral Uses of Dark Things," Bagehot's "Physics and Politics," Mazzini's "God and the People," edited by Stubbs, Grigg's "New Humanism," Miss Scudder's "Social Spirit in English Letters," Gibbin's "English

Social Reformers," and Tolstoy's "Gospel in Brief."

Helpful to the devotional spirit we have found such little books as "Prayers Ancient and Modern" (Doubleday and McClure), "A Book of Common Worship," prepared by R. Heber Newton, Rabbi Gottheil and Rev. Thomas R. Slicer (Putnam), "Daily Strength for Daily Needs" (Roberts Bros.), Stanton Coit's "The Message of Man" (Scribners), "The Ethics of the Hebrews," by Rabbi Moses; excerpts from such biographies as those of St. Francis, St. Bernard, Mazzini, Tolstoy, Shaftesbury, Phillips Brooks, Henry Drummond, Pestalozzi and Froebel, and most of all the words and work of the Old and New Testament heroes, seers and saints, above every name being that of The Son of Man.

Among the hymns most frequently suggesting themselves are Bonar's "When the weary seeking rest," Parker's "O, thou great Friend of all the sons of men," Baring-Gould's "Now the day is over," Proctor's "The Shadows of the evening hour," Newman's "Lead, kindly light," Johnson's "Father, in thy mysterious presence kneeling," Keble's "Sun of my soul" and "New every morning is the love," Waring's "Father, I know that all my life," Whiting's "Eternal Father, strong to save," Whittier's "We may not climb the heavenly steeps," How's "For all thy saints who from their labors rest," and the chants of the Lord's Prayer, Twenty-third Psalm and Te Deum Laudamus.

#### AN APPRECIATIVE ECHO.

The Boston Transcript has these kind words to say of the effort made by this paper to serve the cause for which all the settlements stand: "The Commons is one of the few regular publications in the settlement world that are so broadly and sanely edited as to be of real value and interest to the lay reader." As evidence that its "contents are not confined to the doings of the settlement workers" it cites our report of the Minneapolis Convention of the Employer and Employe as a particularly valuable contribution. Our editorial accompanying that report in the November number on "Union Labor After the Miners' Strike," is referred to as an illustration of "the sanity which characterizes the editorial direction of The Commons." Our readers will pardon this quotation, we are sure, in view of our strenuous endeavor to be fair-minded and judicial in that utterance at a time when it was hard to be impartially true to facts.

### NOTES FROM THE SETTLEMENTS.

Hull House, Chicago, observes "Old Settlers' Day" at New Year annually. The elderly people who have longest resided in the district enjoy this social reunion greatly, storing up their memories and saving up the stories of their early experiences and companionships for the occasion.

The Warden of Robert Browning Hall, London, prints on his holiday greeting the photograph of the Lord Mayor, and under it the words:

"The First Settlement Mayor in London sent  
to serve  
Labor, learning and the civic life."

The National Conference of Jewish Charities has two representatives in University Sociological Fellowships—one at Columbia in New York, and the other at the University of Chicago.

Miss Frances F. Kellor, who, as the College Settlements Association fellow, has come to Chicago to investigate women's employment bureaus, has been in residence at the University Settlement, spends the next six weeks at Chicago Commons and then goes to Hull House.

The manufacturers in the neighborhood of the Gads Hill Settlement, Chicago, are organizing for the betterment of social conditions in that great industrial district. Several of them have recently accepted membership on the Settlement Board, and interesting developments may be forthcoming.

As third arbitrator in a serious difference between a large shoe shop and their lasters, the Warden of Chicago Commons was gratified to have secured a unanimous decision, possibly promoting the interests and relations of the entire shoe industry in the city. The other arbitrators, who signed the decision, were Edward M. Cole, a Chicago shoe manufacturer, who was nominated by the employers, and Father T. McGrady, of Cincinnati, who was nominated by the lasters.

#### SETTLEMENT CLASSES IN ENGINEERING.

The Armour Institute of Technology is offering extension courses in Engineering at some Chicago settlement centers. They include civil, hydraulic, electrical, mechanical, architectural, locomotive, stationary and domestic branches. A large class has been formed at

Gad's Hill settlement and others are gathering at Hull House and Chicago Commons. Credit is given for work done by the American School of Correspondence and should students continue their studies at the Armour Institute, these extension courses will count on the requirements.

#### NEW DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN'S CHORUSES.

Our Children's chorus is to be one of four settlement centers for the development of Mr. William L. Tomlins' unique plans for his National School of Music for Teachers, which starts with the New Year under the patronage of some of the most public spirited men in Chicago. It is expected to draw teachers and students of music from all parts of the country. Private generosity has already extended its privileges to over one hundred public school teachers officially selected from as many schools. The primary purpose of Mr. Tomlins' work at the settlements is to furnish a working demonstration of what can be done everywhere to popularize a true musical culture. Two choruses of 175 children each, from eight to fourteen years of age, will be conducted under Mr. Tomlins' personal supervision by one of his most competent assistants who has been in charge of our chorus the past two years. Especial appointments will be made with small groups of the chorus for individual voice training.

Mr. Tomlins has stood conspicuously for many years not only in Chicago but throughout the country for two great principles. The spiritual interpretation of music as the instinctive expression of life finds in his teaching a profound psychological and ethical basis. But his influence has been still more exceptional and powerful in the democratic application which he has given to his principles in his work among the common people. When leader of the Apollo Club he elicited the grateful appreciation of thousands of wage-earners by repeating its concert programs at lower admission prices in what he called "second night" concerts. As leader of the great World's Fair Chorus of 5,000 voices he deservedly won national repute. These words express the spirit of his work with children:

"It should be as natural for a child to sing as it is for him to laugh. His joy of living, his sense of companionship find natural utterance in simple song forms. His will 'plays' in rhythm, his mind 'plays' in melody, and his heart 'plays' in harmony. These three, when coordinated, are capable of expressing the innermost self. Song is the play of the soul."

## The Wisconsin University Settlement at Milwaukee.

BY THE WARDEN.



For a number of years the University of Wisconsin has been content to send her students for field work in sociology to the settlements established and maintained by other universities. The feeling that Wisconsin should maintain a point of contact for herself for laboratory work in sociology has led to the establishment of the Wisconsin University Settlement in Milwaukee, since Milwaukee is the logical field for Wisconsin students. Last year a fellowship in sociology was contributed by Milwaukee business men on condition that part of the Fellow's time be spent in Milwaukee in field work. Mr. B. H. Hibbard, now an instructor in sociology and economics at the State University of Iowa, held this fellowship and did valuable work in a general survey of the Milwaukee field to determine the best point for locating the Wisconsin Settlement. During the summer the Wisconsin University Settlement Association was incorporated with fifteen directors, ten of whom are residents of Milwaukee, while the remaining five are actively connected with the University at Madison. The officers of the association are as follows: President, Dr. E. A. Birge, acting President of the University of Wisconsin; Vice-President, Dr. A. J. Peels, the Milwaukee Regent of the University; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. G. C. Vogel, a Wisconsin alumnus of prominence in Milwaukee. Dr. Richard T. Ely is a director and has been most active in promoting the enterprise. The preliminary canvass for funds has yielded a good nucleus, so that the financial outlook is hopeful, Milwaukee citizens responding even more liberally than the Wisconsin alumni.

After Mr. Hibbard's careful survey of the field it seemed altogether best to locate the settlement on the South Side, in the center of Milwaukee's greatest manufacturing district. The settlement is most fortunate in having leased, with option to purchase, the old Coleman homestead, First avenue and Becher, a rambling country seat of generous proportions, standing in the center of a well-shaded vacant block and adjoining Kosciusko Park, one of the most beautiful of the city parks. The House of Correction is only two blocks away, and all about the settlement is a dense population of Poles, Bohemians and Germans. The glass works, Illinois Steel Co.'s works, the Kinnickinnic harbor and many large factories are all within four or five blocks of the settlement. The Coleman house is near the center of the South Side, which has an industrial population of 100,000, one-third of the entire population of Milwaukee.

Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Jacobs, both Wisconsin graduates, moved into the house in November, Mr. Jacobs as warden of the settlement. Miss Kernan, of Minneapolis, is at present the only other resident apart from the half dozen machinists who were boarding in the house and are staying on until after January 1st, when other residents, including a visiting trained nurse and a doctor, are expected. The house can easily accommodate twenty residents and still leave most of the first floor for clubs, classes, etc. By a very slight alteration of partitions rooms can be thrown together with a total seating capacity of more than two hundred. There is a fine basement under the entire house, with good rooms admirably adapted for manual training and general handicrafts work. The Settlement has a long list of talented non-resident volunteers, and, in addition to the day nursery, kindergarten, poor man's lawyer, reading room and university extension, will open at once classes in English, sewing, cooking, manual training, etc. There is already a vigorous demand for these various classes. Work for boys is especially needed.

There are more than 7,200 children under sixteen years of age in the factories of Wisconsin—most of them in Milwaukee. Of all the children in Wisconsin between five and fourteen years of age 26 per cent do not attend any school. Of the remaining 74 per cent, 13 per cent attend less than six months and 6 per cent less than three months. A fight will be made this winter for better compulsory education and child labor laws. Compulsory education will be very hard to get in Wisconsin after

our Bennett law experience of ten years ago. Mr. Jacobs is a State factory inspector and a probation officer of the Juvenile Court, and is co-operating in arranging a joint meeting of representatives of all the labor organizations, the Consumers' League, the Children's Betterment League, the Juvenile Court officers and the Wisconsin Federation of Churches in the interest of the proposed compulsory education law. This is part of the Settlement work for boys.

By many free lectures, by occasional residence, by contributions of money and by cordial sympathy the university professors lend their aid to the Settlement. The Settlement in turn maintains a fellowship at the university, known as the Milwaukee Social Settlement fellowship. Thus, although the Settlement has no official connection with the university, it is nevertheless affiliated in a spirit of cordial sympathy and co-operation. Situated in a crowded district in which juvenile offenders, criminals, destitution, infant mortality, overcrowding, basement living rooms and a dead level of stolid existence are alarmingly prevalent, the Settlement feels the call of a great need. In the co-operation of the university, the generous financial support of Milwaukee people, the large number of efficient non-resident volunteers and the well-appointed Settlement home there is ground for a great hope for this work. That it may succeed is the prayer of many good people in Milwaukee and Wisconsin. Friends from other Settlements are invited to visit the Milwaukee Settlement at any time.

The Rhode Island Agricultural College is to be congratulated upon the acceptance of its presidency by Mr. Kenyon L. Butterfield, who as contributor to these columns and other scientific journals, and as lecturer on Rural Sociology at the University of Michigan, has proven himself to be exceptionally well qualified for the position. He combines to a rare degree technical knowledge of the scientific and economic factors in agriculture with unusual insight into the social and ethical conditions of rural life.

"Cast forth thy Act, thy Word, into the ever-living, ever-working Universe; it is a seed-grain that cannot die."—Sartor Resartus.

"In torn boots, in soft hung carriages-and-four, a man gets always to his journey's end."—Chartism.

## ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD WORKERS, NEW YORK CITY.

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY  
MARY KINGSBURY SIMKHOVITCH,  
26 Jones Street, New York City.

### Departmental Progress Under the New City Administration in New York.

THE DEPARTMENT OF CHARITIES.

During this administration under the commissionership of Homer Folks the Department of Charities has made great strides forward. A few of the many changes that have taken place may be enumerated from the quarterly reports of the Commissioner to the Mayor.

On August 20, 1902, a schedule of uniforms for male officers and employes of all institutions in the department was adopted, to take effect October 1, 1902. The officers and employes are divided into eight grades, for each of which a distinctive uniform is prescribed. Uniforms are provided by the department at its own expense for employes receiving salaries not exceeding \$180 per annum and maintenance. These uniforms remain the property of the department. Heads of institutions are held responsible for the care of the uniforms, for requiring all employes to wear the uniform prescribed, and for seeing that all uniforms are kept in good condition. It is believed that the uniforms will materially assist in maintaining a proper standard of discipline by making it easier to detect any employe who is not doing his duty.

A thorough examination of all the farms and gardens under the control of this department, including the County Poor Farm in the borough of Richmond and also the dairy and herd kept on Randall's Island for the benefit of the Infants' Hospital, was made by Mr. George T. Powell, director of the School of Agriculture and Practical Horticulture at Briarcliff, New York, in company with the Commissioner, on Sept. 22, 1902. Mr. Powell made several valuable suggestions for improving both the quantity and the quality of the milk produced on Randall's Island and also for utilizing more effectively the farms and gardens under the control of the department. It is his opinion that the Richmond County Poor Farm, under proper cultivation, will produce all the vegetables required for a population of three thousand persons.

The number of applications for the commitment of children on account of the desertion

or alleged desertion of the head of the family having increased to an alarming extent during the past few years, a plan has been instituted for dealing with this matter more effectively. It had been ascertained that in many cases the desertion was simply a prearranged plan between the husband and wife by which the husband would disappear from the neighborhood for a short time, only to return as soon as the children had safely been placed under the care of the city; in many instances the husband continued meanwhile to send money regularly to the wife and sometimes even visited the home regularly at unusual hours. A special list of families in which the husband was reported as having deserted was started in the Bureau of Dependent Children and these families were visited from time to time at hours at which a visit would not naturally be expected, in the early evening or on Sundays or holidays. The result has been that in numerous instances the head of the family who had been reported as having deserted and as having been absent for many weeks was found by his own fireside with every appearance of having been there regularly and of enjoying the additional luxuries made possible by escaping the burden of supporting his children. Out of 71 cases of desertion under observation during the quarter ending September 30, husbands have been found in 22 cases.

#### FEMALE NURSES.

In May the decision was made to replace male nurses in male wards of the City Hospital by female nurses, as is the custom in all the leading private hospitals. The various classes in the Training School for Male Nurses are to be allowed to finish their course of study, and as each class graduates its place is taken by female nurses. The change was made in several wards on June 1, 1902, and the improvement in the care of the patients in these wards since that date has been noticeable. A change occurred in a number of other wards on the graduation of the class on Sept. 1, 1902, and the last class of the male nurses will graduate March 1, 1903.

A list has been compiled of indentured children placed in family homes directly by the department who have not yet reached the age of eighteen years, and a system of oversight and visitation of these children is being established. In Brooklyn it was found that although the rules of the State Board of Charities have for several years required an annual reacceptance of each child supported in a private institution at public expense, many hun-

dreds of children were being so supported, the circumstances of whose parents had never been investigated since the original commitment.

All able-bodied male epileptics have been transferred from the Kings County Hospital and the hospitals on Blackwell's Island to the Richmond County Poor Farm, consisting of 114 acres, near New Dorp, Staten Island, and about fifty of the more able-bodied paupers from the Blackwell's Island Almshouse have also been sent there. This step has four advantages—outdoor life and occupation for the epileptics, providing a "work test" for the able-bodied paupers (many of whom took their discharge rather than go to the farm to work), relief of the overcrowding on Blackwell's Island, and the production of vegetables on the Richmond County Poor Farm for use there and on Blackwell's Island.

#### THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.

The following improvements among many others, have been made in the work of the New York City Department of Health since the beginning of the new administration:

The first work of the new administration upon taking office was to remove about 15 per cent of the employes. This resulted in a decided improvement in discipline and in the amount of work done, for the remaining 85 per cent have done more work and done it more efficiently than did the entire 100 per cent in previous years. Moreover, the appropriation allotted to the Health Department by the Van Wyck administration was not sufficient to sustain for the year 1902 the number of men on the rolls Dec. 31, 1901.

No efforts have been spared to extend the facilities of the department in the care of contagious disease. When the present administration came in it found all the contagious disease hospital buildings of the city in wretched condition. Some of the scarlet fever patients, who could not be accommodated in the inadequate buildings available, were housed in a cement shed at the foot of East Sixteenth street, while others suffering with various forms of disease were quartered in leaky and unsanitary pavilions on North Brothers Island. Steps were at once taken by the new administration to revolutionize the hospital service and extend its facilities. Representative physicians were at once called in consultation and formed into an advisory board for the Health Department. The eleven men who now compose this board are the leaders in their profession in this city, if not in this country. With their support the Commissioner of Health went

before the Mayor and the Board of Estimate and stated what the city must do to improve the facilities for the care of contagious disease. Upon the representations there made the sum of \$500,000 was appropriated by the Board of Estimate for the work, of which amount \$75,000 was allotted for repairs and improvements in existing buildings. The latter amount has been parceled out on existing buildings, with the result that practically every building in all three of the contagious disease hospital plants has been overhauled or is now in process of reconstruction to fit it for the reception of patients.

When the new administration took office a virtual epidemic of smallpox was in progress in this city. In spite of the fact that this disease had been running for more than a year, very little had been done to check it, the total vaccinations performed by the Health Department in 1901 having been less than 375,000. This year, however, more than twice that number of vaccinations have already been performed, and by the close of the year the number will have considerably exceeded 1,000,000. As a result of this efficient work, cases of smallpox have been this autumn reduced to a minimum, and the hospitals at North Brother Island have been without a case of smallpox for the first time since the fall of 1900.

More efficient inspection and disinfection of houses infected with tuberculosis has also resulted in a decrease of about 10 per cent in the death rate from consumption. A special corps of physicians has been appointed to the work of inspection of tuberculosis patients, and the work of renovation of houses infected with tuberculosis has been increased by about 200 per cent.

The most important feature of the autumn work on the medical side has been providing an efficient medical inspection in schools for children suffering from contagious disease. This work in previous years was largely nominal. This year nearly 50 per cent of the former number of inspectors were employed, but in the two months since schools opened they have inspected more than ten times as many children as in all of last year. One of the chief features of this medical work not hitherto carried out has been the exclusion from the schools of children suffering from contagious diseases of the eye. The disease is the fruit of unrestricted immigration, but fortunately the Immigration Commissioner now in office at this port is co-operating with the Health Department in every way to keep aliens suffering from conta-

gious eye disease from entering at this port.

Of the sanitary work of the Department of Health the following features may be cited: The inspection of food, particularly meat, fruit and milk, has been greatly broadened with the result that in the borough of Manhattan alone from 30 per cent to 40 per cent more bad food has been condemned and destroyed than was so treated last year. Milk inspections have increased more than 25 per cent despite a smaller force of inspectors. Fines collected for the sale of impure milk upon conviction at the Court of Special Sessions show an increase of nearly 200 per cent, this fact being evidence of the laxity of the previous administration in enforcing the law against fraudulent milk dealers. Meanwhile no effort has been spared to educate honest milk dealers with regard to the best methods to be used to improve their product, and the department's laboratories have been thrown open to all persons who may desire the examination of samples of milk. The education process has also been carried by Health Department inspectors into the country districts where New York City's milk supply originates.

When the present administration took office it found the city's vital statistics, which are absolutely not to be duplicated, in a non-fireproof building, and without adequate protection in any respect. Out of the appropriation above alluded to, contracts were let for installing these priceless records of the city's vital statistics in a fireproof vault in the basement of this building, which was formerly a swimming tank used by the New York Athletic Club. This is now being fitted with a steel roof set on its walls, which are about three feet thick, and will protect the records from anything short of an earthquake.

#### **Greenwich House.**

An informal opening reception was held at Greenwich House, 26 Jones street, on Saturday afternoon, Dec. 13. A stormy day did not prevent a large attendance of interested people, many of whom were neighbors who brought cordial greetings and a hearty welcome to the neighborhood. The House is a three-story-and-basement dwelling built about 1840 and retaining a good deal of the dignity of the houses of that period.

There is a deep extension that gives an unusual within space for so narrow a frontage. Though very simple, the furnishings and decorations are beautiful and restful. The House accommodates eight residents, and the main



floor and basement are commodious enough to allow the development of various neighborhood activities. A neighboring house on Grove street has been rented by a group of young men, who, engaged in their own professions or business during the day, devote their evenings to the neighborhood. These men breakfast and dine at the Settlement, and form an important element in the life and work of the House.

Greenwich House is situated on the lower West Side, in a section of the city where no such neighborhood House has hitherto existed. The nearest Settlement is the West Side Branch of the University Settlement; other agencies carrying on class and club work of various kinds in the neighborhood are the Parish of the Ascension, the Judson Memorial Church and St. Joseph's Church. But the general need for a greater interest in the welfare of the neighborhood was instanced by the remark of a Bleeker street shopkeeper, who, surprised and delighted that the House was to open so soon, said: "Now, over on the East Side they have kindergartens, out-of-door sports, clubs and everything; but nobody seems to care whether we get anything over here or not. Now, you can just call on me any time you want anybody to help."

The House is supported by an incorporated society with a board of managers, half of whom are residents of the House. The officers of the society are: Edward T. Devine, president; W. Franklin Brush, vice-president; Mary Sherman, secretary; Meredith Hare, treasurer; Mrs. V. G. Simkhovitch, headworker.

There are two ways of awaking ambition and inspiring one to do well a work for which he feels no attraction or the successful accomplishment of which he considers, for him, an impossibility.

The first is to use the finest material, the newest methods, the best tools, and have the task performed, whatever it may be, with such perfection that it will arouse the indifferent and discouraged to a great effort and make him struggle toward the ideal.

The other way is to prove that, even with inferior tools, in surroundings that hinder work by their limitation, tasks may be made interesting and what has been regarded as a mere drudgery may be looked upon as an art.

When housework and cooking are taught to tenement-house dwellers on porcelain-top tables, the latest Boynton range, and with a \$100 list of cooking utensils, then is the ideal held up as a model to look at.

When domestic science is taught in spite of a

stove that draws badly, in spite of the necessity of using a clothes line that never feels the sunlight and comes in too close contact with the neighbors' lines; when, in the place where the lessons are given, there is never enough hot water, never enough space, and too few pans and kettles, then is housework taught by the second method. The dulled housewife is made to acknowledge that any home may be made attractive and work well done is always interesting.

A year ago last November a flat (one of twenty-four in a Henry street tenement) was taken and furnished as an object lesson. The idea was to make the rooms artistic, dainty, sanitary, and withal inexpensive. Although situated in the most crowded part of New York, this flat is not in one of the worst tenements. To be sure, the clothes must needs be hung in the narrow air shaft; no ray of sun ever finds its way to any part of the flat. In this apartment there are four rooms and a bath; the front windows face the street and even the back rooms can boast a shaft opening. The better flat was selected because the object was not to show the lazy, slovenly woman how she, her children and boarders might continue to live a little more decently in her unhealthy back tenement, but to help those who, consciously or unconsciously, are worthy of a home with charm and comfort, even though this home must be in a New York tenement house. Also it is desired to give to all children who come to its doors such a clear, definite picture of what a home can be, that never again will they be blind to squalor and ugliness.

The front room of this model flat is used as parlor and bedroom. The narrow iron bed, in its habitual whiteness, does not seem out of place in the corner of this green-papered living room, and its occupant has the advantage of air and light. One bed being in the parlor, relieves the crowding of our one back bedroom. The iron washstand in the front room is hidden by a screen made of a clothes-horse painted white and covered with chintz curtains, which are easily washed and hung on tapes. The window curtains, of ten-cent muslin, reach only to the window sill and are intended to be a continual protest against the long, trailing lace curtain so beloved by the tenement-house tenant. A plain oak table, stained and waxed, serves as a desk, while wooden chairs, pleasing in their dull coloring, suggest cleanliness and yet comfort. The easily lifted rag-carpet rug, the chest of drawers, a larger oak table for books and work basket, complete the furnish-

ing of the front room. And yet one can hardly say the parlor is fully described unless the stained pine shelf, holding the green pottery vase and Barye lion, the many plants on the window sill and the framed photographs are given a place in the picture.

The dining room, back of the parlor bedroom, has but few features sufficiently novel to describe. The round second-hand table, the six plain chairs, the corner window seat (home-made of pine wood and stained) and the bookcase are the only furnishings. The walls in this room are covered with yellow cartridge paper, while turkey-red cushions and the copper and brass candlesticks and dishes (found in the neighborhood) give color to the room.

The two thoughts most emphasized in the bathroom and kitchen are that everything must be washable, from the walls to the uncovered shelves and table. And, second, that each article shall have a place of its own, be it a nail on the wall or a spot on a shelf. Only the one bedroom remains. May it contain always only such furnishings as are necessary for a sleeping room, and be bare, as it is now, of all finery. Where space is scarce and time for dusting limited, finery is out of place.

This flat is used not only as an object lesson to those who go in and out daily—drawing books, writing letters or playing games; but lessons are given every afternoon and evening—lessons that have no suggestion of school, but are the natural help from one who is fortunate enough to know how to work well to those who not only are ignorant of how housework should be done, but in many cases have never seen a well-kept home.

There are classes of children who know that if the stove is really well cleaned and blackened, and the fire satisfactorily laid, cooking will follow as surely as the inevitable dish-washing. The bed-making, dusting and window-washing are all done in the spirit of "keeping house," a natural love in every child.

The older pupils, school teachers as well as factory girls, are many of them about to have homes of their own. They come to the flat with such a consciousness of their own ignorance and such a respect for well-done work that they are as willing to scrub the bathroom, clean kitchen utensils and wash woodwork as they are to learn of the scientific preparation of foodstuffs. The mothers' cooking classes, instruction from a trained nurse in the care of home and patient in time of sickness, are of the greatest importance; but above all the flat is a home, not a school.

## COLLEGE SETTLEMENTS ASSOCIATION.

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### SETTLEMENTS.

New York City—95 Rivington Street.

Philadelphia—433 Christian Street.

Boston—91 Tyler Street (Denison House).

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY  
CAROLINE WILLIAMSON MONTGOMERY,  
5548 Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago.

## CASA CASTELAR.

BY KATHARINE COMAN, PRESIDENT C. S. A.

The first settlement west of the Mississippi river is that planted in February, 1894, at Los Angeles by the western branch of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae. The neighborhood chosen is Sonoratown, the Mexican quarter and once the heart of the city. Here, huddled together in rapidly narrowing quarters, dwell Aztec Indians, Mexican half-breeds and people of pure Spanish blood. All speak the flexible Spanish tongue and cling to the leisurely, confiding ways of the Latin races. They are baptized, married and buried in the old mission church, La Reina de Los Angeles, and they sun themselves in the beautiful Plaza, a relic of the Spanish occupation. Sonoratown is a picturesque survival. The houses are built of adobe, broad and low, with heavy walls that afford protection against summer sun and winter chill. Wide porchlike eaves shade open door and window, and give a hospitable look to the otherwise stern exterior. Ruddy children play about the doorsteps and dark-eyed women lift their mantillas to answer your greeting. If you are on friendly footing you may penetrate to the court. It is shaded by eucalyptus and fig trees, and gay with flowers and strings of red peppers. Women are bending over braseros preparing tortillas for the evening meal. The glow of the firelight on their dark faces is a picture worthy of Rem-

brandt. The roomy old houses are fast being pulled down to make way for the more profitable brick tenement, and modern filth and squalor are invading Sonoratown. In an open place shorn of all beauty, we found an encampment of peons, Mexicans just brought over the border to work on the Southern Pacific Railroad. They have come far, from the City of Mexico, the women will tell you. They will soon be transferred to the barracks provided by the railway management—a line of disused freight cars. The children playing in the shade beneath are sometimes killed when the train is shifted without warning, but what matters a greaser more or less?

The Mexican is the under dog in Southern California. He is considered lazy and unreliable as a workman, and as a citizen unprogressive. By contrast with American push he is all these, but he has virtues of his own not to be bought with gold. Easily outwitted by the shrewdness of the Yankee, he goes from bad to worse financially, but he cherishes the dignity and courtesy, the humor and *savoir faire* of the Spaniard. The poorest Mexican will meet an embarrassing situation with a grace that should put his social superiors to the blush. He is generous to a fault, for in his estimation neighborly kindness is more important than a bank account.

Sonoratown is not a "city wilderness," but settlement work is nowhere more needed because of the "great gulf fixed" between these light-hearted, improvident children of the South and the practical, uncomprehending Americans. Here is a promising field for the gospel of hygiene, and the district nurse, maintained in part by the city and in part by the settlement, renders most effective service. She not only looks after the sick in their homes and sends serious cases to the hospital, but she carries on a crusade against disease, teaching the mothers how to care for their children, reporting unsanitary courts, etc. The health officer has repeatedly expressed his appreciation of the preventive work thus accomplished. Public baths, the gift of a friend, and well patronized, further the same end. Clubs for boys and girls, men and mothers, are carried on, not so much for the purpose of sociability, as for training in co-operation and self-government the traits that make for good citizenship. The classes are mainly industrial in character. The girls are taught sewing and cooking and housekeeping. The boys have instruction in wood-carving, clay-modeling and the making of rope mats and baskets. The

aim is not to fit for a special trade, but to train eye and hand and develop adaptability. Such work is very popular with this essentially artistic people, but facilities are greatly limited for lack of funds. Current expenses are sometimes met by club dues, and sometimes out of the pocket of the instructor.

The settlement residents must often act as an employment agency, and they bring all their influence to bear in behalf of industry and thrift. A stamps savings bank has been opened at the settlement, and it is patronized by young and old. The settlement lawyer often renders important aid in controversies where the Mexican's ignorance of law and property rights places him at a serious disadvantage. The small fee charged puts the transaction on a business basis.

Casa Castelar is just now facing a financial crisis. To avoid being turned out of the house it is necessary to move it. Of the purchase price (\$3,500) \$1,500 was raised at the outset. The remaining \$2,000 was advanced by a friend and is secured by a mortgage on the property. The Board of Directors hope to clear this mortgage within the year. Will not the friends of the Spaniard and the lovers of Southern California give aid?

Contributions should be sent to Miss Mary H. Bingham, 1125 West Twenty-first street, Los Angeles.

#### **The Radcliffe Chapter of College Settlement Association, Cambridge, Mass.**

The work of the Radcliffe Chapter of the College Settlement Association is restricted to Denison House, Tyler street, Boston; Elizabeth Peabody House, Poplar street, Boston, and Roxbury House, Dayton avenue, Roxbury. From a chapter of some eighty-five members committees are appointed by the elector to provide for a monthly entertainment at Denison House—usually a play; and once a week girls pledge themselves to help in the game clubs for children. At Elizabeth Peabody House four entertainments throughout the year are planned, and here students also pledge themselves to help in the daily industrial classes of small children. Elizabeth Peabody House is an endowed institution primarily for kindergarten work, and has less demand for student help. One entertainment is usually given at Roxbury House during the year and several classes are conducted by volunteer students in English and German and travel study.

Radcliffe College gives a play yearly for the benefit of the College Settlement Associa-

tion. This year \$61.71 net was realized from Piner's "Sweet Lavender." For each class organization, also—Graduate, Senior, Junior, Sophomore, Freshman and Special—a collector is appointed to take charge of the gratuitous sums from the students (none less than 50 cents), and this is forwarded by the treasurer of the chapter to the general treasury in New York before the end of the college year. All sundry expenses of the chapter are met by assessments.

EMILY M. McAVITY,

Sec'y-Treas. Radcliffe Chapter of C. S. A.

The students of Smith College have interested themselves, especially in Northampton, in the Home Culture Club, the name of which perhaps best expresses its aim. This year the club has over three hundred and fifty members, most of whom are working people. There is a small membership fee, \$1 a year or 15 cents a month, the year lasting from October to June. As members of the club they are entitled to join any of the classes held at the clubhouse.

There are classes in language, spelling, writing, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, sewing, gymnastics, dancing and music besides classes for foreigners wishing to learn English, and the most of the teachers for these are college girls. There are now ninety girls giving up one or more evenings a week to the classes held at the clubhouse. Because a majority of the members are working people most of the classes are held in the evening, although there is an afternoon dancing class and music lessons are given then.

The work done at the club might be called the college settlement work of Northampton, and while the girls can know very little of their pupils in their homes, much is accomplished by the work at the club.

WINIFRED REND,

Smith College chairman Home Culture Club.

To the Bryn Mawr C. S. A. Chapter it has seemed necessary, in order to arouse the interest in social work, to make the need of it felt. So there has been an effort to make it as easy as possible for the girls to learn of existing conditions. The Economics Club was consequently formed so that those who deal with social problems can tell the girls of work that is now being done, the need of future effort and of the life of those who have few privileges. From these meetings result the

spirit and interest which makes it possible to carry on the association's work.

FREDRICA LE FEVRE,

Undergraduate Elector of C. S. A., Bryn Mawr.

#### The New York College Settlement.

The Settlement's summer home at Mt. Ivy was opened early in June, and until the middle of September parties of young men, women and children were constantly coming and going. The accommodations were considerably increased by the addition of three camps, two of them belonging to the young men's clubs, and the third a camp for little boys. Six groups of about twelve boys occupied it during the summer.

The work of the Settlement in the city went on as usual. There were a number of day picnics, although the weather was not very favorable and the demand for outings not great. The yard was filled with children morning and afternoon, and the house was open every evening to the young men and women who came in often to sing or play ping-pong.

#### The Philadelphia College Settlement.

Last winter the Philadelphia College Settlement enlarged its work by the opening of Roosevelt House for residence. This house, formerly a tenement, is located at 502 South Front street, in the midst of a typical river-front population. The predominating nationalities are Irish and Polish; saloons and sailors' boarding houses abound. The chief resident at Roosevelt House since its opening has been the College Settlement Probation Officer, Mrs. Montgomery. She came here in order to be near the center of her district, and to live in close contact with those under her care. But her work has extended beyond those placed by law under her influence. The neighborhood from the first regarded Roosevelt House as the exponent of law and order, and the preventive work accomplished both among adults and children has been large.

The past winter was largely spent in getting acquainted with the neighborhood. In this end weekly socials were held. Several organizations were also formed, a Stamp Savings Center, a working girls' club, a sewing class and several boys' clubs. One of the latter is called the Round Table Club, and has paid special attention to the King Arthur stories. These boys translate many of the old chivalrous terms into their own vernacular; for instance, knight is "guy," and when an interested lis-

tener eagerly demands, "Well, what did that guy do next?" no disrespect is intended for the knightly hero of the tale. To the work of last year will be added this winter library and cooking classes, the latter made possible by the kindness of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae.

The Christian street house has been enlarged by the addition of the adjoining property, No. 429, formerly a rather dirty tenement house. This enlargement will make possible for the first time an open reading room. The room is also to be used as a study place for school children, and help with lessons will be given when needed. Since many of the school children in our neighborhood belong to homes where no English is spoken, and where perhaps ten people are confined to one room, the need of such an evening study place is apparent.—College News, Wellesley.

The eleventh annual report of the College Settlement, 95 Rivington street and 188 Ludlow street, New York, has just been issued. It contains reports by the head worker, Miss Elizabeth Williams, of the summer home by Miss Elizabeth D. Robbins, of the kindergarten by Miss Darling, and of the cooking school by Miss Beard, as well as reports of treasurer, lists of residents, workers, committees, etc. It is well printed and there are three excellent illustrations.

The Christian Association of Vassar College enlists its members in varied social work by requesting each student to volunteer for one or more of the following lines of service:

Missionary Work.—Collection of offerings, work in the missionary library.

Philanthropic Work.—Dressing Christmas dolls, making of garments, collecting of old clothes.

Work for Maids in the College.—Leading devotional meetings, furnishing entertainments, teaching classes.

Work in Poughkeepsie.—Sunday school classes, sewing classes, gymnastic and dancing classes, friendly visiting, work at Old Ladies' Home, work in hospital, children's Bible classes, children's guilds and clubs.

"To make some nook of God's creation a little fruitfuller, better, more worthy of God; to make some human hearts a little wiser, manfuller, happier—more blessed, less accursed! It is work for a God."—Past and Present.

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THE MONTH AT CHICAGO COMMONS.

A Fortnight of Christmas.

The holiday cycle of festivities has been unusually satisfactory in the simplicity, variety, and joyous reality of the occasions. Far preferable to large general gatherings we find the occasions arranged for single groups or for the combination of the groups having a common interest. Nowhere did the Christmas spirit find more spontaneous and unique expression than in the kindergarten celebration. As they marched into the auditorium, each child carried a spray of evergreen and each of their teachers a lighted taper. As they formed their circle around the Christmas tree they were encircled by a wider circle of mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers, neighbors and friends. In the language and gestures of all the nationalities from Italy to Norway, the charm of the scene at the center was reflected around the circumference.

The Boy's and Girl's clubs were held spell bound on another evening by the story of Ben Hur, realistically told and graphically pictured on the stereopticon screen. Many private parties were held by the little groups in their own way. Whatever gifts were distributed on occasions held at the house were either of the same kind or of equal value, leaving therefore no such heart burnings as discrimination is sure to engender. Many tokens were taken to the homes of the children where there was special reason for it. The visiting nurse, for instance, took some of them on her rounds to her little patients.

The last night of the Old Year was particularly interesting. The House was ablaze with light and cheer all over. On one floor a group of young girls gave a pretty little private party to a group of their boy friends. In the Community Club rooms the men gave a Ladies' Night and presented one of their members, a resident of the House, with a beautiful token of their appreciation of his leadership in their victorious legislative campaign. The Choral Club gathered their friends around the hearth in the neighborhood parlor. In the midst of it all the neighborhood church had a whole floor to itself for its annual meeting, social reunion, and "watch night" service.

The holiday spirit reached its consummation in the recital of the Oratorio of "The Messiah," generously rendered by Chicago's greatest chorus, the Apollo Musical Club, under the direction of Mr. Harrison Wild.

Chicago Commons is greatly interested and encouraged in the social extension of public school work which has been successfully introduced this winter in the neighboring Washington School House. The variety and success of the classes, clubs, craft work and social occasions are due to the energetic and public spirited principalship of Mr. William J. Bogan, who is at the head of both the day and night schools, and to the intelligent cooperation and liberal financial support furnished by the Merchant's Club of Chicago, which has also sustained with equal success a still larger work in the John Spry School at the heart of the Bohemian district.

Free Floor Discussions for January.

- Jan. 6.—"The Rights of Man," by Dr. Lyman Abbott.
- Jan. 13.—"Music, Its Relation to Life and Labor," by Prof. William L. Tomlins.
- Jan. 20.—"The Limitation of Output," by representative employes and employers.
- Jan. 27.—"Pennsylvania Coal Miners under Strike Conditions," as seen by Bishop Samuel Fallows.

Debt Reduced \$3,000 Last Month.

Due on notes and current accounts	
Dec. 1.....	\$12,187
Contributed and paid during December	3,000
Balance due January 1, 1903.....	\$ 9,187
Guaranteed by friends.....	4,450
Remainder to be raised, due on notes of demand.....	\$4,737
SUPPORT OF THE SETTLEMENT WORK IN 1903 NOW BEING SOLICITED.	
Maintenance of building, \$200 per month .....	\$2,400
Day Nursery, rental and support, \$100 per month .....	1,200
Full service of six paid residents, \$325 per month .....	3,900
Summer camp, outing and playground	1,100
Stenography, printing and periodical..	760
Unclassified and special expense ac- count .....	600
	\$9,960
Estimated expense for 1903, per month,	\$830.

"Where the heart is full it seeks for a thousand reasons, in a thousand ways, to impart it. How sweet, indispensable, in such cases, is fellowship: soul mystically strengthening soul!"—French Revolution.

# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor from the Settlement Point of View.

Number 79—Vol. VII

Seventh Year

Chicago, February, 1903

## OUR WORKING CHILDREN IN ILLINOIS.

BY MRS. HARRIET M. VAN DER VAART,

Chairman Industrial Committee of the Federated Women's Clubs.

Every thoughtful and intelligent man and woman believes in labor, believes in work for man, woman and child; knows there is a very close relationship between the growth and progress of a nation or an individual, and their occupations.

We are all cognizant of the fact that many of our greatest men have come from the laboring classes, and realize that the manual labor in their lives has been one of the potent factors that has helped to develop them into reliable, substantial citizens.

But labor, though one of the greatest incentives in life, may be of two kinds. It may be educational and stimulating or it may be paralyzing and deadening. If the interest is taken out of it, if the worker is cut off from any relationship to the ultimate object or use of the work; if all possibility of working out an ideal is eliminated, the life principle is gone.

A few generations ago the children of the community were getting a large part of their education from the industrial world, from the occupations that naturally fell to them. When the wheat was raised on the farm, ground into flour in the village, made into bread in the kitchen; when the shoemaker went from house to house with his kit of tools and made the shoes for the members of the family for the year; when sheep were raised on the farm, and the wool was cut, washed, carded, spun, dyed, woven into cloth, and then made into garments for the men and women as well as the boys and girls of the family, all on the same little farm. Meeting the necessities and wants of the family and of the community was the object of work that was constantly held before the minds of the children.

The demand then upon the public school was small compared to the demand of to-day. Reading, writing, arithmetic, largely met the need of the child. He learned the rules, ac-

quired the tools, that he could put into practice in his every day work. His pleasures were largely the reward of tasks well accomplished. There was a unity and harmony in the child's life that gave the opportunity for an all around development. The working child was the thinking child, the playing child. How is it with increasing numbers of our children today?

Since the introduction of machinery our industries have become so complicated that the educational factor and the intellectual stimulus have been almost entirely eliminated from the industrial world. One pair of shoes passes through perhaps one hundred pair of hands before they reach the feet of the wearer.

The child is exceptionally educated who associates the sheep with the garment he may be wearing. The little girl in the soap factory works "on a score"—that is, she wraps in two wrappers three thousand cakes of soap a day to make three dollars a week. When this score can be easily accomplished, she takes the next until she reaches what is the present limit—six thousand cakes per day.

One cannot watch her without realizing that every nerve and muscle of her body is under a strain to accomplish the greatest speed possible. Of course the stimulant is constantly before her, to complete the score she is making and pass to the next. There is no educational factor in the work, nor any intellectual stimulus. All physical energy is exhausted to increase rapidity of motion, and what is the object held before her—material gain—dollars and cents.

The same conditions exist more or less in all factory life for children—the same physical waste, the lack of nourishment for the mental faculties (which means degeneration) and the elimination of the ideal. Physically, mentally and morally, is our industrial world to-day restricting the development of the larger number of our working children.

Think of the little boys working all night in the glass factories between a blazing furnace in front and two brilliant electric lights at the side. How long can we expect eyes under such a strain to remain perfect? Look

at the almost baby newsboys and girls on the streets of Chicago after dark.

Think of the influences surrounding our messenger service for both boys and girls. Visit our stock yards. Go into the canning and stuffing rooms. Look into some of the slaughtering pits. See the conditions and influences, physical and moral, thrown around boys in knee pants and girls wearing short dresses.

Find some of the small tobacco factories located in cellars and alleys, where there is little light, and fresh air is excluded, plumbing poor, sanitary conditions bad. Study the sallow emaciated children found at work in these places.

The one universal excuse for child labor always brought forward is the needed support for the widowed mother.

Let us first know that some man is not hiding behind the widow's garb, and depending upon what he considers his legitimate means of a revenue—his child. It might be well to look even deeper and study the causes that have been the means of so wiping out the manhood in the father, as to make him willing to depend upon his little child for support. for child labor is one of the results of deep seated wrongs. But evolution, growth, progress are slow and go step by step and the child is farthest "under the load."

I was in a court room a few weeks ago where a sickly mother was brought to the stand on a charge of a false affidavit; by her side was a delicate, white-faced little boy, through an interpreter (for she could not speak English) she confessed that the child was not fourteen, but said her husband was a cripple and she had consumption, and she did not know what else to do.

If a person is starving it is hard to refuse bread even though it is known the bread contains poison. In sacrificing the child the mother is sacrificing a possible future support, for a very inadequate one. In case the child should not be exhausted physically (which in this case was almost sure to happen) he would in nine cases out of ten become discouraged and disheartened and by the time he was twenty it is almost certain his earnings would amount to no more—if as much—as at twelve. In eight or ten years it is possible the state will have two to support, the mother in the poor house, the child possibly as a tramp or an incapable because prematurely worn out.

One's imagination looks into the future with wonder as to the men and women who will

be developed from the childhood that is so largely moulded by machinery. Does it not become the duty of the citizens of to-day to seriously consider the question how we are to give to the children of the community the educational factor that has been eliminated from the industrial world?

How are we to provide for the all around development necessary if the children of to-day are to grow into the citizenship that will promote the progress and welfare of our country? There is but one medium, one avenue, through which all the children of the community may be reached, and that is: Our Public School. Expert educators are working out in private schools the thought that work and play and education should together constitute one harmonious result in the mind of the child. These school experiments often seem like child's play and very artificial, compared with the same results of meeting the necessities of every day living, as the children of a few generations ago met them. But the old thought is taking root again in the educational world, society must complement each other.

It is as yet largely an intellectual perception; it has not reached the conscience of the people that in the words of Dr. Dewey, "What the wisest and best parent demands for his child, that must the community demand for its children." When the intellect and the conscience of the people are thoroughly awake to the importance of this one avenue that lies open to all the children of the community, the public school may become the revolutionizing factor that will eventually hold the industrial as well as the educational forces subordinate to the need and development of the child.

The immediate duty is first to watch with a jealous eye any infringement on the flexibility or freedom of the public school to see to it that more and more its doors are opened to the best educators and the most advanced thought. To stand guard against any tendency of the school to fall in line with our present industries, to eliminate the ideal and to educate our children to be money mongers.

The next near duty is to see that our laws guarding the working children are such as shall more and more compel children to take advantage of the school and shall allow them to enter the industrial world under as favorable conditions as possible. Our present compulsory school and child labor laws are so inadequate that they are not fulfilling the object for which they were created.



Our compulsory school law in Illinois only covers sixteen weeks of the school year. A child past twelve years of age need not begin school until the first of January, which opens the temptation to the parent to take advantage of these early fall months when there is the greatest demand for child labor and put the child to work. Our child labor law says: No child shall work until he is fourteen, which leaves a part of a year when he cannot work and need not be in school.

It is evident these two laws should be coordinated. If we say a child shall not work until he is fourteen we should say he must be in school until he is fourteen. The present clause of the child labor law, which prohibits children working under fourteen, is largely ineffective because of its inadequate provisions. In order that a child between fourteen and sixteen may work, the employer must have the parent's affidavit that the child is fourteen, which affidavit may be secured from any notary. There seems to be a general feeling among parents that these affidavits only mean getting permission to work. One case where a mother brought a child before a conscientious notary, offering to make affidavit that the child was fourteen. When asked if she would swear before the living God that the child was fourteen, answered, "No, I cannot do that; he *isn't fourteen.*"

Often children are sent to some friend with the request to have the necessary paper made out, so that they may go to work. All working children know they must have this paper, and that they *must say* they are fourteen.

The three other main points of the present law are: First, prohibiting children working where there is danger from machinery. Second, prohibiting their working where they would be under immoral influences. And third, that they can only work ten hours in any one day. Very little thought has been given to the first, almost none to the second, the third has been fairly enforced.

#### PROPOSED IMPROVEMENT IN LAWS.

Two bills will be presented to the legislature this winter one whose main point is to have the compulsory school law cover the entire school year. The other, a child labor bill, the substance of which is contained in the following points:

To make it impossible for a child to work under fourteen at any gainful occupation, in any concert hall, theater, or place of amusement where liquor is sold or at any mercantile institution, store, office, laundry, manufacturing

establishment, bowling alley, passenger or freight elevator, factory or work shop or as messenger or driver within this state.

If a child wishes to work between the ages of fourteen and sixteen he must secure a certificate from the school he last attended, giving his school grade and age according to the school records. It provides that there be one central place (for connection with the board of education) where the affidavits can be obtained and the child's age must be proved either by the birth record or church or school record or baptism certificate. In such cases where no records can be obtained, the parent or guardian may go before the juvenile or county court and obtain the affidavit from the judge of such court. The new bill also provides that no child between the ages of fourteen and sixteen shall work before seven in the morning or after ten at night.

No child between the age of fourteen and sixteen shall work unless he can read and write simple sentences in the English language or is regularly attending night school. The responsibility is laid upon the citizens of Illinois, both for the sake of the child and for its own future citizenship to see that these bills become laws.

In our dealings with little children, our duty is to meet the need of the child. In meeting that need we are opening the way to the best possible future.

In our homes, our schools, our charities, our industrial world, we need to have held before us the old beautiful vision of the child that comes to us through the artist and the poet.

"Heaven lies about us in our infancy,  
Shades of the prison house begin to close upon  
the growing boy,

But he beholds the light and whence it flares,  
He sees it in his joy.

The youth who daily farther from the east  
Must travel, still to Nature's Priest,  
And by the vision splendid  
Is on his way attended."

Neighborhood House, Chicago.

Denver, Colorado, opens the new year with its first social settlement well established and rapidly gaining in attendance and effective support. "Neighborhood House" was opened on Santa Fe avenue by the Women's Association of Plymouth Congregational Church, which now shares its privileges and opportunities of service with several other churches of the city. Miss Semple, formerly a settlement worker in Chicago, is Head Resident.

# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor  
from the Social Settlement Point of View.

GRAHAM TAYLOR, - - - Editor

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A Year

## EDITORIAL.

### Church Federation and the Settlements.

In a sensible and suggestive article contributed to *The Outlook*, Lillian W. Betts writes of the settlement idea and small communities, with the rare descriptive and impressive style which characterizes her remarkable book, "The Leaven in a Great City." She demonstrates the social waste in the division and competition of the forces of righteousness in small towns and cities. In the friendliest spirit toward both she contrasts the divided efforts of the churches where there is the greatest need of uniting all the forces to help the resourceless people of the town, with the settlement's social unification of the people of the city centers in helpful co-operation with each other and outside agencies. She urges this settlement idea upon the churches in making of themselves or by their combined effort "centers that bring all the people together, that create common interests, form a bank of knowledge where heads and hearts work together to lessen suffering, to stimulate hope, and to arouse interest in each one who makes a demand on its capital. These are the opportunities of every church in a community which has social problems due to poverty and overcrowding, and the absence of social life to lighten the burden of labor." She assures them that "no surer method of reaching the unchurched exists than that of undenominational effort for the community's good. And work for the children, as if to prove the truth of prophecy, 'A little child shall lead them,' wins the best that the best men and women have to give." If this be given, she ventures to prophesy, "Let the effort begin with work requiring personal service from those who have skill and knowledge. Slowly the barrier between the churches will melt away; needs and opportunities will not be separated by a name. There will come finally a community of interest representing the brotherhood which Christ's life epitomized for man's guidance in his life with his fellow-men."

### The Social Promise of Church Federation in New York and Chicago.

Although still in its infancy, the Federation of Churches in the city of New York, under the able leadership of Dr. Walter Laidlaw, has already achieved such effective service as to give good ground for large social hope. It started with the high aim "to promote and assist the co-operation of the 1500 churches, settlements, and charitable institutions of New York City, in teaching religion and morality, in improving social and sanitary conditions, in fighting vice, and in raising the walls of the city whose builder and maker is God." The social service which the churches of many neighborhoods might render to their localities, are declared to be beyond the ability of single churches. A district federation is most feasible for bringing its institutions into harmonious, systematic and effective working order. The neighborhood churches and social institutions may only thus work for the improvement of the schools of their localities, for playgrounds, parks and libraries, and by such special union outdoor and indoor religious services as are determined among themselves.

With such social aims this Federation has fortunately from the start combined scientific spirit and method in its statistical research and tabulation. Its social analyses of the population of several assembly districts deserve to be classed with parts of Charles Booth's great work on "The Life and Labor of the People of London." Its quarterly publication, "Federation" is a remarkably solid and suggestive output.

As the settlement movement spreads to the smaller cities and towns it may not only set the type of such co-operation, but if it maintains the relations it should with the churches, it may promote their federation. Surely nothing could be more in line with the purpose and work of settlements than to render any possible help toward this consummation, which is more devoutly to be wished than almost any other. Auspicious to this end is the everywhere increasing friendliness and co-operation between the settlements and churches of every name. Whatever non-intercourse, much more antagonism may have ever existed between them, is now being considered as self-stultifying to both. What is bringing them into sane and self-respecting and reciprocally advantageous relationships is the twofold trend of the times toward giving an essentially religious sanction to the social movement, and an inevitable social direction to the religious movement.

"Not what I Have, but what I Do is my Kingdom."—Sartor Resartus.

## A VISION OF PEACE.

BY WALLACE RICE.

Fitly one dies for his country, sweet is the death she bestows;  
Glad is the red field of battle, gayly the bright trumpet blows;  
Forth as a bride to her bridegroom Death to the warrior goes.

Bitter the long life of duty seeking no laurels nor pay,  
Striving with foes of the Nation grasping her honor as prey,  
Glanced at askance by his fellows, walking the long, narrow way.

Gallant the charge and the onslaught cheering together to go;  
Silent and lonely the warfare 'gainst an insidious foe:  
Glory and death are the soldier's; hatred and life others know.

Fighting America's battles whether by land or by sea,  
Who could be less than a hero under that Flag of the Free?  
Read of, and cherish, and love them—such are the men all would be.

Treason is death in the army, death 's for the enemy's spy:  
Think you no André nor Arnold dwells within sight of your eye?  
Perfidy to great ideals, that you must strike till you die!

Vigilance, ceaseless, eternal, ever was Liberty's price:  
If you are slaves 't was your fathers left you to slavish device;  
Would you make slaves of your children? Sleep for a time—'t will suffice.

Truth is the right of your country: Lie, and she lies to your grief;  
Honor, and that is your country's: Bribe, and you bribe her as lief;  
Honesty, that is your country's: Thieve, and she, too, is a thief.

Too much the world thinks on Dives: Harken to Lazarus, too—  
All of his sores are his country's: Heal them if you would be true—  
Heal them, or share an infection you and your children must rue.

Never was minted a dollar equal in worth to a tear,  
Never success worth the having gained through another soul's fear:  
Smiles mark the highway to triumph when a man's title is clear.

Still at the eye of the needle Selfishness struggles his fill.  
No man may serve God and Mammon: Love—Love alone—is God's will.  
Scourged were the changers of money—Greed stands the root of all ill.

No end can justify evil—Piety, Culture and State  
Stand as accursed for ever, else on Jehovah must wait:  
Think you for "civilization" God will His Justice abate?

Dear is the thought of the Nation; dearer is Freedom to me;  
Dearest of all through the ages, Truth, that alone makes us free:  
Verity, Liberty, Country, grant us their union to see!

Plant high the Cross on the hill-top, thither in humbleness strive!  
Offer no children to Mammon—luxury lets no man thrive;  
Feed not our bravest to Moloch—must the unfittest survive?

Ever is war deed for savage, born of the ancestral taint.  
Slay? So do beasts that shall perish: Where is Man's godlike restraint?  
Leave them their teeth and their talons; leave him the fight of the saint!

Brave are the victors in combat; brave were the conquered as well.  
Valor sits close by the dying; valor the living, too, spell.  
Courage far finer than carnage Peace, serene, smiling can tell.

Beaten our swords into ploughshares, fortresses turned into schools,  
Cavalry tilling the prairie, infantry busy with tools,  
Navies deep laden with bounty—thus fair America rules.

Throughout the breadth of the Union happiness all the day long,  
Ever a hope for the nations, everywhere music and song,  
Always our Stars the World's Conscience, Stripes against tyrants and Wrong.

Day of Good Will, speed your coming! Justice and Mercy, increase!  
Love for the loveless, grow mighty! Hate for the hatefulest, cease!  
So shall Man win his last battle led by the Christ who is Peace.

### LONDON CHILDREN OUT TO TEA.

Though Percy Alden is no longer warden of Mansfield House or editor of the London Echo, evidently he is determined that he is not going to be lost to the cause and no action of his could be more characteristic than the use he has made of the columns of the Echo to raise a fund for giving a Christmas entertainment to thousands of the poor children of London's east end. One good meal, one evening's romp and jollity in a bright, warm room throughout the long, dark winter of privation—harder this year than for many previous—seems scant allowance to those whose childhood never lacked these things. But the reports of these entertainments in The Echo prove that they were great occasions to the recipients and not the least part of the satisfaction felt by Mr. Alden and those who contributed to his fund must lie in the expressions of gratitude received from public school teachers who are daily harassed by sights of the children's suffering and their own inability to relieve it, but who through this fund had been enabled for once to have their hearts' desire in seeing the children have a good time.

Here are some of the vivid scenes reported in the Echo:

"THE ECHO' Tea, Sir?" "Yes." "You're quite right, aren't the little rascals enjoying their selves?" When the door was opened the kids began to sing, and I thought it was a sight fit to set before the King. There they were, seated at long tables, in a large room, decorated in true seasonable fashion. The hunger exhibited on the faces of the girls and boys was in striking fitness with the desire to administer relief. To them the outward and visible signs of festivity stood for little until hunger and thirst had been coped with; then, and only then, did they condescend to note the work of other hands. And what a merry little crowd they proved to be after tea! In fact, that the industrial and educational factors in it took all the tact and energy of Mrs. Herbert Stead, to say nothing of her enormous bell, to manipulate with some degree of comfort these little children.

#### OUT OF WORK.

"How did you manage to collect them?" I asked of Mrs. Stead. "Well, you see," said Mrs. Stead, "we sent round to the schools and asked the teachers to give the tickets to those children whose fathers were out of work. And this is the result. All these children have fathers who have nothing to do." "And is

there much poverty in the neighborhood?" "Oh, yes, an extraordinary amount. Why, these few children here only stand for a very small section of Walworth." One case of a poor widow with three small children was distinctly interesting and indicative of the spirit with which many meet and endure their fate. She was presented with three tickets for "The Echo" tea, but during the week discovered some children worse off than her own, and promptly gave up her tickets to them. This was a noble act.

#### FASCINATING THE LITTLE ONES.

It always refreshes the heart to see children play. But to see the eye brighten and sparkle, and note the gay trip of tiny feet that more often than not hastened to bed supperless was a sight fit for immortals. How the eyes wandered to the gigantic Christmas tree, surmounted by an ideal Father Christmas! What speculations were indulged in—during the games—as to what present would fall to their lot! Even the huge rocking-horse failed to fascinate the boys when presentation time came. Then all retired happy, laden with bags of sweets, nuts, and oranges, to remind them still further of the kind "Echo" subscribers.

#### THEIR SENSE OF HUMOR.

Oh for a poet with the sympathy and verve of Mrs. Browning! This is one of the needs of the age. To visit a children's merrymaking, where the youthful enthusiasm knows no bounds, and where appetite is not restricted by the cautious appeal of the suffering mother to take thought for the morrow, is to catch a glimpse of the true ministering value of wealth. And what an extraordinary life most of these little hairns live! After school hours there is no place for them at the fireside; there is the open door, and the cold, relentless street. One is ever struck by the manner in which they take their little problems and trials.

#### CHILDREN'S STORIES.

Extreme hunger never destroys their sense of humor. You might almost imagine that this quality expanded amid their depressing environment of poverty. Hungry or not, they are always keenly alive to every passing event, and able to perceive in most things somewhat of life's incongruity. It is difficult to forget the quaint apology of the child who was late for "The Echo" tea because an uncle had taken her for an "exertion." And equally hard to refrain from laughing over the remark of the little girl who experienced some little difficulty

in performing a certain task, and was reminded by her aunt that Rome was not built in a day; therefore, she must persevere. Quick as lightning came the answer, "Oh, aunty, how can you talk so? Don't you know that it took God only six days to make the whole world? and I don't suppose He spent more than half an hour on Rome!"

\* HOMELESS AND SUPPERLESS.

It is their ability to recognize the humorous as well as utilize it that makes life at all endurable, and prevents even worse disorders than at present prevail. But they must be fed and clothed! What man worthy of the name can retire at night feeling at all comfortable, when so many of these homeless and supperless London children demand attention and thought? Have ye not met a

Young barefooted child,  
Who begged loud and bold;  
And ask'd her what she did abroad  
When the wind it blew so cold?

These

Know the grief of man, but not the wisdom;  
They sink in man's despair, without its  
calm—

Are slaves, without the liberty in Christdom—  
Are martyrs, by the pang without the palm—  
Are worn, as if with age.

Can we not do something to increase their ray  
of sunshine and disperse the coming gloom?

**Mrs. Barnett's Plea for the Children.**

Sir,—I am so glad that you are calling the attention of your readers to the joylessness of the lives of the children of the poor, whether they live in the waste of mean streets east of the Bank or south of the river. It is good news that your fund daily mounts upwards, but it would be still better news if your readers would offer to entertain, say, six or eight of these sad little ones by inviting them to tea and sharing with them quiet homestead joys and fireside pleasures that do not excite. Those who would thus entertain the poor would be much rewarded.

In exceptional times of distress people think and talk much of the poor, and are wishful in their impatient kindness to aid hundreds of them by one meal. If they would be content to aid one by hundreds of meals it would be wiser, and by moulding even a few young lives into a nobler pattern these periods of sad distress would touch fewer, for it is the unskilled, the casual, and the degraded who specially suffer.

It is not only at Christmas time that the children's lives are pleasure-barren. During the long, hot, sultry days they suffer, I think, even more than in the winter, and need memory-making outings. So it is good, Sir, that you are giving your money to the Settlements, who have the poor always around them, and who can take small, drooping people to fresh air "a-Maying" or "a-nutting," as well as gather them around the candle-lit Christmas tree.

"Don't you remember?" "How can you forget?" I have been often asked by children whose joys are too few to pass out of their memories, and who live and relive every hour of these precious holidays over again. "I don't want to be here, it ain't fair, it should be mother, who's at work," sobbed one small maiden of eleven, whose righteous little soul had burst out in revolt against the inexplicable inequalities of social deserts. I am sure that much of the practice of pocketing cake arises from the desire to share the "lovely things" at home. So it is well to recognize the good intention underlying the bad action, and provide each child with a cake or food gift "to take home to mother."

The choice of toys for the children of the poor has to be considered in relation to their lives, both child and parents welcoming round games—of skill, not of chance—which can be played on the small home table, and by all the family together. "It ain't no use to me—I can't play no game as I knows of, but I don't mind a drum or a whip, if you've got 'em," was the ungracious method of acceptance of an offered game by a toyless lad—and the pathos of it is that it is true—the children of the poor do not know parlor games!

I hope, Sir, that your readers will give you money, and invite the poor to their own nice homes, that they will each get to know one poor child intimately, and serve him or her by thought, word, and deed, in sorrow and joy.

HENRIETTA O. BARNETT.

Warden's Lodge,  
Toynbee Hall, Whitechapel.

P. S.—If anyone cares to give little parties to little people, I can easily find them their guests—either in winter or in summer. Country parties can always get tea at our rest house, Erskine House, Hampstead Heath.

"Give us, oh, give us the man who sings at his work."

"It is an everlasting duty, the duty of being brave."—On Heroes.

### The Chicago Visiting Nurses' Association.

EXCERPTS FROM THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT, MISS HARRIET FULMER.

The nurses always do far more than the actual nursing work. They teach the poor to share each other's burdens. Poor crippled Mrs. B. is mending stockings for the children of Mrs. A., who is ill. And Mrs. B. says to the nurse, "Don't stay with me long to-day, I know Mrs. A. needs you more"—just the very spirit the nurse had so hoped to awaken in cross, old Mrs. B. In this family she certainly did more than the nursing, but it took weeks of gentleness and patience on the part of the nurse. Once in a while we find a criticism from the doctor, never from a patient, so our purpose is reached when we please the people we are employed to serve. The following will illustrate how far we unconsciously influence both the sick and the well. A visiting nurse had been on her rounds since early morning. Three consumptives, four new babies, three typhoids, and a pneumonia case had received her care. It was six o'clock at the last case, when a neighbor came in and remonstrated at her leaving, saying: "You do be paid by the city and ye have no right to be going home at six. Ain't ye's one of them 'trimmed' nurses that can go without sleepin' and eatin'?" After watching the nurse for a week, however, she was one of our best friends, and her praise "that John Murphy would have died without that 'trimmed' nurse" has brought us many cases since in the same locality.

We are called "visiting nurses" because we visit from house to house each day, and return the following day to repeat the service. The bitterest day in winter, the hottest day in summer, the pouring rain, are all alike to the visiting nurse. She must make her rounds fifteen minutes here, thirty there, an hour here, another there, down this alley, five floors up in the rear, through to the street, second floor front, then down to the alley and perhaps many miles across prairies to a little cottage. All these places know her well, and not for one day or a week but for weeks and months at a time, day in and day out, year in and year out. There is not a nook or cranny of the city, from Pullman to Lake View, from Oak Park to the lake, that does not know her.

#### IN CLOSEST CONTACT WITH THE PEOPLE.

The Chicago Society stands for teaching the people in their own environment, the care of their own sick and the right observance of sanitary laws; for meeting the great inade-

quacy of city and county institutions, which are intended for the indigent sick; and for dealing with such cases for which no institution provides, giving the same skilled nursing care as the rich may provide for themselves.

No institution or organization caring for unfortunates in Chicago comes more in close and daily contact with its people than the Visiting Nurses Association. Every family visited does not need the nursing care only, but advice and help in hundreds of other ways. Cases that hospitals never hear of, that relief societies do not come to, are cared for by this association. No set of workers could better discover unsanitary conditions as they enter the homes in friendly relation to the people. No set of workers can possibly be better authorities on the inadequacy of hospital service both for children and adults in Chicago. This demonstrates the scores of cases brought by the visiting nurses to Dr. Lorenz's clinic. The nurses know from actual daily experience that little children are suffering for lack of care, both in contagious diseases and from deformity.

#### OFFICIAL STATUS AND CO-OPERATION NEEDED.

They were also instrumental, by permission of the Superintendent of Schools, in visiting every school in the city and distributing leaflets containing advice to the children for personal cleanliness. To all the children who could afford it, the visiting nurse furnished soap and towel and tooth-brushes. In this way, according to the teachers, much good advice was circulated and the nurses became of service in the various families through the children. Buffalo and Los Angeles are the only cities in America where the nurses of the association are permanent inspectors. During the summer the fourteen nurses were voluntary inspectors under the Department of Health. Closer co-operation than ever before has been maintained with all the organizations in the city.

#### CONTAGIOUS-DISEASE SERVICE.

The nurse's work on contagious diseases this year has been particularly satisfactory, though the work is largely that of instruction, because she cannot with safety go from house to house. However, many families have had actual nursing service rendered in scarlet fever and diphtheria, when there was no one else to care for the patients. Large washable gowns and caps are provided for this especial work and every precaution against spread of infection is taken.

## DISTRICT LOAN CLOSETS.

The loan closets, one in each of the twelve districts, have been kept well supplied throughout the year. The contents of these closets amount in money value to \$69 each, and are replenished twice yearly, at great expense to the association. Their value is untold. Among the valuable articles in them are nightgowns, sheets, pillow cases, towels. These are loaned from case to case, laundered and replaced throughout the year. The nightgowns are loaned to the little B. girl, four sheets to the H. family with typhoid, four pillow slips to Mr. B., a paralytic, a pair of crutches here and a water bag there. Certainly no emergency could be of more value than this. The people are coming to consider it a privilege to borrow from the nurse, and feeling an obligation in returning the articles. The Scott Emergency Fund has paid for fifty-two weeks continuous nursing service in the home, for eighteen cases, from a period of two to six weeks each. The plan of sending a woman to clean and put in order the homes has been most satisfactory, thus saving the strength of the nurse for actual nursing work, for which she is really employed.

The visiting nurse work is not carried on in the country on a large scale, but forty-two societies are in existence embracing not more than one hundred and fifty paid workers. In England the same work is done by the Queen Nursing Society, in every nook of the country, employing some nine hundred nurses. Elsewhere in America, the value of the work is given much greater public recognition than in Chicago. In New York and Philadelphia the nurses are part of the recognized medical inspection in the city schools. In Buffalo and Los Angeles they are permanent unpaid Department of Health Inspectors. In New York many of them serve on the tenement hospital inspecting committee.

## ANTI-TUBERCULOSIS CRUSADE.

The visiting nurses are now putting forth plans to bring the attention of the public to the great need of taking organized step in a tuberculosis crusade as other cities have done. The new cases of consumption number 226 in one year. Of the deaths 60 were due to this disease. Few of the cases reported know anything of the nature of this disease. One man living alone, when reported to us, had been accustomed to spitting wherever he happened to be sitting. Literally, everything in the room was covered with the sputum. The milk-

man who came to him every morning brought a bottle of milk, and took away the empty one covered with germs, left standing in the sink where the patient was apt to expectorate at any time. When the nurse had talked to the man about it, it came out that he had not realized that he had a communicable disease. This man's soiled bedding, clothing, etc., was taken by a general laundry and washed with other clothes without any idea that disinfection was necessary. Now this room has been thoroughly cleaned, the filthy bedding burned, and new things provided, and every attempt made to see that the patient carried out the instruction to prevent a further spread of contagion. Another case was a young man with tuberculosis of the hip and lungs as well. He had been changing his own dressings and being able to get about the old dressing had been thrown in a corner to lie for days. Every possible precaution was given. Another case is a young German widow found sleeping with her children, three beautiful little ones. This was not from ignorance, but from necessity. They had but one bed. A separate bed has been provided for the children (new and clean). I cite these cases to show after all how far short we all come from real interest in the sanitary welfare of our city. If these cases were smallpox they would be ferreted out and immediately isolated, but when every evidence of this great white plague is right in our midst we dally and deliberate and death and infection still go on. Many people may discuss this question in a vague sort of way. They know from public statements that consumption claims so many victims every year, but the exact state of affairs they cannot conceive of. The visiting nurses do not guess at these things, they know from actual contact the exact conditions that exist, that 226 people, and that a small portion of the cases that really exist, are suffering with this disease. The nurses are trying as best they can to alleviate the condition, but after all their effort is but a drop in the bucket, compared to the real needs of the situation. They have nursed, cared for and instructed the cases that have come to us, but the state and the city should stand sponsor in a public way for a war against this disease, and the furthering of plans of giving adequate care to those already suffering. The association is in active cooperation with the Illinois Society for the Suppression of Consumption.

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"Wondrous is the strength of cheerfulness."

## ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD WORKERS, NEW YORK CITY.

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY  
MARY KINGSBURY SIMKHOVITCH,  
26 Jones Street, New York City.

### The Prevention of Tuberculosis.

In the course of lectures given last summer in the New York Summer School in Philanthropic Work under the auspices of the Charity Organization Society, one of the addresses which made a most profound impression upon the students was that delivered by Mr. Robert W. de Forest, President of the New York Charity Organization Society. His subject was "The Scope and Purpose of a Charity Organization Society," and he said in substance that "everything is germane to a charity organization society which is needed in the community and is not already well done. There is no limit to the scope of a charity organization society effort except that made by concentrating your forces and refraining from doing what others are doing well. It must be a growing, developing society, able to meet new needs and grapple with new conditions." In its endeavor to fulfill the ideal set by its President, the Charity Organization Society of New York has initiated from time to time movements which to the casual observer would seem to be out of the pale of the work of such an organization. Such a movement is the recently organized Committee on the Prevention of Tuberculosis. The ravages of this disease, so aptly termed by Holmes as "the White Plague," and which is the cause of one-seventh of the deaths of mankind, has, 'tis true, of late years somewhat decreased. It still stands, however, at the head of the list of fatal diseases. It is estimated that in the whole world on an average two persons a minute die of the disease.

With the discovery by Koch in 1882 that the disease was caused by a germ, the "Tubercle Bacillus," the way was prepared for the discovery of some method of destroying the germ. It has since been conclusively proved that sunshine, fresh air, proper nourishment and the proper care of the body are the most destructive agencies that can be brought to bear upon this enemy of man. It has also been proved very conclusively that the disease is curable and post mortem examinations have shown an immense number of cases where the disease had once existed but had been cured and was in no way the cause of death.

Of late years there has, therefore, been organized in European countries efforts to prevent the spread and make possible the cure of the disease. Anti-tuberculosis societies have been formed in England, Germany, France and other European countries, and a conference of the International Central Committee was held in Berlin the latter part of October. In this country societies have been organized in various states, notably in Pennsylvania. In New York City no society for this purpose has hitherto been formed. An attempt was made last winter to form a society for the prevention of Tuberculosis, but certain difficulties prevented the matter from being carried through. The persons who signed the call for that society have endorsed the movement begun by the Charity Organization Society and the committee formed is a most representative one. Sixteen of the leading physicians of the city are members of it, as are also representative philanthropic and charity workers. The work of the committee will naturally divide itself along three lines.

First, that of investigation. Arrangements have been made for scientific researches. A trained statistician has been employed by the committee. Comparisons of death rate from consumption with the density of population; a study of infected houses; a study of occupations and of nationalities in their relation to the prevalence of the disease, will be undertaken. The various city departments, such as the Department of Health, the Department of Public Charities and the Tenement House Department—the commissioners of all three departments being members of the committee—have placed at the disposal of the committee the facts in their possession concerning the extent of the disease in this city. Blanks containing questions which the committee desires to have answered have been given to the officials of these departments, who will obtain in this way the information desired.

The second line of work will be that of education. Arrangements have been made for lectures to be held at various places in the city where audiences can be secured. The various branches of the Young Men's Christian Association have given their cordial support to this movement; the Young Women's Christian Association has placed its hall at the disposal of the committee, and almost all the Settlements of the city and several of the institutional churches have done the same. Dr. Leipziger, who has charge of the Lecture Department of the Board of Education, is very



much interested in the matter and will arrange for lectures in that course. The President of the Normal College will also arrange for lectures to the young ladies, 2,800 in number, at that institution. He says that he will recommend their taking notes and reviewing their notes, as he considers the matter as of the greatest importance to them and to the homes from which they come.

The third line of work will be that of application. A trained nurse and a visitor will be connected with the committee, and cases brought to the attention of the committee will be investigated by them and proper relief suggested. In some cases, perhaps, exceptional relief will be given.

It is hoped by these three methods to attain to a knowledge of the extent of the disease in the city and the localities, occupations and nationalities most susceptible to it. Also to spread by lectures and popular pamphlets written knowledge which will aim to prevent the spread of the disease, and, by giving sufficient relief, effect cures where otherwise a cure might be too expensive for the individual. The purpose, in short, of the committee may be best stated in the following words, written by the editor of "Charities": "To prevent premature deaths, to preserve wage-earners to their families, to lessen the amount of human suffering, to obviate much of the existing danger of infection, is the end at which we aim."

On the day Horace Mann left the presidency of the State Senate to become the secretary of the Board of Education he wrote: "Henceforth as long as I hold this office I devote myself to the supremest welfare of mankind upon earth. With the highest degree of prosperity results will manifest themselves but slowly. The harvest is far distant from the seed time. Faith is the only sustainer. I have faith in improbability of the race, in their accelerating improbability. This effort may do apparently but little, but merely beginning a good cause is never little." His comment on the parsimony of the legislature that appropriated only \$1,500 to the support of his secretaryship of the Board of Education, four-fifths of which were consumed by the expenses of the office, was: "Well, one thing is certain, I will be revenged on them. I will do them more than \$1,500 worth of good."

"What is the use of health, or of life, if not to do some work therewith?"—Sartor Resartus.

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EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY  
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**The New York State Reformatory for Women at Bedford, N. Y.**

Some seventeen years ago the first reformatory for women in the state of New York was opened. It was called the House of Refuge for Women and was located at Hudson, about thirty miles below Albany. From time to time the laws governing commitments to it have been modified as circumstance or experience dictated. In the past it has received women as old as forty and girls as young as twelve years of age. At first the maximum term was five years. At one time women committed for short terms—three to six months—were received, and commitments could be made from any part of the state. Women convicted of a felony could not be sent there. As time went on it was found that few commitments were made from the western end of the state or from New York City. It was deemed advisable to place another similar institution in each of these localities, both because it seemed impossible to overcome the objections magistrates seemed to feel against sending young girls to extreme parts of the state, and because it was thought that the best results could be obtained in comparatively small institutions.

Accordingly, eight years ago the House of Refuge at Albion was opened, and in 1902 the State Reformatory for Women at Bedford was incorporated. Later the state laws governing the three institutions were made uniform. The territory of the state was apportioned between them, Albion receiving commitments

from the western and central counties, Hudson from the northern and eastern counties and Bedford from Westchester County, Greater New York and Long Island. Territorially Bedford has a very small section of the state, but this section contains more than half the total population.

In accordance with Chapter 546 of the Laws of 1896, Article IX and subsequent amendments, women between the ages of fifteen and thirty years may be committed to these three institutions from their respective territories by any magistrate or court having jurisdiction, as a common prostitute or a habitual drunkard, for frequenting disorderly houses, for petty larceny or any misdemeanor; by Chapter 114 of the Penal Code, as amended in 1900, a woman between the specified ages may be committed for any felony provided it be a first offense. The maximum term is three years and the Board of Managers have the power to parole at any time.

The Boards of Managers consist of six persons, of whom two must always be women and one a practicing physician. They are appointed by the governor of the state for terms of three years. This Board appoints the superintendent and the superintendent appoints the subordinate officers and employees, subject to the Civil Service laws of the state.

It has been said that Bedford was incorporated in 1902. For a number of reasons, largely political, there were many troublesome delays and the grounds and buildings did not approach completion until the summer of 1900. A superintendent was appointed in the fall of that year who at once began the work of pushing things to completion, furnishing the buildings and selecting the officers necessary for opening. By April, 1901, work was so well advanced that the magistrates of our territory were notified that we were ready to receive inmates, and the first one came to us May 11. For the first six months our growth was very slow. The courts and magistrates of New York were accustomed to make commitments to the work house and the penitentiary, or to various private institutions, and in cases of felony to the State Prison at Auburn. It took some time for them to learn of our work and to become convinced of the desirability of the long term commitment with the possibility of parole, and the certainty of instruction and discipline rather than the customary fine or "three months at the Island." Now, at the end of twenty months, we are already confronted with the problem of insufficient accommodations.

We have had 230 commitments and have a present population of 195. The original capacity was 256, but this was cut down to 226 by altering certain cells into rooms. This capacity is still further reduced by the insufficient number of rooms provided for officers and who must therefore occupy some of the rooms intended for inmates. There are still sixteen months before sentences will begin to expire, and even with the greatest possible exercise of the parole power consistent with wisdom we shall probably be sadly overcrowded before legislative appropriations will be made to enable us to build new cottages.

For the rest as to our material equipment, we are situated in a beautiful spot in picturesque Westchester County about forty miles north of New York City. We have 107 acres of land prettier to look at than to farm, though we do manage to raise our summer vegetables. Our water supply is of the best and our sewerage excellent. We have plenty of delightfully fresh air, and in early June the most magnificent wild strawberries ever picked—and in profusion. We have a clear, cool trout stream running through a wooded valley and emptying into a pretty pond where we skate and cut our ice in winter. Even overcrowding, bad as it will be, cannot deprive us of these joys.

The interesting feature of the institution, however, that to which everything else is subordinated and for which everything else exists is our girls. We call them all "our girls," no matter what their age.

One of the primary interests in each College or Social Settlement is always the clubs and classes for young women. The settlement worker who has been connected with these for any length of time will learn, if she has a love for her work and an insight into human nature, much of the sort of girl who frequents the clubs; what her home life is like; what her associates have been; what the conditions are under which she earns her living; what opportunities she has for amusements and what for education; what her social and moral standards are and what has made them what they are; what temptations she must meet and what the forces are that make her try to live up to her standards. In short, she will learn a great deal about the genus girl in general and what differentiates the particular species of girl who comes under her influence. The more she learns, if she is the right sort, the more influence she will have and the more valuable she will be as a settlement worker—the more valuable anywhere, in any com-

munity, for that matter. And of very special value could she make herself if after this training she saw fit to devote her energies to the field of activity open in the reformatories for women throughout the country.

A moment ago the problem of overcrowding was mentioned. Still more serious is the problem ever present of finding the right women to do the work. Just as within very recent years the belief that "any woman knows enough to teach little children" has been discredited and as the companion notion that any kind old lady who is willing to attempt it is fitted to take care of the sick has been replaced by the conviction that a hospital training is necessary for a professional nurse, so it is gradually coming to be recognized, in some quarters at least, that training of some sort is imperatively needed for those intrusted with the even more difficult and delicate task of moral cure, if results for the individual and thus for the state are to be attained in any way commensurate with the money and energy expended by the state.

Consider for a moment the kind of girl who comes to Bedford. We can say "kind" only so far as all have come within reach of the arm of the law. The "kinds" are many. Convicted of almost every offense except murder, we have representatives from almost every country of Europe. Emotional Russian Jews, fiery Italians, quick-tempered Irish, stolid Poles, voluble French, with Germans, Scandinavians, Roumanians, Spanish, Hungarians and a mixture of colored and white native-born Americans, to all of whom a variety of adjectives might with propriety be applied.

During the last fiscal year 21 per cent of those committed could not read or write English, and a little over 10 per cent could not read or write any language. Nearly 10 per cent could not speak English. Six individuals were high school graduates. There were only 35 out of 148 committed of native American parentage, and of these 17 were colored women. All but 21 were committed from Greater New York.

When we investigate the causes which have brought these young women to us we find in a very high percentage of cases that the immediate cause is the desire to have a good time coupled with a distaste for regular work. The desire to have a good time is perfectly normal, and common to all girls. But when this is accompanied, as it is in most of our girls, by such factors of a bad heredity, as a weak will, lack of vitality, a depraved appe-

tite, lack of moral sense or low mentality, the effects are disastrous. Almost always environment has played an important part, and in a considerable per cent of cases we believe that under other circumstances these girls would have gone through life perfectly respectable and respected.

Our problem is to take this human material of such infinite variety and in three years at most so work with it as to undo the effects of the past; to strengthen and inspire with higher ideals, so that we may send the individuals out to a self-respecting, self-supporting life. No educational work is easy. This work makes the greatest possible demands upon the minds and hearts—and incidentally upon the tempers—of those engaged in it.

We have the ordinary school classes, reading, writing and arithmetic, drawing, geography, history and physiology, according to their needs, and these classes are attended half a day. The other half day is devoted to industrial training and the work of the institution. The girls are divided into two shifts, those who are in school in the morning having the industrial work in the afternoon, and vice versa. So far we give instruction in cooking, plain sewing and dressmaking, hand and steam laundry work and basket making. We require a half hour's gymnastic work each day from all who are not excused by the resident physician.

In all this work the important factor is the way and spirit in which it is done. The individuality of the instructors and particularly of the matrons of the cottages, who are brought most closely in contact with the girls, counts for most of all. They must have insight into human nature and some of that knowledge of the conditions from which these girls come—some of that kind of knowledge which I have said is gained by the settlement resident who has worked with the girls' clubs—if results are to be attained which even approximate to our ideals. No one should take up this work who wants an easy life, but among the college-bred and settlement-trained women who are looking for fields in which to make the greatest use of their talents there must be some to whom this opportunity for good work must appeal.

KATHARINE BEMENT DAVIS,

*Former Head Worker Philadelphia College Settlement.*

"A man shall and must be vallant; he must march forward and acquit himself like a man."  
—On Heroes.

### The Boston Settlements and Coal Distribution.

BY A DENISON HOUSE RESIDENT.

(*In Boston Evening Transcript.*)

To meet the desperate needs of the case, Hale House, South End House and Denison House co-operated in the work of helping their neighbors. Coal, in all too limited amounts, was carted to Hale House from the dealers, bagged and sent around to the urgent cases, and to the other two settlement houses, for local distribution.

At the very beginning, the settlement workers made such hasty survey of the field as they could, and told their neighbors of the chance to procure coal, without long and probably futile waiting in the crowds at the coal wharves. As soon as the word had been given, the doors of the houses saw a constant stream of boys with sleds, and men with wheelbarrows—or ready shoulders—come "after the coal," for the scarcity of it seems to have given it a right to the definite article. Not merely the old friends of a house, but the friends' friends came—"the lady that lives in the house with me"—and mothers and sisters and brothers without end. Kindly-disposed policemen, too, directed many an anxious searcher to "the house there"; and when the officers of the coal committee, in despair of filling their accumulated orders, sent their visitors to the same place, the labor involved for the house became considerable. But extra steps and other inconveniences were of slight consequence to one who had sight of the suffering humanity met with at every turn. The pitiful stories of need were distressing, and it was hard to have to turn any of the worried faces away; and now and then, but with wide space between, there was a hint of ungraciousness, which was a bit discomfiting. But in general the ready understanding of the case on the part of the coal seekers, their appreciation and gratitude, their interesting comments, and chief, their kindness toward each other—these made one feel like saying, with one of the new workers, "Well, if it had to come, I'm glad I could be down here to see all this!"

One of the satisfying features of the affair, in the course of things, as watched at one of the houses, has been the scant number of demands for free coal. But after all, that is a satisfaction not unmixed with bitterness. It stings the self-respecting workman to be compelled to tramp from one company to another, waste time standing in the lines at the gates, and yet have it in his power to pay even the

present high prices. While the cold weather still held, the house was compelled to give out from its own private stock.

It seems cruel to try to draw a line. There is the couple who live in a basement, and basements in this part of town, reclaimed land as it is, are inevitably damp and rheumatism-breeding, bad enough even with a fire to take off their chill. There is the cabman who comes home at night half frozen. There is the woman who supports herself and two children by laundry work at her house. No coal spells for her no work, no money. Her little boy came to ask for her coal. "How can you take it home?" he was asked. "Have you a sled?" "No, I did have; but mother burned it this morning."

In the less pressing cases it is heartening to see how well people take their refusals. Single men who come after a hard day's work to ask for a little coal to warm their rooms, listen in silence to the explanations. "That's all right," they say at the end, "of course the sick folks and the babies must have the first show." And off they go once again on their hopeless quest. There was a woman who came to ask for a bag of "the" coal. She had eight children and little fuel of any kind. When she heard that even her case was not hard enough, she said: "All right. Me an' the children can get along, I guess. But there's a sick lady next door to me needs it bad. Could you send her some?" Sometimes those who had ordered send word that their bags can be given to somebody else who needs it more; some kindly "boss" has provided for them, or they have obtained enough from a wagon.

Such rare exceptions as these are to this almost uniform spirit of good will and cooperation, are often more amusing than unpleasant. One well-dressed citizen appeared with a complacent demand for coal at a crisis when the orders were "imperative necessity only." It seemed that he had a little coal, but not enough for two stoves. When refused, he indignantly stalked off in high rage. Then there was a woman who objected to the forty-five cents which was asked. "I know where I can get it for thirty," she cried; "pretty charity this is!" and muttered scathing things of the settlements individually and collectively, while she fumbled the door-latch. Some of those seeking coal came because the settlement price was lower than the dealers charged. They were sent away empty handed, unless it was plain that they could not afford the difference.

It is interesting always to hear what people have to say on the situation in general. As a rule there is a firm belief that the dealers are holding back their coal for making money, and are therefore the ones to be blamed as immediate occasion of the trouble. But the operators are felt to be behind it all. "Do you think there's any heaven for the folks that are doin' this thing?" asked one old woman in a piteous voice. To test her sympathies, someone said: "But you know some people blame it on the miners; it was their striking that began it all." "Sure, an' 't is not them I'm blamin', poor cratures," came the quick reply. "Small blame to them that's starvin' if they ask for more." "O, them anarchists!" one man grunted, between efforts to hoist his bag of coal to his shoulder. "They go and kill a good man like McKinley and let Morgan and them other fellows keep on livin'!" The women have a vague feeling that something is wrong with the country where such things can be. "They needn't ever ask me to sing 'America' again," one woman said. "A pretty country it is to treat us poor folks so!"

The things which make one happiest in these busy and anxious days are the continual outcroppings of a most beautiful view of "gentil deedes." Many a case of need is reported by some kindhearted neighbor, after he has done what he could for the sufferers. The good Samaritan comes in various guises, sometimes desperately ragged and needy himself, but anxious to help out "a widdy woman" or a sick neighbor, or some poor, old, feeble folk of his acquaintance, by carrying home their coal. Perhaps the good Samaritan even counts out the necessary pence from his not too well-filled purse, and half-ashamed, but wholly happy, carries off the precious bag to his distressed friend. A man in need of work had been asked to come and help fill the bags and deliver them, on the Sunday after the storm. When night came and he was paid for his hard day's work he handed back some of the small coins. "Fifteen cents an hour is all I get when I'm doin' this for my boss. He's makin' money out o' this, but youse ain't makin' a cent; I see that. Youse is doin' a heap o' good, an' I couldn't take the extra pay." Most pathetic of all, perhaps—if there is a "most" here—was a man who had been given a bag of free coal. Some kind neighbor had reported his case. He had been working for a contractor on some building, whose failure caused him to lose his work and also his back pay—forty-five dollars. It was just after a little baby had come and the man had not been able to get other work. When a bag of coal was given to him the grateful tears stood in his eyes. "I can't thank you enough," he said brokenly, "but if there's any coal to be carried to women or sick folks that can't come after it, I'd be only too glad to do it for nothin', whenever you want it."

**CHICAGO COMMONS JOTTINGS.**

For the first time in thirty years of continuous service the warden of Chicago Commons has been granted a leave of absence from professional duty for the last two months of the present academic year. To take advantage of this respite and spend the spring and summer abroad in needed rest and social observation, only one condition remains to be supplied. That is the subscription or guarantee of enough money to sustain the work of Chicago Commons, at least until he returns. So narrow has the margin been between just enough and worse than nothing that during all these eight years of gratuitous Settlement service the warden has never dared to intermit for a single month, his self-imposed burden of raising money for the support and equipment of the Commons' work, nor remain any longer beyond the reach of immediate recall. Duty to the Settlement not only but to the enlarged sphere of academic service awaiting him in the autumn, demands that fullest advantage be taken of this first opportunity for recreation and study abroad.

The financial situation, upon meeting which before the middle of March, the proposed relief depends, stands thus to date: The payment of \$1,000 upon the debt since January 15 leaves a balance of \$8,000, of which \$3,550 are guaranteed and \$4,450 are due and must be raised on or before April 1. The response received during January to our annual appeal for the support of the work during 1903, was not more than sufficient to meet the current expenses of the month, over and above the drafts made upon it to help pay the notes falling due during last month. The balance of the year's support, \$8,930, remains to be provided, \$6,640 of which, covering the eight months of the warden's contemplated absence, must be furnished or guaranteed a month in advance of his going, if he shall be free to leave.

In response to the offer of the Armour Institute of Technology to conduct courses in all branches of engineering, fifty-nine men enrolled. They meet three instructors weekly, on Monday evenings, and have the combined advantages of correspondence work and the personal attention of expert teachers.

Prof. William L. Tomlins' conditioned his leadership of our children's chorus upon having at least 150 boys and girls to start with, and 250 as the full number. When the doors were opened for the first rehearsal 515 young

ones rushed in like the atmosphere, and from sixty to a hundred more were clamoring for admittance when the doors had to be closed. Two weekly choruses of 175 voices each were formed, with waiting lists of 100 each held in reserve as a healthful incentive to the regularity and fidelity of those so fortunate as to be listed.

**LAST MONTH'S FREE FLOOR.**

The appearance of Dr. Lyman Abbott as the first speaker on the month's program was made the occasion of a delightful dinner party in his honor, at which guests who rarely or never met before, even at the bidding of Settlement hospitality, met and mingled in the freest fraternal fellowship. Prof. Tomlins held the interest of a very mixed crowd of men for over an hour with his flashes of wit and genius in expounding his theory of music in relation to life and labor. At the discussion of the limitation of output, which we will report and comment upon, besides the usual attendance of working men, there were present a debating club of young men from the Y. M. C. A. and twenty-five students from Prof. Vincent's class in the sociological department at the University of Chicago.

The social extension of the public school system to comprehend a more complete education of the rank and file of the people was presented by Mr. T. Tsanoff of Toledo, Ohio, who is enthused and enthuses others with the possibilities of our American free schools.

**February Topics and Speakers.**

Feb. 3.—"Medieval Cities," by Prof. George L. Scherger.

Feb. 10.—"Law and Labor," by William Hard, of the Chicago Tribune.

Feb. 17.—"Interest of Labor in Municipal Franchises," by Geo. C. Sykes.

Feb. 24.—"Workingmen's Interest in the Enactment and Enforcement of Local Legislation," by Fletcher Dobbins.

**NEIGHBORHOOD PARTIES.**

For the freedom and heartiness of social intercourse characterizing the Saturday open house nights this winter, these simple and very genuinely joyous occasions are almost idyllic. We have never had anything approach them in these respects, which is due to the fact that time is ripening the neighborly relationships under a roof where all are equally welcome.

# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor from the Settlement Point of View.

Number 80—Vol. VII

Seventh Year

Chicago, March, 1903

## "Hullo."

BY SAM. WALTER FOSS.

W'en you see a man in woe,  
Walk right up and say "hullo!"  
Say "hullo" and "how d' ye do!"  
"How's the world a-asin' you?"  
Slap the fellow on his back,  
Bring your han' down with a whack;  
Waltz right up, an' don't go slow,  
Grin an' shake an' say "hullo!"

Is he clothed in rags? O sho!  
Walk right up an' say "hullo!"  
Rags is but a cotton roll  
Just for wrappin' up a soul;  
An' a soul is worth a true  
Hale an' hearty "how d' ye do!"  
Don't wait for the crowd to go;  
Walk right up and say "hullo!"

W'en big vessels meet, they say,  
They saloot an' sail away  
Jest the same as you an' me;  
Lonesome ships upon a sea;  
Each one sailing his own jog  
For a port beyond the fog.  
Let yer speakin' trumpet blow,  
Lift yer horn an' cry "hullo!"

Say "hullo," an' "how d' ye do!"  
Other folks are good as you.  
W'en yer leave yer house of clay,  
Wanderin' in the Far-Away,  
W'en you travel through the strange  
Country t'other side the range,  
Then the souls you've cheered will know  
Who ye be, an' say "hullo!"

## Juvenile Offenders in the City of Detroit.

BY RICHARD A. BOLT, \*UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN.

The city of Detroit is, at present, in a very favorable position to take steps to prevent the growth of juvenile delinquency. The seemingly hopeless conditions which prevail in the congested districts of New York, Chicago and other great centers of population need never be repeated here if proper preventive measures are taken. Seeds of the tenement and slum, however, are already sown in Detroit and unless their growth is nipped in the bud we may expect to reap a full crop of disease, pauperism and crime. No more fertile soil for juvenile delinquency could be found than the slum.

The rank growth of tenements and slum can, in a large measure, be successfully prevented by providing better houses for the poor; by preserving ample open space; by laying out playgrounds and placing them in charge of competent instructors, and by supplying public baths. More careful attention should be given to the education of truant children, and more intelligent treatment to juvenile offenders in police courts and jail.

At present a strong public sentiment is being aroused to the need of improved methods in the treatment of our juvenile offenders. A number of interested individuals are exerting their influence in this direction and several prominent clubs of Detroit have taken the matter into consideration. The daily press from time to time has expressed the growing sentiment. The National Conference of Corrections and Charities held in this city May 28 to June 3 last gave an added impetus to the subject. After five months' careful study of the situation in Detroit it appears to me that the conditions will justify the establishment of some form of a juvenile court with an efficient probation system.

After all the consideration the problem has received crime remains in the social organism as a source of much distress. It is a significant fact, if such eminent authorities on criminal matters as W. D. Morrison and Mr. Frederick Howard Wines are to be credited, that the total number of offenses against the criminal law is steadily on the increase, and in some places increasing in a greater ratio than the population. This should receive thoughtful

\*[NOTE.—The author of this article received a university assignment to investigate juvenile delinquency in the city of Detroit, with reference to the movement for the establishment of a juvenile court in that city. He resided in the Franklin Street Settlement and also worked in connection with the Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church. His article here published is condensed from his thesis in which he reported the results of his investigation. His work contributed material to enlist attention and effort in securing for Detroit the advantages enjoyed by other cities from the successful enactment and operation of a juvenile court law. The university's representative at Chicago Commons three years ago investigated and reported upon the working of the juvenile court in Chicago.]

attention, as the stability and welfare of society depends largely upon its internal peace and prosperity.

#### JUVENILE DELINQUENCY AND ADULT CRIME.

When the causes of this increase are sought we are confronted with complex problems which reach down to the roots of individual character and to the foundations of the social order. Whatever the ultimate causes may be, it is reasonably certain that the rise and extent of juvenile delinquency is closely related to adult crime. It is a fact supported by reliable statistics that, as a rule, the men who become habitual offenders begin their careers quite young. We must therefore look to the children—to their heredity and environment—if we wish to know something of the causes of crime, and give it intelligent treatment.

As society becomes more and more complex a greater number of offenses come under the ban of the law. Opportunities for committing anti-social acts are multiplied. In taking preventive measures society often enacts laws which increase the liability of a larger proportion of children being classed as juvenile offenders. This is readily seen in offenses against the legislative acts, "To Prevent Crime and Punish Truancy" and "To Provide for the Compulsory Education of Juvenile Disorderly Persons." In the city of Detroit a number of standing regulations, known as city ordinances, have also been adopted which are designed to preserve the peace and promote the welfare of the municipality. Offenses against these ordinances are only semi-criminal in nature, and are disposed of in the Recorder's Court in a summary manner. Thus it is seen that not only children who violate the fundamental laws of society, but also those who commit numerous trivial offenses come to be classed as juvenile offenders.

#### FACTS FROM THE POLICE BLOTTER.

In the Police returns for the city of Detroit it will be noticed that among the large number of different offenses with which juveniles may be charged that the greatest number fall under the heads of "simple larceny," "truancy" and "juvenile disorderly" respectively. With boys, "assault and battery" and "malicious injury to buildings" also make up quite a number of offenses. With girls, on the other hand, the number of different offenses is much smaller, and, as one would expect, involve little or no physical violence. Of the total 688 juvenile arrests last year 571 were boys and 118 girls. The total number of arrests of boys for the past five years has been 2,598, and of girls 519.

On the average between five and six boys are arrested each year to one girl. This, of course, is only a rough index to the total amount of juvenile delinquency in the city. Not all the "bad boys" are, by any means, arrested; the "goody-goodies" are quite likely to fall into the hands of the police. Moreover, there are many dependent and neglected children on the verge of delinquency who cannot, in any real sense, be considered juvenile offenders. The fact, however, of such a large number of juvenile arrests should cause every intelligent citizen to ponder the causes and exert an influence for better treatment.

#### THE AGE FACTOR.

The age of our juvenile offenders is closely related to the number and nature of the offenses. Boys usually begin their sinister career with truancy at eight, nine or ten years of age. "In the great majority of cases the boy is not to blame for his truancy. He is a lad with a distaste for school, a disregard for parental authority, and possible physical, mental and moral deterioration." It might be added that this is largely due to parental neglect and insufficient or improper nutrition. "The distaste for school" is sometimes engendered in the school itself.

Truancy if not checked soon becomes habitual. From habitual truancy to vagrancy is an easy step. The next is to petty larceny. By this time the boy has probably been two or three times before the police court. Perhaps he has had his first experience behind prison bars. He is going through the hardening process. Gradually the boy evolves into an habitual offender. The largest number of boys arrested are between fourteen and fifteen years of age. Between these ages the largest number are committed to the Industrial School for Boys at Lansing.

With girls the case is somewhat different. Very few arrests are made between eight and twelve years of age. After thirteen the number of girls brought into the police court rapidly rises until between sixteen and seventeen years we find the largest number arrested. Between these ages, as one would expect, the largest number are committed to the Industrial Home for Girls at Adrian.

In dealing with the juvenile offender it should ever be remembered that on account of its immaturity the child bears an entirely different relation to crime from that of the habitual adult offender. A child is in the formative period when impressions for good or bad are most easily made. What it does is mostly



the result of home surroundings and school associations. It is true there seems in some children to be a predisposition to criminal actions; but even in such cases much can be done to save the child by furnishing a wholesome environment and suitable education.

Again, a child cannot understand the highly complex relations which exist in modern society. It must attain a social life by a process of gradual development. Biologically speaking, the child is an animal working out the life history of the race in its own active life. It recapitulates certain phases in the life of its primitive ancestors. Accordingly, migratory and predatory instincts frequently manifest themselves. If a child happens to commit some offense against the laws of the more highly organized society in which it is living, it cannot, in any true sense, be considered a criminal; but rather that it is living in an age when migratory and predatory instincts were predominant. Through these stages of growth the child should have careful guidance. It does not need punishment, or even reformation, so much as it does *formation*.

#### WHAT THE CAPTAINS HAVE TO SAY.

On a recent tour of the police precincts of Detroit the question was asked the captains what in their opinion was the principal cause of juvenile delinquency. Practically without exception the answer was "neglected childhood resulting from bad home surroundings and vicious street associations." Many others having to do with juvenile offenders have substantially given the same answer.

Two boys charged with precisely the same offense would be equally guilty in the sight of the law; but they might need entirely different treatment, depending upon their home environment and education. With one the offense might be very serious; with the other it might indicate only a temporary lapse or primitive instinct which showed neither premeditation nor malice. Such a case comes to mind as I write.

A bicycle had been taken from a rack in front of one of the summer gardens, and two boys, each 14 years of age, were arrested by a detective for stealing it. They were arraigned in the Police Court, and their case was set for the following Monday morning. Both were allowed to return to their homes with the assurance that they would appear when their case was called. During the week the boys were noticed loitering about the courts and jail with the hope of seeing a man then on trial for a horrible murder. When Monday morning came

the boys were again seen in front of the court house; but when their case was called in the Police Court they failed to appear.

Later it was found that the boys had stolen two other "wheels" and had taken them to Canada, where they were sold for five dollars apiece. On returning to Detroit the boys were afraid to go to their homes, so they lived in cheap rooming and boarding houses downtown. They were arrested again and brought into court. This time both boys were confined in the county jail until the day of their trial. They were then found guilty and sentenced to the Industrial School for Boys at Lansing.

Both boys were equally guilty according to law; but the causes leading to their offenses were essentially different. Billy had been to Lansing before. The stealing of bicycles was not his first offense. He was evidently "a very bad boy" and on the road to a criminal career. It was he who largely influenced the other boy to steal the first "wheel," and again to disappear on the day of the trial. Roy, on the other hand, was weak-willed and unfortunate. This was his first offense against the law. Previous to arrest he had been working. His father had a criminal record. Roy while quite young was placed in a house of refuge as a destitute child. Relatives of his mother, however, removed him to Detroit; but they cared very little for him. Naturally he drifted to the streets, where he was easily drawn into the offense for which he was arrested. What this boy needed more than anything else was a good home with some one to look intelligently after him.

#### WHAT A BAD HOME MEANS.

Another case which well illustrates the pernicious effects of a wretched home environment is that of Willie K., a black-haired, bright-eyed little Polish fellow of nine years. Willie's father had been sentenced to the State prison at Jackson for five years. During his confinement the mother "took up" with another man, and in some ways sadly neglected her two boys and two girls. Just before the father was released, in March, she ran away with the other man, leaving all the children with a neighbor. The father returned and found the children—but with reputation gone and no definite work in sight he could not support them. So the two girls were placed in the Home for the Friendless and the boys had to shift for themselves. Where else had they to go but to the streets or to cheap lodging houses? The father could not afford to pay board for them where they were staying.

Willie, alert upon the streets, struck up an acquaintance with a boy who possessed a bicycle. It was not long before he obtained permission to ride. The ride was so exhilarating that Willie rode too far, and then did not think it worth while to return the wheel. The police were notified and he was arrested; but being so young, Willie was let off on suspended sentence. In the same week of the release he went into a neighbor's house, took a pocket-book, and spent the money. Another complaint was entered against him. While the truant officers were looking him up another wheel was stolen. He was brought up in the Police Court on Monday morning; but as there was no place suitable to send him, he was again let off. Willie, to complete his record, broke several car windows. While the truant officers were puzzling themselves what to do with the boy, a gentleman interested in this sort of boys took Willie to a farm near Jackson. Since then, from all reports, he has been doing quite well. Perhaps all he needed was an opportunity to exercise his superabundant energies where little harm could be done.

The cases cited above show how intimate is the relation between destitute, neglected and delinquent children. A distinct line can hardly be drawn between them. Imperceptibly they merge one into the other. A number of similar cases might be given, but these are suggestive enough. They well illustrate the fact that juvenile offenders are, in a large measure, the product of adverse social conditions. When police, court and jail officials, backed up by an intelligent public sentiment, fully realize this, much better treatment of our juvenile offenders will be assured.

#### SQUARING THE CITY TO THE STATE'S STANDARD.

It must be admitted that in the treatment of her neglected, dependent and delinquent children Michigan stands for some of the most advanced and logical methods. The placing-out system in the State aims to reduce the number of children retained in large institutions and place them in a more natural and healthy environment. The appointment by the Governor of a County Agent for each county in the State, whose duty it is to look after all dependent, neglected and delinquent children is no doubt a step in the direction of a more thorough probation system. At present the County Agents in large city districts have more cases than they can well investigate and conscientiously follow up. It is also unfortunate that the office is under political control. Too frequent change in Agents is not conducive to the best

interests of the children whose friend and guide the County Agent should be. The County Agent system with a few desirable changes could easily be made the basis for an efficient probation system, and with a separate juvenile court in the large cities would place Michigan in the forefront in her treatment of unfortunate children.

The State Public School at Coldwater has done good work in caring for and placing out numbers of destitute and dependent children. In both the Industrial School for Boys and the Industrial Home for Girls an effort is made to conduct them largely on the "cottage plan." All high walls and fences, as well as unnecessary bolts and bars, have been done away with. But there is still room for better treatment of delinquent children in the police courts and jails of the larger cities throughout the State.

The conditions which prevail in Detroit for the treatment of juvenile offenders are subject to much improvement. A careful investigation would convince any unbiased person of this. It is true that Act No. 110, approved May 9, 1901, provides that "no child under sixteen years of age, while under arrest, confinement or conviction for any crime, shall be placed in any apartment or cell of any prison or place of confinement with any adult who shall be under arrest, confinement or conviction for any crime, or shall be permitted to remain in any court room during the trial of adults, etc." It also provides that "the trial of children under sixteen years of age for any crime or misdemeanor, before any magistrate or justice of the peace, or in any court, shall be heard and determined by such court at a suitable time, to be designated therefor by it, separate and apart from the trial of other criminal cases."

An attempt has been made to adhere to the letter of the law by setting apart Monday mornings for the trial of juvenile offenders; but it was found practically impossible to keep them entirely apart from the contaminating influence of a criminal court. The cases are tried in the lower police court by a justice jury in almost the same manner as adult offenders. Sometimes older offenders have been brought handcuffed to the wrist on an officer into the court room and arraigned while juvenile cases were in progress. At the time set for juvenile cases it was my experience to usually find the court room crowded to the doors. It had all the appearance of a criminal court. A lack of decorum was noticeable on several occasions, the bailiff having constantly

to call the spectators to order. A number of young boys and girls, having apparently nothing to do with the cases, have often been seen present.

The prosecuting attorney presents the case to the jury in the usual manner. Witnesses are brought in on both sides. The County Agent, who is supposed to have thoroughly investigated the home surroundings of the child, is the only defense, if no lawyer is hired to take the child's part. Practically no defense is made by the County Agent during trial. It seems that he confers with the judge after the jury has disposed of the case, and recommends to him what disposition shall be made of the child.

It should be noted that lately a change has been made from Monday to Saturday mornings for the trial of juveniles, and with some good results. At the end of the week the docket is cleared of most of the cases that accumulate over the previous Saturday night and Sunday—the inevitable drunks and disorderlies. There has been a marked improvement in other regards. However much improvement there may be, it is safe to say that there can be no permanent good results so long as the children are exposed to the contaminating atmosphere of a lower police court without the kindly guidance of efficient probation officers.

#### SEPARATE PLACE OF DETENTION NEEDED.

A word should be said as to the confinement of juveniles in the county jail. No doubt advances have been made there in classification and treatment. The statute above noted provides that juvenile offenders shall be kept apart from older criminals in the jail. That the juveniles are kept *apart* from older offenders is about all that can be said in favor of such confinement. After the children are found guilty in court and sentenced to the Industrial School they are taken immediately to the county jail and there incarcerated until the County Agent removes them. In some cases boys have remained in jail two weeks before being transferred to the Industrial School. Boys twelve and thirteen years of age who had never been in jail before are known to have been placed in a cage with fellows sixteen years old who had been to the Industrial School several times, and were then in jail charged with serious offenses. Is it not time that steps are being taken to provide a separate place of detention for our juvenile offenders?

It was perfectly natural, therefore, that several bills providing for better treatment of

juvenile offenders in the city of Detroit should have been placed in the hands of the House Committee on City Corporations of the present session of the Legislature. One of the bills introduced at the instance of the police justices of Detroit would, with some few changes, legalize the present method of doing things; the other is framed on the model of the Illinois Juvenile Court Law bill. It proposes "to regulate the treatment and control of dependent, neglected and delinquent children under the age of sixteen years within the city of Detroit: to establish the Juvenile Court of Detroit; to regulate the practice in such court; to provide for the appointment of probation officers; to prohibit the commitment to any jail or police station within the city of Detroit of any child under the age of fourteen years; to impose certain duties upon the State Board of Corrections and Charities and the Board of Inspectors of the Detroit House of Correction."

The juvenile court idea is a natural outgrowth of careful study given to the underlying causes of delinquency and crime. It is a recognition of the fact that crime is largely the result of neglected or misdirected childhood. By preventive measures it wisely aims to check the stream at its source. This is not an isolated idea. In business, in medicine and in our charities it has long been felt that prevention is always better, and much less expensive, than uncertain cure.

#### ILLINOIS MODEL FOR MICHIGAN LAW.

The first comprehensive expression of the new idea was the Illinois Juvenile Court Law. Its framers were not radical, impractical "reformers," but men and women of mature thought and legal insight. They simply embodied in legal phraseology what students of penology and sociology had for some time been working out. The drafting of such a law reflects more humane and natural methods in dealing with unfortunate children.

It gradually dawned upon those striving to solve the problem that if juvenile delinquency was to be checked the causes which produced it must be sought and, if possible, prevented. Mr. Henry M. Boies in his "Science of Penology" has recently laid down some general rules which well show the tendency of modern society in dealing with juvenile offenders. They are:

"1st. Imprisonment of juvenile and first offenders is absolutely prohibited, except as a last resort for those convicted of flagrant crimes.

"2nd. When a limited imprisonment is necessary it must be entirely by confinement.

"3rd. Juveniles and first offenders should never be confined in jail with other prisoners while awaiting trial or under remand.

"4th. The primary and supreme object of the sentence of a convicted juvenile or first offender is his rescue from a criminal life.

"5th. The character and circumstances of the accused should be carefully investigated and allowed full weight and influence in determining whether the juvenile or first offender should be tried and convicted or not."

Along the above lines great advances are being made in the trial and subsequent treatment of juvenile offenders. Public sentiment is growing in favor of having probation officers in every court where children are tried, whose duty it shall be to investigate thoroughly the home environment of every child, and report such findings to the court. The probation officer should act as friend and counselor for the child, and have it under his supervision both during and after trial. Where advisable the child should be returned to its home under the surveillance of such officers. Of course it is now recognized by enlightened officers of the law that juveniles should be kept entirely apart from more hardened offenders during and after trial.

About fifteen States now have some form of the juvenile court with a probation system. It has been found under the new system that there are much fewer commitments to reform schools, and hence a direct saving to the State. Besides this, the children are removed from the contaminating influence of criminal courts and jails and aided in living their normal lives.

#### PRINCIPLE VERSUS DETAIL OF THE LAW.

It is to be hoped that the citizens of Detroit will adapt a juvenile court and probation system to the needs there. It is especially necessary to provide some house of detention where children may be confined both before and after trial without undergoing the soul-blighting effects of a county jail with its formidable bolts and bars. The trial should by all means be held entirely separate and apart from older offenders. The judge might bear more the relation of friend and counselor to the child, and dispose of its case in a somewhat informal and summary manner. The officers appointed to look after the interests of the child should be removed as far as possible from political influences.

The Juvenile Court Law bill which will no

doubt be considered by the Michigan Legislature during its present session has unfortunately called forth opposition from several quarters. It is rather surprising that the opposition should have been led by men whom we expect to stand for sound principles of law and penology. Perhaps there are a few flaws in what otherwise appears to be an admirable bill. The greatest opposition seems to center upon the clauses which relate to the establishment of an *entirely* separate court, and the appointment of a salaried judge who shall give his whole time to juvenile cases. "In addition to his other duties the judge of said court shall, so far as may be, visit the homes of all the children who shall from time to time be subject to the jurisdiction of said juvenile court, secure employment and good homes for them as far as possible, etc." This it seems is too much to require of any judge, and the objection to the clause may be well founded. But these few minor details should not obscure the real worth of the bill. They could easily be adjusted if the friends of both bills would confer and reconstruct the objectionable sections. Let us hope that the public-spirited citizens of Detroit will urge the passage of a bill which embodies the essentials of a juvenile court and probation system.

#### THE SETTLEMENT AND THE UNIVERSITY.

The relation between the University of Michigan and Chicago Commons has become so typical of that which other universities are assuming toward the settlement movement, that all readers of THE COMMONS will be interested in the latest expression of the educational value in settlement life and service given in the following articles.

The first one, written by Prof. Henry C. Adams for the Michigan Daily News, is noteworthy because it bears the endorsement of the president and the dean of every department in the University.

#### Faculty Appeal for the Students' Support of the Settlement Fellowship.

A university is for the student largely what he cares to make it. Residence within the circle of its influence will yield much or little, in character or in knowledge, according to the extent to which he is willing to avail himself of the opportunities offered. So far as instruction is concerned, this truth is frankly acknowledged, but there is some reason to fear that students fail to appreciate its broader application. What is known as the University

Fellowship in Sociology—and it is of this we wish to speak—is a case in point.

For the past six years a student has been sent from the University to pass the second semester as a resident at the Chicago Commons. The Chicago Commons is a social settlement under the direction of Professor Graham Taylor of Chicago Theological Seminary. It is situated not far from the scene of the Haymarket riot and has gathered about it "all sorts and conditions of men." A social settlement has been fitly described as a place in which "to learn and to be learned of many," and certainly no place affords a better opportunity, either for the rendering of social service or for the analyzing of social forces, than Chicago Commons. The interest of the student in social settlements is found in the fact that they afford an outlet for the spirit of broad and discriminating brotherly kindness, which is one of the choicest fruits of university life; they afford, also, an opportunity for observing at first hand the social conditions from which spring some of the most dangerous tendencies of modern times.

No one who believes in the University of Michigan can regard it as a misfortune that it is situated in a small town. It is, however, something of a disadvantage that students are deprived of contact, at first hand, with some of the conditions respecting which, as good citizens and educated men, they will be called upon in after life to have an intelligent opinion. It is hoped that ultimately the University will be openly identified with settlement work in the city of Detroit. A beginning has been made in this direction. For the present, however, reliance is placed upon the Fellowship at Chicago Commons. The experiment has been well worth trying and the influence of those who have held this Fellowship, upon their return to the University, has been most helpful. It is felt, however, that this influence is limited to a relatively small circle. It is not alone students as members of Christian Associations who are interested in social settlements, but students as citizens of a Christian nation; and he makes a sad mistake who limits his preparation for life to the technical demands of a professional or business pursuit. One may observe in our times a marked tendency toward what is sometimes called "social service." This is nothing more than the application of the spirit of Christianity to industrial, social and class relations. An important manifestation of this tendency, as has been said, is the social settle-

ment, and one way by which the student body of the University of Michigan can come into touch with those influences which make for a noble character and social regeneration, is to interest themselves in this University Fellowship in Sociology. In appealing this year to the student body for contributions to this Fellowship, the main motive is to change somewhat the character of the Fellowship, and to make it truly representative of the University. It is not so much an enlarged contribution that is needed as an enlarged interest in the thing for which the contribution is made. An intelligent interest in the work of social settlements is a part of university life and an intelligent sympathy with this enlarged idea of a university is a part of education.

Signed:

H. C. Adams,  
C. H. Cooley,  
F. M. Taylor,

Fellowship Appointment Committee.

Endorsed:

James B. Angell,  
President.

Literary Department.

R. Hudson, Dean.  
A. C. McLaughlin,  
Earl W. Dow,  
R. M. Wenley,

Law Department.

H. B. Hutchins, Dean.  
V. H. Lane,  
E. C. Goddard,

Medical College (Regular).

V. C. Vaughan, Dean,

Medical College (Homeopathic).

W. B. Hinsdale, Dean.

Engineering Department.

Chas. E. Green, Dean.

Dental College.

J. Taft, Dean.

School of Pharmacy.

A. B. Prescott, Dean.

Woman's Department.

Myra B. Jordan, Dean.

#### Prof. Cooley's Valuation.

Prof. Charles H. Cooley, who, as instructor in Sociology has had more immediate direction of the work of the fellowship incumbents, bears this witness to its value:

"It is a common fling at university life that it is too much removed from the tough problems of the real world. Any truth that there may be in this adds interest to the movement,

now becoming quite general, for American universities to take part in the work of social settlements, which are usually situated in the so-called "slums" of our large cities and deal face to face with such problems as are to be found there.

"It is not so generally known as it should be that a part of the students of this University, with the co-operation of the faculty, are trying with some success to bring about an active relation with social settlement in Chicago and, perhaps, in Detroit.

"About six years ago certain members of the Students' Christian Association, inspired by the lectures of Miss Addams and Professor Taylor, induced that body to raise money to send a student to live for about half the college year at Chicago Commons, with the purpose of studying some social problem under the supervision of Graham Taylor, and reporting it, by thesis, when he returned to the University. At the request of the Association a committee of the faculty chose the Fellow, and he was sent accordingly. The experiment worked well and has been repeated each year, the returning Fellow being expected to diffuse the benefits of his experience throughout the University, so far as possible, by speaking before various gatherings of students and others. In this way, the Fellows forming a nucleus, there has come to a growing body of students interested in settlements and desirous to share in their work, or to express in some similar way the social spirit aroused in them. In some cases the studies have proved of distinct scientific value, and one, on the Saloon Question in Chicago, by R. L. Melendy, was published, first in the *American Journal of Sociology*, and later incorporated into a volume called "Substitutes for the Saloon," (Houghton, Mifflin & Co.)

"This enterprise was started and is kept up by students, and it would seem that it deserves increasing support.

Charles H. Cooley."

The response to these appeals, received at and after the public meeting at University Hall, addressed by Professor Graham Taylor, on the Function of the University in Civic and Social Progress, warranted the appointment of a Fellow, Miss Inis H. Weed, who is already at Chicago Commons working upon her investigation of Manual Training.

The very flowers that bend and meet  
In sweetening others grow more sweet.

—O. W. Holmes.

## COLLEGE SETTLEMENTS ASSOCIATION.

### STANDING COMMITTEE.

*President:* KATHARINE COMAN, Wellesley, Mass.

*Vice President:* HELEN CHADWICK RAND THAYER (Mrs. Lucius H. Thayer), Portsmouth, N. H.

*Secretary:* SARAH GRAHAM TOMKINS, 1904 Walnut St., Philadelphia.

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*Fifth Member:* HELEN ANNAN SCRIBNER (Mrs. Arthur H. Scribner), 10 West 43rd St., New York City.

### SETTLEMENTS.

New York City—95 Rivington Street.

Philadelphia—433 Christian Street.

Boston—91 Tyler Street (Denison House).

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY  
CAROLINE WILLIAMSON MONTGOMERY,  
5548 Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago.

### "Americans in Process."\*

LATEST INVESTIGATION BY SOUTH END HOUSE.

Once more the settlement is justified of its fruits in the new book by Mr. Woods and his associates of the Boston South End House, "Americans in Process"\*. For the settlement stands for a point of view as well as for a method. It stands for the desire to understand the social situation in detail and as a whole, and for the desire to be oneself an effective working part of that whole.

This book is everywhere proof of these two desires. It is in a sense a continuation of the earlier volume of five years ago, "The City Wilderness," being a study of the North and West Ends as that of the South End of Boston. But the different characters of the district here described gives the new book its especial character.

In the first place the situation is given a singular picturesqueness from the strong local color of the North End with its colonial and revolutionary associations. From Copp's Hill burying ground and "the Old North," to Paul Revere's house on North Square, this is the Mecca of the visitor to Boston, and Italian and Jewish residents, used to staring and questioning strangers, never suspect that they themselves are also objects of curiosity.

\*Americans in Process: A Settlement Study by Residents and Associates of the South End House, edited by Robert A. Woods, Head of the House. North and West Ends, Boston. Houghton, Mifflin & Company. The Riverside Press, Cambridge. 1902. 12mo \$1.50. ix. 331.

These historical associations give more than ordinary interest to the accounts by Mr. Woods and Mrs. Rutan of this district in the past and to Mr. Bushee's chapter on "The Invading Host." A fact which probably comes as a surprise to most readers is the distinct rise in the moral tone of this quarter brought about by the influx of immigrants. The long notorious North End dance hall is now a thing of the past and such vice as remains, and especially the presence of the saloons, is mainly due to outsiders,—to visitors from neighboring non-license towns and to the passing brought about by markets, railroads and waterside traffic.

It is in the wards of the North and West here studied that newly arrived immigrants mainly settle, here if anywhere that they find America. So that a study of this part of the city is most truly a study of Americans in process.

The chapter, "The Child of the Stranger," by Mrs. Atherton and Mrs. Rutan, gives a picture which falls below only the reality in interest, of the absorption of the little foreigners by the public school. It shows the relation of what the school is prepared to give to that which the boy and girl, especially the girl, is in need of. In schools where about seventy-five per cent never reach the English grade of the grammar school and where, in a recent year, of forty-two graduating from "The Master's Class," twenty-seven were born in Russia, and of these not one could speak a word of English five years before—in such schools the scant years of education are of the most vital importance to the child and to the community, and every hour should be spent so as to tell most.

It necessarily happens that various of these writers undertake appreciations of the different nationalities which live in this part of the town and everywhere is recognition of the reciprocity involved. "The immigrant nationalities are already adding variety and fresh impulse to the city's industrial and social interests. \* \* \* The motive should be to have them affected by the American spirit, but also to have the American spirit affected by what is real in them."

Mr. Cole's chapter on "Two Ancient Faiths," is perhaps the most full of color in the book, but the deepest and most tragic interest and the most vital purpose pulsate in Mr. Woods' own chapters, especially in that on "Traffic in Citizenship," and in the concluding chapter, "Assimilation: a Two-edged Sword."

Rumor relates that one of the local bosses, whose characters and methods are here ana-

lyzed with a naturalist's painstaking, blustered and threatened suit; that Mr. Woods' friends were only too ready to face the expenses of such a suit ("It would be the greatest thing for the purification of politics that ever happened in Boston"), and that the rival boss gibes his brother for having merely given the book its phenomenal sale,—with other stories of the self exposure of justification to which the quiet statements of the book provoked its victims.

The moral of this merciless study is pointed at the well-to-do.

"It may be doubted whether evil communications are much worse than no communications at all. There is a strange ever-increasing reaction upon the life of affairs and upon social morality in Boston as a result of the rift in society between native and immigrant stocks. \* \* \* In Athens it was the mark of the aristocracy that they governed the city, while the newly enfranchised class attended to its provisioning. In this latter-day democratic city the situation is precisely reversed. This means that the large majority of those men in Boston who are making the fullest use of American economic opportunities are fast dismissing from their minds the civic responsibilities which form the just and essential balance to those opportunities. Considering the serious nature of our municipal needs the question may fairly be raised whether the average business man in Boston is any worthier pillar of a democratic municipality than is the average politician."

Not only politically, but also in business and most seriously in religion, does this disastrous "rift in society" make itself felt. "There is a growing conviction that democracy is \* \* \* an ethical philosophy. \* \* \* It requires for its existence a large measure of social coherence." "The reflex influence of these communities upon the city in its entirety is so pervasive as to challenge the collective efforts of citizens and the corporate action of the municipality and commonwealth."

On this follows, in about a dozen luminous pages, what is in reality a definite program for constructive work. This might well be studied point by point to see how far its prescriptions are already carried out; how far immediately practicable; how far to be kept in mind as a goal. But this cannot be done here.

It is hard to see how any reader can leave the book without feeling at once the gravity of the conditions and an immense hope in view both of the essential wholesomeness of the new

life and of the many practical lines of co-operation opening to men of good will.

EMILY GREEN BALCH.

**"Everyman."**

The 15th Century morality play, "Everyman," recently produced in this country, is one few people can see without being impressed. It teaches a great moral lesson in a beautifully artistic and dramatic way. Men may, or may not agree with its theology and feel a bit strange in its medieval atmosphere, but all are conscious that it has made them realize the seriousness of life as never before. The lesson coming with all the added force that results from the acted word with its appeal to the eye, as well as the ear.

The clergy of St. Stephen's Episcopal church, realizing this, talked with Mr. Ben Greet, the manager of the company producing the play, and told him how much good they thought would result if a performance could be arranged at the South End and the tickets distributed among those who could not afford to see it at the regular theatre prices. The suggestion thrown out in a cursory sort of way, with scarcely a thought that it would be possible, found instant favor with Mr. Greet,—who had an open date he could give us. The next problem was to find the money and the place. But the plan appealed strongly to the various college settlements, who responded generously to St. Stephen's lead, and the necessary amount was soon raised. Some difficulty was experienced in getting a place and finally the "Grand," a cheap theatre, seating about 2,000, and right in the heart of the South End, was secured.

A conference of those interested was called to complete all arrangements. A finance committee, composed of Rev. Ellis Bishop, Rev. Edward Everett Hale and Mrs. Mary Morton Kehen, was to raise the rest of the money necessary, and a committee of arrangements, on which were the Rev. Thatcher R. Kimball, Mr. W. S. Cole and Miss Lillian V. Robinson, was to look after the distribution of tickets and all other details.

The centers taking the greatest interest in the matter, e. g., St. Stephen's church, Denison House, Lincoln House, South End House, the Ellis Memorial and the Women's Industrial Union, decided that the tickets should be distributed free to those the workers knew would appreciate the play, and none were to be admitted under 10 years of age, unless accompanied by a teacher or settlement worker.

There was a great demand for the tickets and more than 2,000 were distributed so that, on the night of the performance the theatre was packed and many had to stand. A mistake made was to allow a reporter to take a flash-light picture of the audience from the stage before the play began. This introduced an element that detracted from the seriousness of the occasion. The choir boys from St. Stephen's church came on the stage in their black cassocks and rendered very well three anthems, but this did not quite restore the quiet, broken by the amusement resulting from the flash-light. The audience evidently were expecting to be amused and so, when the prologue began there was much tittering and whispering among the younger people and Dethe's entrance caused an audible smile.

Very little need be said about the play itself, as so many have seen it or read about it. But from the moment Everyman came on the stage the audience was held. Miss Mathison was so strong, her personality so winning and her acting so simple, sincere and direct that few could resist her power. It was a great triumph for her. The audience was difficult—one which could not appreciate a large part of the artistic side of the production and unused to a performance so continuous, so unrelieved by humor, and with an atmosphere so strange to them, and Miss Mathison, realizing the obstacles before her, put forth her best efforts and gave a rendering of the part which probably surpassed anything she had before done in Boston, and the audience yielded to her power.

The results of the experiment were entirely satisfactory with a few minor exceptions. Even more care should have been taken in distributing the tickets, and many think they should have been sold at a low price. Nor should there have been more given away than there were seats. Those standing grew tired and contributed to the spirit of restlessness which those too young, frivolous and unappreciative manifested during the evening.

Yet in spite of that, the audience as a whole was interested and, we may well believe, deeply impressed. A few instances already reported show this. A former communicant, who had led an evil life for some years, saw it, came back to his priest to make his confession, and is making a fresh start. Another man, who had neglected attendance at church for many years, has already been for three Sundays. A shop girl in a downtown department store is reported as being very zealous in missionary work among her companions, and we are sure



that there are many more cases of a like sort which if known would bear testimony to the influence that wonderful play has exerted.

THATCHER R. KIMBALL.

St. Stephen's House.

The first of a series of conferences to be held at the various settlements in Boston was held at Denison House on Friday morning, February 6. Miss Scudder gave the address of the morning, "The Settlement Ideal." She laid emphasis on the danger of the settlement becoming, now that it is an established feature of the social order, too highly institutionalized, and so losing the finer and more spiritual quality of the first beginnings of the movement. The settlement should hold firm and true amidst all the modern threatenings against democracy, the right democratic ideals. A mere institution for clubs and classes cannot do this. The great need for the settlement of the new century is some infusion of that right dreaming spirit which sees the greater vision beyond the task.

In the more general talk which followed Miss Scudder's address, one of the points most forcibly dwelt on was the desirability of getting the outside workers—those who come perhaps once or twice a week for some class or club work, and go away without ever seeing the general workings of the house—in touch with the ideal and the distinctive field of the settlement with which they are thus connected.

BESSIE MAIN WARING, Resident.

"Two men I honor, and no third. First the toil-worn Craftsman that with earth-made implement laboriously conquers the Earth, and makes her man's. \* \* \* A second man I honor, and still more highly: Him who is seen toiling for the spiritually indispensable, not daily bread, but the Bread of Life. \* \* \* Unspeakably touching is it, however, when I find both dignities united; and he that must toil outwardly for the lowest of man's want, is also toiling inwardly for the highest. Sublimar in this world know I nothing than a Peasant Saint, could such now anywhere be met with. Such a one will take thee back to Nazareth itself; thou wilt see the splendor of Heaven spring forth from the humblest depths of Earth, like a light shining in great darkness."—Sartor Resartus.

The only man who never makes a mistake is the man who never does anything.—Theodore Roosevelt.

## ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD WORKERS, NEW YORK CITY.

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY

MARY KINGSBURY SIMKHOVITCH,

26 Jones Street, New York City.

### Legislative Attack on the Tenement House Law.

The Association of Neighborhood Workers of New York is at present deeply concerned in the tenement house problem. The problem was precipitated by a surprising dose of energy expressed in the lobby at Albany by a considerable group of landlords, contractors, real estate agents, and the like. Even one or two trust companies lend a hand to the iniquitous affair. This unseemly coalition resulted in a number of bills being presented to the legislature, any one of which would demolish the safeguards of the present tenement house laws. The first bill, presented by Senator Marshall, would wipe out the legislation of forty years at a single stroke! This raised such a protest from all New York, that he sent in his apologies and withdrew from the field. Others were at hand, however, with other bills which were practically as radical, though expressed with much more modesty.

We soon discovered that behind all these bills there was a well-defined movement backed by a strong determination to importune the legislature to modify the present laws greatly to the advantage of the landlords and speculators, and not at all to the advantage of the long-suffering mortals who would, perchance, try to live in these buildings. Many buildings have been put up in violation to the present law. They want these legalized. Many old buildings are hardly fit for rats to live in. They want to rent these to human beings without any improvement. One man was actually elected to the senate on that platform alone. The problem, therefore, is a serious one.

Our first effort has been with the people who live in these houses. We have shown how dark, unsanitary rooms breed tuberculosis, the dread of the tenement house dwellers. We have further expressed to them that light, air and proper sanitation are theirs by natural right; and that they would be deprived of these by the proposed legislation. The response was instantaneous and is becoming more and more effective. We hope to raise such a volume of protest from these people that no legislator

will dare to sell their rights to any band of speculators.

On the other hand, we want to assure the tenement people of the support of their "up-town" friends. We not only have mass meetings downtown among the people who are directly affected by the proposed changes, but also are organizing all the influential people in the other districts to help in the fight.

Education is our watchword. When this struggle is over the people of New York,—of all classes,—will be thoroughly informed as to the present laws. They will appreciate more deeply than ever their interdependence, and, we are assured, will have registered their solemn protest against any legislation which places in jeopardy the lives of any of their fellows.

The newspapers have proven invaluable aids to us in quickening the public conscience along these lines. Every bit of the proposed legislation has been properly aired and thoroughly discussed. In addition to their work, we are having 50,000 circular letters printed, which go more into detail and illustrate the things in the present laws which are vitally essential.

The significance of this is felt at Albany. Our representatives have been assured that no legislation, which sacrifices the present requirements for air, light, sanitation and inspection, will be passed. We will keep on the alert until we know this is true.

H. B. Kribs, Chairman Committee.

#### Inter-Settlement Games and Debates.

A meeting was held April 28, 1902, at Gordon House, for the purpose of forming a baseball league. The place was romantic enough,—the hayloft of a stable, made into a clubroom through the enterprise of the boys of Gordon House. In this small room, reached by a narrow ladder, delegates to the number of thirty-five bunched themselves, some in chairs, some sitting on an old pool-table, and many standing up. The lights were not very brilliant, but the interest was keen.

The matter which excited the greatest interest was that of Sunday ball playing. The delegates from five of the eight Houses represented, preferred to play ball on Sunday. They gave in very frank and interesting testimony, much of it being of a personal nature, in favor of Sunday ball playing, usually under two heads: First, because they worked hard during the week; and, second, because they saw no harm in it; or, at least, it was less harmful than the way most young men in the

crowded parts of our city were tempted to spend their time.

It took three large gatherings and a dozen committee meetings before this and numerous other questions of organization were settled. Four of the clubs were allowed to play their games on Sunday during the early part of the season. Later in the summer all the boys had their Saturday afternoons and were able to play then.

Altogether, barring forfeits, about seventy-five games were played. Naturally, the rivalry was keen, and not a few incipient fights called for a strong hand. On the whole, however, a spirit of good sportsmanship pervaded the contests. Each club brought a following of enthusiastic "rooters." Occasionally the scene was brightened by a little splash of House colors.

At the conclusion of the season a banquet was held. About sixty players were present. Each lad paid for his own plate. After the presentation of the silver cup to the victorious nine, many of the captains spoke informally, all in praise of the winning team. There was no trace of bitterness or envy. An entertainment and dance followed the banquet, each club furnishing one or two numbers of the programme.

Notwithstanding many drawbacks, we were sufficiently encouraged by this experiment to desire to form leagues in other sports. A meeting of Head-Workers, largely attended, was held at the University Settlement on September 23d. There was considerable unanimity as to the value of these contests, but it was thought wise to report the plan to the Neighborhood Association. The plan was favorably received by the Association at its first meeting and an executive committee of five appointed, with full powers to act. Sub-chairmen were appointed, by this committee to organize leagues for basket-ball, table games, debating, and for an indoor-meet. The work of organization has all been accomplished. In the basket-ball league these are three divisions, based on age and weight. Altogether, there are fourteen settlements participating in one or more of these leagues, and the greatest interest is manifested in the standing of each house.

The indoor-meet is likely to overshadow all other contests this winter, as the splendid armory of the 7th Regiment has been secured. From present indications, at least twenty settlements will be represented in one or more events. In addition to individual medals, the house gaining the greatest number of points

will receive a banner, to be competed for from year to year. Rumor says that settlement youths are wildly excited, and may be seen dodging up side streets, with occasional greetings of "Stop thief!" strenuously cultivating good form for the sprints and long distance runs. I am also informed that vacant lots about settlements are in greater demand than ever and youngsters may be seen practicing the broad jump or "putting the shot."

To organize these leagues and manage them successfully requires an enormous amount of patient labor; but those of us upon whom most of the hurden has fallen, believe that the results will more than justify the work. The traditions which gather about inter-college contests minister to the poetry and romance found in the heart of every normal boy, and even linger in the memories of old graduates. Through our inter-settlement contests we may likewise build up traditions, and produce something very nearly akin to college spirit. Even now, most of the houses have a distinctive yell; and all I think have house colors. Let us hope that with greater loyalty for the settlement may come greater sympathy for all the fine things for which the settlement stands.

The point which is of the greatest interest to me in these contests is the moral opportunity which they present. The rivalry is so genuine that moral traits, or the lack of them, stand out in bold relief. Your moral theme is no longer academic, it is immediate, vital aggressiveness, and withal, fairness,—in brief, true sportmanship.

One of the things which we need is an athletic field,—a plot of ground large enough for a half dozen baseball diamonds, tennis courts, bicycle and running tracks, and all the other features of a well-equipped athletic field. I think the time is coming when we shall have such a field for our New York settlements.

In our endeavor to bring the young men of our various settlements together we have begun with contests,—athletic contests particularly,—because they represent lines of least resistance. We should be sorry to have our work end here. Doubtless, in the future, entertainments will be exchanged, one club will give a reception to another club, and many other courtesies will be exchanged. Best of all: I think it entirely possible, beginning with these inter-settlement games, that we may eventually bring our young men together in a large body several times during a winter, and create a sort of forum for the discussion of practical, social, economic and civic questions.

Occasionally we may find it possible to unite for the accomplishment of certain good municipal undertakings, strictly non-partisan in character. Inter-settlement games and debates for trophies are good in themselves, but still I hope we may go farther.

WILLIAM A. CLARK.

Gordon House, February 16, 1903.

It is the way in which hours of freedom are spent that determines, as much as war or as labor, the moral worth of a nation.—Maurice Maeterlinck.

### Hold Up Your Heads Men.

A LABOR SONG.

Words and Music by Samuel Rastall.  
A Chicago Trades Unionist.

When will the day appear that cruel wars will cease,

When we can gladly say all o'er the world is peace;

When justice sways our every act and our emblem is the dove,

All share earth's bounty equally, the only ruler love?

Response:

Hold up your heads, men, the time will come!

When will the laboring man reap all that he has sown,

When will we share alike and all in common own,

When will we happy be and with a smile each other greet,

Wealth, poverty and crime be words long obsolete?

Response:

Hold up your heads, men, the time will come!

When will the nations all the golden rule observe,

When we forget ourselves and others only serve,

When will we learn that posterity to surely bless

Self-sacrifice's the only key to human happiness?

Response:

Hold up your heads, men, the time will come!

Then hold up your heads, men; the time is coming soon

When care will pass away and sunshine follow gloom,

Let us keep up the struggle so long as we have breath

For equality in life as it is in death.

Response:

Hold up your heads, men, the time will come!

# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor  
from the Social Settlement Point of View.

GRAHAM TAYLOR, - - - Editor

Entered at Chicago Postoffice as Second-Class Matter, and  
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50 Cents



A Year

## EDITORIAL.

### The Function of the University in Civic and Social Progress.

Every movement of real life has its counterpart in education. It centers down upon the school for the conservation and reproduction of its energy. For education is the epitome of history and experience, reproducing, as does the child, the development of the race. Back to it we come as from the breakers to the depths of the seas, from the tingling nerves to the motor centers, from the flush of the life blood to the heart whence it flows and whither it returns. However removed from the world's life the school may be, it is really a part of it, and the very spring of its power. However unrecognized or ignored the teacher may be, the scepter of influence more nearly rests in his or her heart and hand, the throne of power more nearly centers under the schoolhouse roof, than anywhere else, not excepting the domes of our capitols or the chancels of our cathedrals.

In America the public school system, including the State university, is not only the parallel but the paradox of the national history. The history of the American democracy is the record of the extremest individualism the world has ever seen. Yet the free public education given by it as a right to every child, in every township of colony and State, is the greatest social extension of the function of government in the history of the modern world. Now that the tide begins to turn and flow back to the more interdependent relationship of individual and group, of class with class, craft with craft, we may well inquire what the university, as heading up the public school system, has to contribute to the new civic and social consciousness of the nation.

To it the whole people have a right to look to impart to the body politic three elements from its own life and prerogative.

Continuity, separateness, and community are essential to consciousness. These the university has a greater opportunity to acquire, possess and impart than any other group of the people.

The time-sense of its geologists, historians and astronomers is most fatally lacking in the social movement of the people's life. From the university, therefore, society has a right to expect men and women to enter its rank and file with the capacity both to study present problems with history in mind, and history with present problems in mind. Nothing is more needed than the practical application of this capacity to our acutely strained industrial relationships for the promotion of economic peace and justice.

Separateness of the self from its surroundings is another element of personal consciousness. To realize that I am "other than the things I see" is essential to the "rounding to a separate mind," as Tennyson teaches us. So the people in their tense "cosmic struggle" for existence need those who have had the leisure to learn the separateness of soul from substance, of self from surroundings, to exemplify and teach the supremacy of men over things, of the human over the material value. The revival of interest in psychological and philosophical studies in our universities is translating itself through pedagogical principles and practice into a more spiritual ideal of life and conduct among the people.

Community of interest is as much an element of personal as of social consciousness. Without the comparison and contrast of common experiences, self-consciousness could hardly be, or certainly would be that of a far smaller and less worthy selfhood. More than anywhere else the common heritage of the race centers at, and is transmitted through, the university. In recognizing, if it does not create, a common standard of life in which each child is taught to share a part, to be one of many who share like rights and privileges, the public school and State university render a service which is as religious as it is social. For, as President King of Oberlin recently well said, "Since the vital breath of Christianity is democratic, and we cannot learn to love in a vacuum, our public schools are rendering a distinctly religious service by establishing this common standard of life and educating every one to take his or her own share in it."

Notwithstanding its great immunities and high prerogatives, culture tends to isolate itself from the race life by a narrow class consciousness. If, as Commissioner Harris defines it, "Culture is the rise of the individual into the life of the species," this isolation is not only self-stultification, but suicide. Only by pushing back this sky line to let in the thought of another mind, the ideal of another age, the aspiration of another class or people, does any life widen its horizon and gain a larger world in which to live and move and have its being.

To the privilege and duty of every one to make the most of self and the best of one's surroundings, appeal is legitimately made for an ever-growing interest and participation in the social service of the common life. To that appeal there may justly be added the obligation incurred by the possession of culture as a social trust. With great price to others, leisure to learn has been acquired by every one who enjoys it. At the cost of additional labor to many, every student is afforded that relief from toil which gives liberty to learn. In this respect, and in the buildings and educational equipment which the common industry taxes itself to provide those who are free to take advantage of these educational opportunities, every one in public or private school, State or endowed university is a "charity student." Back to the common life he owes the service of that culture which has been made possible by the sacrifices of the many. To withhold from others what makes life best worth living to oneself is the gravest breach of that sacred social trust and of common honesty under the bonds of which society places every educated life.

#### Tolstoy's Manliness.

The manliness with which brave old Leo Tolstoy stands under the full consequences of his words and acts in the face of all the Russias, inspires the respect even of his enemies. It likewise moves one to contempt toward those who speak from carefully sheltered positions, regardless of what happens to those who jeopardize their all in accepting and acting upon what they "say but do not." Witness this excerpt from the latest letter of the old count to the Russian ministers of the Interior and Justice and published by the Vienna Arbeiter Zeitung:

After protesting against the persecution of his followers as incomprehensible, useless, cruel, and, above everything, unjust, the letter continues:

"I alone am the guilty one in connection with the matter, for I write books containing ideas which are regarded as a danger to the state. If the government considers it necessary to suppress by force that to which it objects, it should strike direct at the origin of the evil; that is, at me, especially as I declare that I shall never cease to do that which the government regards as harmful, but what is for me a duty to God and my conscience.

"Do not, I beg you, imagine that I call on you to punish me instead of my followers, because I believe my popularity and position would render it difficult for the authorities to treat me as others are treated. So far from thinking that I occupy a privileged position, I am convinced that if the government banishes or imprisons or otherwise punishes me, public opinion will not be stirred, but that the great majority of the people will say that the step ought to have been taken long ago. I consider it my duty that you should punish me instead of those who accept my teachings, and I beg you to mitigate your severity."

The *Arbeiter Zeitung*, which is exceptionally well informed on Russian affairs, adds that on receipt of the letter the question of the arrest of Tolstoy was seriously considered, but it was finally decided not to molest him.

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### Social Significance of Church Federation.

After ten years of seemingly fruitless struggle, federation of churches has just become a fact in Chicago. Fourteen denominations are already represented on the council of fifty. At its first session three practical lines of effort were entered upon with vigor and intelligence. Endeavor will at once be made to federate churches throughout the city that naturally group together within well-defined districts and which will most readily affiliate in religious fellowship and neighborhood co-operation. In the fortnight before Easter, which is always set apart by large bodies of churches for special religious effort, it is hoped to unite many other denominations in holding a "simultaneous mission" whereby the fundamental tenets of common faith may, by concerted action, be pressed more deeply home upon the heart and conscience of the whole people. A bureau of information, research and publication is also contemplated which will serve as a "clearing house," where the diverse lines of religious and church work may exchange the values attained through observation, experience and special investigation. The collection of data directly bearing upon the life, aims, methods and relations of the churches in all their work for the community will supplement the already large collection of data in statistics and social economics which the John Crerar Library has already gathered. The committee in charge of this bureau, consisting of Professors Charles R. Henderson of the University of Chicago, and John H. Gray of Northwestern University, with Prof. Graham Taylor, president of the Federation as Chairman, will not only cooperate with the library in adding to its material, but will assist in bringing its valuable data to the knowledge and practical use of church and social workers. To the force of its executive officers the federation has already added its first "Seminary Federation Fellowship" to which it has appointed a competent graduate student of university culture and practical experience earned on city fields.

The settlements of Chicago may as surely be depended upon directly to co-operate in this movement, as they have indirectly fostered its spirit and aided its initiative.

It is a pleasure to add that the initiative to church federation in Chicago originally came from the theological seminaries in and near the city. For a dozen years, six of the seven of them maintained a "Faculties' Union," meeting twice a year for fellowship and discussion around the dinner table. Their students' Inter Seminary Banquet annually centers and spreads abroad the federative spirit.

### Chicago Commons Items.

The warden has postponed his leave of absence from professional duties until the autumn period of the academic year and expects to go abroad about the middle of May to remain until November.

His needed respite from the incessant care and continuous toil which have crowded out almost all leisure from the past ten years of his life, is still dependent upon the success of the effort which he and the trustees of Chicago Commons are now making to provide for the financial support of the settlement during his absence. At least \$6,500 must be subscribed or guaranteed within the next six weeks for current expenses during the six months of his absence. Over \$5,000 are still due before the building can stand clear of debt.

#### A SETTLEMENT SEMINAR.

An inter-academic seminar on "Social Observation and Research" is being held for the spring quarter by Professor Taylor at Chicago Commons. Each member outlines the plan and purpose for a proposed investigation, after which an investigator details the method and the results of an investigation actually in process or already completed.

#### CITY POLITICS AT THE SETTLEMENT.

Chicago Commons will be a center of political activity for all parties in the spring election. The traction issue overshadows partisan interests and, by introducing the economic and industrial elements into the city politics of Chicago, has furnished an educational opportunity which we are trying to improve to the utmost. A series of political mass meetings will be held during this month at which the mayoralty and aldermanic candidates will be heard and questioned. Each meeting is held under the auspices of the settlement with the cooperation of the party organizations of the ward. Great interest is manifested in the unique feature of having all parties and candidates present their claims in succession at one place. While the House remains independent in the mayoralty contest each resident is free to follow his own predilections in party affiliation and work. The Community Club, composed of citizens of the ward, is using its utmost endeavor to secure the best possible aldermanic nominations from both parties, reserving the right to endorse the one whose election is considered most desirable or to nominate an independent candidate by petition. This club has been the determining factor in wielding the "balance of power" by which three elections hand-running have been won.

# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor from the Settlement Point of View.

Number 81—Vol. VIII

Eighth Year

Chicago, April, 1903

## Angel-Court.

In Angel-Court the sunless air  
Grows faint and sick; to left and right  
The cowering houses shrink from sight,  
Huddling and hopeless, eyeless, bare.

Misnamed you say? For surely rare  
Must be the angel-shapes that light  
In Angel-Court!

Nay!—the Eternities are there.  
Death at the doorway stands to smite;  
Life in its garrets leaps to light;  
And Love has climbed that crumbling stair  
In Angel-Court!

—Dobson's Miscellanies (Dodd, Mead).

## EVILS AND REMEDIES OF OUR INDUSTRIAL SYSTEM.

DISCUSSED BY PROF. JOHN H. GRAY, NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY.

The large and influential Co-operative Class of the First Congregational Church in Evanston, Ill., has devoted its sessions this winter to discussing the application of Christian ethics to the most urgent present day issues. As it is largely composed of employers in the forefront of industrial struggles, the rights and wrongs between employers and employes have received the most marked emphasis. Prof. John H. Gray, of the department of political economy in Northwestern University discussed "What are the most glaring evils of the present social and industrial system and what the remedies in sight?" The somewhat imperfect report of his wholly conversational talk in the Evanston Press provoked such widespread interest that with his permission we reproduce it in our columns. Prof. Gray's recent investigation of the industrial situation in England for the United States Department of Labor lends special significance to his treatment of this topic. The article which follows his is by another expert observer.

PROF. GRAY'S ADDRESS.

"The most hopeful remedies in sight, said the speaker, are collective bargaining and labor unions. With all their murders and violence, of which all good citizens heartily disapprove, the unions still have more good than bad in them. The labor interests are not striking simply for wages—they are striking for life. The labor unions in Chicago, said Prof. Gray in reply to

a question, are the worst in the world, but even they are beginning to learn that violence and lawlessness defeat their own aims.

### THE HEART OF THE LABOR QUESTION.

The heart of the labor question is that, under the modern competitive system, with the great development of machinery, the endless and almost universal combination and ownership of capital, and the tremendous concentration and ownership of wealth, the trade unionists do not get a share of the products corresponding to their contribution toward the production of them. And until they get such a share and believe that they are getting it, there will be social unrest and agitation, and the interests of the community require that there should be such agitation. This is the heart of the question of the organization of labor, it is the very essence of the question why the masses of workmen do not come near the church. The working man does not respect, and it is undesirable that he should respect, any religious system or any ecclesiastical organization which does not seem to him to be seriously concerned with eternal, old-fashioned, simple justice.

### THE REAL LABOR QUESTION.

All of the economic discussions in the Co-operative class, whatever the nominal subject and whatever the language of the texts, have come back to one and the same point, a point which, however concealed and disguised heretofore, is bound to come to the front and must be wrestled with fairly and squarely by our children. It must be wrestled with as it never has been before, by us, or our children will have no opportunity to wrestle with so mild and peaceful a question as this. We have heard endless quibbling in the attempt to refute the proposition that the rich are growing richer and the poor poorer. As an intellectual speculation that is an interesting problem. As an issue of practical importance it does not exist. Another phase of the same thing is, that with the increase of wealth and prosperity wages have increased, and a large part of the population has assumed that if you can prove that wages have increased in the last generation, you have done what ought forever to silence the labor agitator and the workingman

in general. Now it is not an unimportant question as to whether the statement that wages, nominal and real, have increased in the last generation is true or not, but the bearing of that question on the dissatisfaction of the laboring element and on the demands of labor organizations is just about the same as that of the question of how many angels can dance on the point of a needle.

If I were a laboring man and my employer attempted to convince me that my wages had increased every year for decades, that would have absolutely no influence on the demands that I should consider myself entitled in justice to make upon him. No laboring man concerns himself primarily or chiefly any longer with these questions. What he ought to ask, and what he does ask and what he will continue to ask until there is some degree of simple justice accorded him, is, whether or not he gets a share of the good things produced by human effort corresponding, that is, proportional, to his contribution toward that production. This is the gist of the whole matter; it is an ethical question connecting itself closely with economic facts and conditions.

#### PROSPERITY REACHES THE LABORER SLOWLY.

The speaker named two phases of the injustice of the present industrial organization that seemed to him to go farther than anything else to make the laboring man dissatisfied, hostile to the present organization of society, hostile to the church. The laboring man realizes a good deal more than we do that, having been shut out from training and opportunity such as we have enjoyed, the burden of initiative and the moral obligation to bring in eternal justice in governmental and society affairs rest first, foremost and chiefly on some other than the wage earner. He observes that in this country, rich beyond all others, possessed of an economic productive power beyond the greatest dreams of a generation ago, such economic pressure is brought to bear on him as to deprive his children of that degree of schooling and education which would give them a fair chance in life. In the city of Leicester, England, many young children were burned to death, largely at open fires, in 1899, because their mothers were, for the most part, out working and they were left in the care of other small children. The average length of life in Massachusetts, where the conditions are far better than in most of the other states, is as follows: Farmers, 65 years; craftsmen, 50.8 years; factory workers, 36.3 years. The infant mortality in England is as follows: Higher classes, 1 death to 41½ births;

middle classes, 1 death to 2½ births; laboring classes, 1 death to 2 births. The workman is under the stern necessity of putting his children to earning something at the age when they ought to be in school if they are to have a fair chance in life with the other classes of society. He finds the state organized and the most prominent church members, if not the church as an organization, endorsing a system by which those children are permitted to go into the mine, the factory and the workshop, and are deliberately used as a means of cutting down his own wages. Having been deprived of their natural birthright in this free land, namely, such an education as would enable them to compete on equal terms with the other classes, they are driven so hard and are subject to such long and exacting labor as to break them in health, and to make it highly improbable that they will ever be able to maintain even as high a position in life as their parents. Then what does it avail to talk about the land of the free? What does it avail to talk about the great prosperity, which is unquestioned, to a man who sees his own children ground down in mind, body and soul? And more than a quarter of a million of little children are thus ground down in factories, mines and workshops of this country today. Does he rejoice in the prosperity? No, he rankles with the sense of injustice, and by his vigorous opposition he does society a service.

#### INJUSTICE OF MACHINERY TO LABOR.

If you ask the average non-laboring man, and especially the employer of labor, the effect of consolidating companies and improving the organization of industry or introducing new machines using that term in the widest sense, he will tell you that these improvements mean greater employment of labor, will denounce the opposition of the laborer to such changes, and clearly intimate that the laborer in protesting is not only marvelously stupid but hopelessly brutal and depraved. Yet the merest tyro of labor unionists, although he may be unable to read, knows that what the employer says in regard to increasing the demand for labor may be entirely true and yet have no bearing whatever on the case toward which it is directed. The fact is that the laborers are not opposed to machinery or even to the organization of trusts, although they frequently strike on account of the introduction of a machine, and but a few years ago frequently burnt and smashed the machine itself. What they are opposed to is any change which throws them out of their jobs and is likely to prevent them ever getting on their



fect economically again, no matter how many people the change may give employment to in the future or how much wealth it may enable the world to produce for somebody else. The whole objection of the labor union, whatever may be said of it in the past, is today directed not toward preventing improvements in the organization of industry or in the character of the machines used, but by means of collective bargaining to insist first, last and all the time that the laborer shall get some share in this genuine progress of the world, namely, the increased power of producing commodities.

#### MACHINERY THROWS MEN OUT OF WORK.

Take, for instance, the turning of all of our horse railroads into so-called trolley lines. It has, beyond doubt, required more men to run the street railway systems than were required before. It has enabled a lot of young fellows, supple, keen, alert, to find jobs on the street railways that could not have found them in the earlier period. It has just as certainly and inevitably thrown many of the middle-aged men who drove the horses, out of employment, and enabled the companies to get rid of them without compensation, and in a multitude of cases permanently destroyed the income of these men.

This type of case is one of the great causes of the discontent of the laboring man and of his feeling that with all the boasted progress of the world, a progress in economic production almost beyond description, it has been for the benefit of others and not for him. Such are some of the fruits of an age of machinery and of an almost unlimited power of producing commodities. The laborer is entirely right when he insists that whenever he is thrown out of his job in such a case in order that by improved methods of machinery the world may produce more commodities, the world has gained at his expense; and, while the laborer is not less patriotic or less altruistic than the rest of the world, he objects to paying all of the fare for the rest of the world to ride to the picnic and having no opportunity to attend the picnic himself. The economist Mill was not wide of the mark when he suggested that it was questionable whether all the improved methods of production and introduction of complex machinery had lightened the day's toil of a single workman, and remarked that it was much more likely that it enabled a part of the population to live in very much greater luxury at the same time that it enabled a very much larger total population to exist. It is coming to be a well recognized maxim that in an age of rapid im-

provement in machinery, so long as society permits that machinery to throw large masses of men out of employment, the great gain in productive power is made at the expense of, and not to the benefit of, the man thrown out of employment.

It is further coming to be recognized, first, that it is entirely unjust that this burden should be put upon the laboring population, and, next, that it is impossible in an age of universal adult male suffrage, a free press and free speech, to put it there much longer.

#### OUR APPALLING INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

This is one phase of the injustice of the existing industrial organization. The other phase is an appalling thing that ought to make every American hang his head in shame and look up with admiration toward the most tyrannous, medieval and class-ridden government in western Europe. That is, that the citizens of this great republic are the only people in the world, commonly referred to as civilized people, that have made no considerable compulsory rules, regulations and statutes for compensating workmen for industrial accidents. We have made no adequate provision either legally or voluntarily for meeting what is probably the most tremendous evil and the most appalling hardship in the industrial world of the twentieth century, and in that particular we stand absolutely alone. We are notoriously reckless of human life, more so than any other civilized or semi-civilized nation.

The enormous loss of life which comes from this recklessness is perhaps the price we pay for the prosperity of which we hear so much, day in and day out; but, unfortunately, one class of society pays the price and another class enjoys the prosperity. In round numbers, there were as many people killed on the American railroads during the Boer war as were lost by the British army in South Africa, including those who died of disease as well as in battle.

#### ACCIDENTS BEYOND CONTROL OF VICTIMS.

There may be some question as to whether or not the increasing complexity of machinery in general increases the rate of accidents. There can be no question, however, to a keen observer, that the growing intricacy of modern machinery increases enormously the number of accidents entirely beyond the control of those who suffer from such accidents. Virtually all of continental Europe, years ago recognized this fact, and provided compensation for such cases under the name of insurance. England has finally, within the last two year, comes to a complete revision of the law, providing

under the name of employers' liability that the industry, and not the poor workingman, shall bear the burden of the unavoidable accidents of mechanical industry.

Under the English common law the employer was held responsible for accidents resulting directly from his fault or the fault of his agents whose orders the injured person was in duty bound to follow. In the day when there was no machinery this was a reasonably adequate provision, for it put the burden of the employer's faults on himself when the fault could be proved, and it placed on the workingman the burdens of any accidents caused by his own fault or by the fault of his fellow employe, as well as all accidents in fact due to the fault of the employer but beyond legal proof. Under the system of hand labor it was perfectly easy in the great majority of cases to tell to whose fault an accident was due. But when many workmen in the midst of complex machinery work together, vast numbers of accidents happen which are in fact not the fault of any individual. Where they are the fault of some individual, it is usually impossible to prove the case, while the attempt to apply the fellow servant rule falls but little short of idiocy, although that is the rule which with few exceptions prevails in America today.

The theory that a workingman takes the risks of negligence, carelessness and incompetence on the part of his fellow servants under a system of machinery production, is foolish. It turns on the arch fallacy, to a large extent still current in the great republic but long since rejected and despised by the effete monarchies of the old world, great and small, that, in proportion to the disagreeableness and dangerousness of the work, wages will be high and that one has a compensation for the risk in the wages paid. Every important European nation except Great Britain, which has solved the problem in another way, has come fairly and squarely to base its state action on the theory that personal accidents in the industrial army are so far not due to the fault of employes, as to make it the duty of the state to provide compensation just as fully and just as completely for accidents and deaths as the United States government undertakes to provide compensation for life disaster to the members of her military force. Each is considered, save by us, to be a necessary concomitant to national life and human progress.

These burdens fall naturally and necessarily in the first instance on the workmen, but they are incurred for the sake of human progress

and the whole community. Every consideration of justice and fair play requires that society as a whole, which gets the benefit of this progress, should relieve the working classes of these burdens by paying compensation for deaths and injuries thereby incurred.

### Who is Responsible for Limiting Output in England?

BY AN EXPERT OBSERVER OF ECONOMIC CONDITIONS.

The question as to whether or not trade unions limit output is assuming a considerable importance in these days. The London Times in its issue of November 18, 1901, began a series of articles, or, rather, attacks upon the unions for this alleged offense. The Times' articles and editorials were so biased as to be practically worthless, but the discussion got into the magazines, the Economic Journal and the Contemporary Review, the Engineering Review and others. So important has the subject appeared that the United States Department of Labor has an investigation on foot, and sent Prof. John H. Gray of the Northwestern University at Evanston, Illinois, to England to look into it. Another agent has been sent to Belgium, one to France, another to Germany. In the United States Prof. John R. Commons will look after New York and have general supervision of the work, while special agents of the department gather information in New England and in the Middle West.

There may be a few instances where unions, by limiting the day's work, restrict the output; there have been instances where directors of combinations have voted to restrict output. But in all the articles so far published there does not seem to be anything said about union men that is not just as true of non-union men. That laboring men, whether organized into unions or not, will do just as little work as possible for just as much pay as possible is no less true than that their employers will sell just as little of labor's products for just as much money as they can get. That workmen will resort to trickery to evade work is just as true as that paper soles are sometimes put on shoes. But the system of political economy without a glimmer of morality or glimpse of God in it, for which the London Times stands, is more responsible for all this than all things else, even its pet abhorrence—trades unions. If labor is a commodity to be bought and sold for what it will bring, the laborer who can get the most for the least is the highest type

of economic perfection. If English employers have been fooled by having this commodity make a market for more of itself through a tacit understanding to "go easy" so as to make more work for others, it shows that labor understands better than English employers the economic doctrines said employers have been promulgating and paying for ever since Adam Smith. The English capitalist wants nothing so much as market for his wares. If he can not get this because the laborer has marketed his commodity and got too much for too little, apply your "survival of the fittest" fetish to him. He is your superior, off with your hats. The London Times pleads the baby act when it talks of "morality" or immorality in connection with economics. The political economist of England, and the Times is the organ of this school, apotheosizes selfishness. "To buy in the cheapest and sell in the dearest market" is the maxim of trade and commerce. The price of a thing "is what you can get for it," absolutely without regard to quality. "No friendship in business," no sentiment in trade. Now to do an honest day's work for an honest day's pay is sentimentalism. It smacks of Jesus, rather than Ricardo. The Times cries like a whipped puppy because the commodity it wants to buy can get so much money for so little of itself that "British industries are threatened." But what a yell would go up from the Times if some one should say "the steel rail manufacturer should give an honest amount of steel, both quantity and quality, for every pound sterling he gets in exchange." No, no, no, the Times would yell; the market price fixes that, and the market price means all you can get, and as to quality, "let the purchaser beware." The "go easy" laborer who restricts his output to make work for others is simply taking all he can get for his commodity and increasing the market for it. A political economy that ignores the humanities, that sneers at the "brotherhood of man," has advocated an "every fellow for himself" and "dog eat dog" philosophy until it has made dogs of us all. This political economy has at last got British industry into a pretty bad fix.

"Of the people, when they rise in mass in behalf of the Union and the liberties of their country, truly may it be said: 'The gates of hell cannot prevail against them.'"—Lincoln.

"Stand with anybody that stands right. Stand with him while he is right, and part with him when he goes wrong."—Lincoln.

### Summon the Wee Battalions.

Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of God.—Luke xviii, 16.

Out of the lanes and alleys,  
 Out of the vile purlieu,  
 Summon the wee battalions,  
 Pass them in long review.  
 Grimy and ragged and faded—  
 Say, if you choose, with a tear:  
 "These are the ones of His kingdom,  
 And thus do I keep them here."  
 Here, where the tenements breed them,  
 Gather them, gather them in,  
 Heirs to the kingdom of Heaven,  
 Bound in the maze of sin.  
 What have ye done to uplift them,  
 These whom He loved so well?  
 Oh, tiny and worn, unkempt and forlorn,  
 Us of your heritage tell.

The faces, the wee, weery faces,  
 Old ere their time, so old!  
 Who from His kingdom tore them,  
 And into this bondage sold?  
 Folk of the stately churches,  
 Here is the baby host,  
 Heirs to a Father's glory,  
 Marked with the grim word, "Lost!"

The faces, the old, old faces,  
 On bodies so wee, so wee,  
 Whose is the hand that crushed them  
 And made them the dreg and the lee?  
 "Suffer the little children"—  
 Is this the answer we bear?  
 That they live their lives in the haunts and hives,  
 The children of dumb despair?

—Alfred J. Waterhouse, in New York Times.

### ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD WORKERS, NEW YORK CITY.

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY  
 MARY KINGSBURY SIMKHOVITCH,  
 26 Jones Street, New York City.

### THE CHILD LABOR MOVEMENT IN NEW YORK.

It is not yet a year since Dr. Felix Adler appealed to the Settlements of New York to disclose to the public the child labor conditions in New York and to declare whether Northern criticism of the South in regard to child labor could be complacently indulged in.

The Settlements, through the Association of Neighborhood Workers, responded to Dr. Adler and appointed a committee for the purpose of discovering what steps could be taken to restrict the exploitation of the working children. Robert Hunter was made chairman of the committee and subcommittees were appointed to report on the various phases of child labor.

The investigation, however, was not undertaken until the latter part of August and the form of attack was not determined until October.

One of the plans held tentatively was that an investigation should be instituted by the association and carried to a point which would prove the necessity for a child labor commission appointed by the state. The ultimate aim of this plan, as of all others, was to secure legislation which would more effectively protect the children already within the law and to extend legislation to children now entirely unprotected. After a full consideration of the situation it seemed the wiser plan to work directly and immediately for legislation. This, as it was said, was the psychological moment. A realizing sense of the child labor evil seemed to be sweeping the country. Public apathy, the stumbling block to reform, had shifted for the time to other questions. It was now unmistakably the children's turn. As the legislature was to convene in January, the time for campaign work was extremely limited. It was realized, furthermore, that the committee should be increased so as to include men whose influence would be felt at Albany when the time came for presentation of the bills. An Executive Committee was formed consisting of Felix Adler, George W. Alger, W. H. Baldwin, Jr., S. B. Donnelly, John H. Hammond, Robert Hunter, Florence Kelly, W. H. Maxwell, V. Everett Macy, Thos. H. Mulvy, J. K. Paulding, Charles Sprague Smith, W. Enligh Walling, Lillian D. Wald. Mr. F. S. Hall was secured as secretary and given the administration of the campaign, which consisted in securing not only support for the measure in New York City but throughout the state. A Finance, an Investigation, a Legislative and a Publication Committee were appointed. The most important and difficult piece of work fell to the Committee on Legislation. After numerous meetings of this committee, covering several weeks, three bills were drawn up which presented in rough form what the committee considered at once the most important and possible goal to attain. With the approval of the Executive Committee the most important provisions in the proposed bills stood as follows:

(1) In order to secure a certificate allowing employment in factories and mercantile establishments the parent of a child must file with the Board of Health incontrovertible evidence that such child is actually 14 years of age or upwards. The forms of evidence specified in the bills are: A transcript of the child's birth certificate or of its baptismal certificate or some religious record or passport. In addition

the school record of the child, called for under the present law, must now include a statement of the child's age as entered on the school records. The only evidence of age called for under the present law is the affidavit of the parent.

(2) The existing laws prohibiting the employment of children under 14 years of age in mercantile establishments, and regulating the hours of employment of such children, between the ages of 14 and 16, are extended to cover children employed in or in connection with telegraph, messenger, delivery or other offices, and hotels, restaurants and places of public amusement.

(3) The provision in the existing law is repealed which allows vacation work in factories to children 14 to 16 years of age, who have not had the full schooling required for securing employment throughout the entire year, and the corresponding provision is repealed which allows vacation work to children 12 to 16 years of age in mercantile and other establishments named in (2). This latter repeal, however, applies only to cities of the first and second class.

(4) The employment of children between 14 and 16 years of age more than 9 hours in any one day is prohibited in factories, mercantile and other establishments named in (2). The existing laws place a 10-hour limit, but add as an exception that such children may be employed more than 10 hours in any one day if this is done in order to make a shorter work day of the last day of the week—an exception which makes the laws almost impossible of enforcement.

(5) No child under 12 years of age shall work as a bootblack or street peddler in cities of the first class, and no child 12 to 14 years of age shall so work later than 9 o'clock in the evening. No child under 10 years of age shall work as a newsboy in cities of the first class, and no child 10 to 14 years of age shall so work later than 9 o'clock in the evening.

The enforcement of the factory law remained in the new bill as of old, in the hands of the State Labor Bureau; the enforcement of the mercantile law, extending not only to stores, as heretofore, but to offices, hotels, etc., was placed with the Boards of Health; the street trades bill, relating to peddlers, newsboys and bootblacks, was to be enforced by the Board of Education.

The rough draft of the bills received careful and expert legal revision. The State Labor Bureau, the local Board of Health in New York City and the Superintendent of Public Schools

were consulted and the co-operation of all was secured. The Labor Bureau and the Board of Health had indeed contemplated new legislation and bills of their own on the same lines, but less extensive. The committee's bills were adopted instead, by both.

Before any public step was taken Governor Odell was interviewed and the case the committee had developed was laid before him. He promised his entire support and recommended in his message to the legislature that the child labor bill receive its consideration. The governor's message was the first public announcement that the child labor question had become an issue.

The committee at once began its campaign of education and endorsement of the proposed measure was secured throughout the state. The response was immediate and widespread. Not only individuals but all philanthropic organizations and humane societies, with one notable exception, endorsed the bills. The daily press of New York City also, without exception, generally gave its support.

Strangely the one society that stood conspicuously apart in this humane effort was the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children in New York City, popularly and locally known as the "Gerry Society." This society attacked the street trades bill on the ground that the classes of children under consideration were adequately provided for in the Penal Code, also that the work of these children was not harmful, but on the contrary commendable. It characterized the bill as "vicious" in its attempt to restrict these workers. The sections of the Penal Code referred to have for their object the prevention of cruelty and of pauperizing or immoral influences where children under 16 are concerned. To send a messenger boy under 16 years to a disorderly house is declared to be a misdemeanor, but with this exception it is left to the discretion of the court to decide what is cruel, pauperizing or immoral. The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children is empowered by these sections to make arrests and to take charge of the children after a trial. It cannot be said that the society has shown much appreciation of the modern attitude towards children and their childish needs. It is characteristic that they look upon the child labor movement as "sentimental" and then "vicious." The issue between this society and the Child Labor Committee was clearly drawn. The committee took the stand that mental and physical deterioration resulted to children regularly employed at an early age or for long or at late hours, and they demanded that this

position endorsed by the intelligence of the community be finally expressed in legislation. The opposition was indicated early in the history of the movement, but it was not clearly stated until the time of the second hearing of the bills; that was the hearing before the Senate Committee.

At the present writing the difference in point of view is still unsettled and undetermined by the legislature. The committee has, however, recommended two important amendments to its bill, the first of which it is fair to say the Gerry Society pointed out as a serious omission. This amendment prohibits girls under 16 from selling newspapers on the streets. This concession the committee of course gladly made, but the second amendment which the committee was forced to make, that is, the omission of peddlers from the bill, is a distinct loss. Peddlers are specifically mentioned along with beggars in the Penal Code, but so far as the public has been able to discover these peddlers under 16 have never been dealt with unless their peddling was carried on as a beggar's subterfuge. With these alterations and a few minor ones the committee is in hopes of a speedy passage of their bills.

The investigation into conditions was instituted about the first of September. It covered all kinds and conditions of employment in which children were known or suspected. It extended to children regularly employed and not attending school, children at work before and after school, factory children, children in stores and offices, children delivering goods or messages, to newsboys, bootblacks and peddlers.

Children were found not only at work for the traditional "widowed mother," but in support of fathers and brothers, and indeed of relatives of all denominations. On the other hand, children were found at work early and late throughout the day or after and before school whose fathers were earning wages sufficient to maintain the family in the necessaries of life. Some of these children were at work to satisfy some paltry family ambition—a child's schooling was sacrificed to possess an article of furniture. But the widowed mother and family sustenance plea made in extenuation of child labor by such apologists as the "Gerry Society" was not disproved so much by the cases of so-called "family greed" as by the cases of poverty. The discovery of little boys and girls' futile attempts to support a family or to support themselves were the tragedies the investigation unearthed and should relegate for all time the plea of the apologists to the region of out-of-date theories.

The average earnings of 250 newsboys did not reach \$1.50 a week. The demoralization, the reversion of a good order which results from adult dependence on little children was constantly demonstrated. "My mother can't say nothin' to me. Me and my brother, we pays the rent," a child of ten observes. Children as young and younger are told they cannot return home until they have made enough on the street to pay—the bread and beer bill, for instance.

The Commissioner of Charities of New York said in this connection:

"The objection that is offered most frequently, and perhaps with most effect, to further restriction of child labor, is the alleged fact that in a great many instances the earnings of these little children are needed to supplement the incomes of widows, of families in which the husband and wage-earner may be either temporarily or permanently or partially disabled, and that without the small addition which the earnings of these little boys and girls can bring in, there would be suffering and distress. It would be easy, I think, to overestimate the extent to which that is true. . . . So we should not admit that that side is more serious than it is, but do let us cheerfully, frankly, gladly add that there would be many cases in which the proposed legislation (for the restriction of child labor) would deprive many families of earnings from their children, and that we propose ourselves to step into the breach and provide that relief in good hard cash that passes in the market. . . . If larger means are necessary to support these children so that they need not depend on their own labor, by all means let us put up the money and not push the children for a part of their support before the time when they should naturally furnish a part of their support. . . . In the long run it is never cheap to be cruel or hard. It is never wise to drive a hard bargain with childhood."

If the child labor movement in New York is the occasion for this new attitude towards the children of the poor it has marked an epoch in social progress. This contribution to the future is perhaps even of greater import than the immediate passage of the bills now before the legislature.

HELEN MAROT.

New York, 17th March.

"I have never had a feeling politically that did not spring from the sentiments embodied in the Declaration of Independence."—Lincoln.

## THE TENEMENT HOUSE LAW AND ITS REVISION.

The tenement house agitation continued during the past month has furnished one more illustration of the fact that "all of the people can not be fooled all of the time." Through the diligence and activity of Commissioner DeForest and of his deputy, Laurence Veiller, helped and urged on by the settlements of the city and the press of all parties and all kinds, our legislators have been brought to realize at last that the people can not be fooled any longer and that their attacks on the present DeForest tenement house law are absolutely opposed to the public sentiment of the community and dangerous to their own tenure of office. And so the various bills which have been introduced at Albany at the instance of well-organized and perhaps unscrupulous building interests in Brooklyn, with the plausible pretext of merely seeking to reanimate the building trade in that borough, which, it was claimed, had been brought to its present well-nigh lifeless state as a direct result of the too stringent provisions of the DeForest law, have some of them, like the notorious, so-called, "Marshall Bill," been abandoned to their fate even by those who had originally stood sponsors for them, or they are of such a preposterous character that their serious consideration by the legislature seems now to be an impossibility.

For some time, however, the people in Brooklyn did not seem to perceive the real danger to themselves lurking in these bills; they lost sight of the fact that just before the passage of the DeForest law plans for very many new houses were filed in order that the speculative builder might thus avail himself of the quicker profits possible under the old law, and of the fact that to this over-building and to the great increase in the cost of building materials since that time, the present condition of the building trade in Brooklyn was due, rather than to the more expensive methods of construction required by the DeForest law. Not having had the terrible experience of Manhattan previous to the passage of the DeForest law, they were slow to realize the possibility of similar conditions ever confronting them should that law be rendered largely nugatory; and so, through a systematic perversion of the facts and a happy inexperience, the Borough of Brooklyn for a while bid fair to furnish the spectacle of "some of the people who can be fooled all of the time."

Although Senator Marshall has disclaimed

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personal responsibility for the bill which he introduced at the request of his constituents and has refused to move its consideration in the Senate Cities Committee, of which he is a member, the fight has centered around it. This is due principally to the fact that the other bills subsequently introduced are but poor imitations of this one which shows the advocates of a revision of the law in their true light, and because it is the one which is the result of careful and protracted study on the part of those who have been seeking the best method to most effectually emasculate the DeForest law. The true character of this bill may be gathered from the fact that it proposes to change the definition of a tenement house so as to exempt from all supervision by the Tenement House Department all buildings which contain less than five families. Thus at one stroke it repeals all the tenement house legislation affecting four-family dwellings which has been in force since 1867, together with all the tenement house laws passed since 1887 affecting three-family dwellings. As to new buildings, the Marshall Bill proposes to permit the erection of four-story tenements containing as many as sixteen families without the present provisions for fire-proof construction of stairways, halls and cellars and the former foul and unhealthy, unventilated air-shaft is restored to its pristine glory. Similarly, as to old buildings, the bill proposes "to leave them as they are and repeals nearly every section of the law which requires any alteration in an old house that costs money." Old buildings may cover the entire lot, leaving no space available for light and air, and making possible the continuance of the dark, interior bed-rooms and the unmentionable conditions of the sink and privy vault.

The opposition to this bill and those of a similar nature which followed it has become so strong, and the support given to Commissioner DeForest has been so pronounced that it is now felt that no bill except the one drawn up by the commissioner himself and lately introduced by Senator Marshall and Assemblyman Agnew, will by any possibility receive the approval of the Cities Committees or the support of the legislature.

This bill is not in any sense a compromise measure, for Mr. DeForest must surely feel that in his fight for them all of the people are now solidly with him. It is the result of careful investigation and accurate knowledge of actual conditions gathered by experts and has for its sole object the bettering of the condi-

tion of the tenement house dweller, being a solace to the tenement house builder only in so far as, without danger to the health, comfort and safety of the community, it will promote the building of the small Brooklyn type of house—the three and four-story, front-to-rear tenement, with two families to a floor. In these houses, which are usually built on the regular twenty-five-foot city lot, as in three-story frame houses in the outlying districts of the city, the required size of the courtyard has been reduced somewhat from that considered necessary in the larger tenements prevailing in Manhattan and the strict fire-proof provisions of the present law are also to a degree relaxed. In advocating these changes Mr. DeForest has no doubt felt, as did the Tenement House Commission, when too late to remedy the defect, and as all have felt who have personally examined the fundamental differences between the situation as it is in Manhattan and as it is in Brooklyn, both as it exists now and as it will remain for very many years, that the present law has a real tendency to restrict the building of smaller houses and that this is a serious detriment to the community at large.

It will no doubt result, therefore, that the bill drawn up by the commissioner and approved of by Governor Odell and Mayor Low, as well as by nearly all those who have been working for the defeat of the other tenement house bills, will make it possible for the builders to build the "Brooklyn type" of tenement at some profit to themselves; add whether these builders be "skin builders" or otherwise is beside the question, if, while seeking a profit, legitimate or otherwise, to themselves, they are then the means of housing a considerable portion of our population in small dwellings, and provided these small dwellings shall remain, as now proposed, under the direct supervision of the Tenement House Department.

PAUL KENNADAY.

Greenwich House.

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"With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and his orphans—to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations."—Lincoln.

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"It is no pleasure to me to triumph over any one."—Lincoln.

### The Eighth Ward Settlement, Philadelphia.

FRANCES R. BARTHOLOMEW, HEAD RESIDENT.

The Eighth Ward Settlement began its existence about seven years ago in an architecturally crooked little house at the corner of a morally crooked little street and was the result of a desire on the part of one of Philadelphia's good citizens to better the sanitary and social conditions of the particular district it took for its own.

This district extends north and south from Walnut street to Spruce street, and east and west from Eighth street to Twelfth street, and is one of the most degraded in the city, having for its main population negroes of the lowest type. The alleys which go to make up this section hide themselves around unsuspected corners or dodge the larger thoroughfares in such a manner that the passer-by might never be aware of their existence. Yet there they are, their inhabitants living their lives in their own world quite as oblivious of Quality avenue as Quality avenue is of them.

In the early days of the House there were no residents—save the rats and the ghost of Granny Hall, well known to the colored neighbors, and justly feared by them, for Granny had been a good woman and had come from shadowland to denounce the wild orgies of those who lived in the house immediately after her death.

The first work of the settlement was the improvement of sanitary conditions. This was accomplished by persistent pressure brought to bear upon careless city officials and indifferent landlords, and by the organizing of a broom brigade consisting of a dozen boys who, headed by their indefatigable leader and armed with "Sago" brooms, went three times each week into all the alleys too small to allow the entrance of a horse and wagon and consequently neglected by the city. The improvement in sanitary conditions is marked. Electric lighting has succeeded darkness, asphalt has replaced the dirt or cobble stones of the small streets, underground drainage has taken the place of surface drainage, and the houses as well as the streets are kept in better repair for the neighbors report all defects to the "board of health lady," as she is called, and she rests not until the responsible person is found and made to fulfill his or her responsibilities. Cooking and sewing classes for both girls and boys were then started, and finally a resident was procured who took the position of head worker. This immediately gave the House a new tone and made possible more and

better neighborhood visiting. A kindergarten was added with a kindergartner in residence; other classes in basket weaving, hammock making, etc., were developed, and a branch of the Theodore Starr Savings Bank was opened. Later on, during the early summer, baths were opened and well patronized, for in spite of traditions to the contrary we find that the colored person's standard of bodily cleanliness compares very favorably indeed with those of other races. We must confess that his zeal is apt to slacken during cold weather, but even then he goes ahead of our little Jewish friend who remarked as she undressed her small sisters that "of course they would not have any more that season, but she did want to give them one bath to freshen up their blood before winter set in."

As time went on the need for a new and larger building became very evident, and in the spring of 1900 the settlement family moved into temporary quarters across the street, while the old house and the adjoining property were torn down to make a site for the new house. This was ready for use in the early fall, and during the following winter new clubs were started and the settlement influence was extended to a considerable degree.

A laundry with stationary tubs and filtered water is one feature of the new house which always has been much appreciated by the neighbors who earn their living by washing and ironing and do so under hardest conditions.

During the past year we have reached out in many ways, endeavoring always to develop along industrial lines, but numbering among our successes some social ventures such as our Women's Club and our dancing class for older girls and boys. We hope for better things in the future, as all settlements do—better new things and old things made better—but this brief sketch gives the external history of our settlement to the present time, and, like all external history, is not the true history at all! For true history is eternal and consists not of deeds but of the cause of deeds, the struggles, the hopes, the failures, the little triumphs and the solving of problems. And in sharing its life with the colored people, our settlement has its unique problem, for it deals not with a race that is intellectually hungry, but with a race at the sensation stage of its evolution, and the treatment demanded is very different.

But we talk too much of problems. Like family skeletons they should be kept in closets.



The way to live and to work is with a song in one's heart, and the way to keep the song in one's heart is to feel underneath the ripple of each day's circumstances the deep, strong undercurrent of an eternal purpose that sees and is finding its goal.

### GERTRUDE HOUSE. A Kindergarten Home.

During the French Revolution the Swiss reformer Pestalozzi wrote a village romance by means of which he attempted to point out to the common people that women were the first educators, and that every mother should be able to educate her own children to a certain extent. He named the ideal mother of his story Gertrude, after the holy and worthy St. Gertrude, of Catholic history. This romance was called "Leanhard and Gertrude," and the story is an account of the detailed efforts of Gertrude to make over a degenerate village, so that her own children might be provided with the right social environment. The great contribution which Pestalozzi made, therefore, to nineteenth century education was that of honoring women as the teachers of the young. We can scarcely imagine society to-day without the schoolma'am, and yet she is quite a recent development in the order of evolution. The assertion was made by Pestalozzi that given a mother and children, every house may be a true school, and the ordinary surrounding of a simple living room may be the text for a liberal education. School and teaching have, in the last decades, become far more formal than homelike, and teachers have only too often driven to other than motherliness. The kindergarten work pushes the ideals of Pestalozzi still further, and would have all little children, even those under school age, play and work with women who are motherly and educational, even if it is necessary to take the children out of their own homes, until that happy generation of educational mothers arrives. The training of kindergartners as home-makers as well as teachers has been the peculiar experiment of Gertrude House, which takes its name from Pestalozzi's ideal woman. The house was founded in 1894 by the Chicago Kindergarten Institute, for the home accommodation of its students. Life in the house is somewhat as follows: Teachers and students live together as a family; surroundings and life are simple and unpretentious; some household duties are shared in common, such as the following: Once daily either setting a table, serving same, or assisting either in the washing or drying of silver, glasses, china, etc.

The groups assigned to these duties are changed every two weeks, which occupy twenty minutes to half an hour daily. Each duty is light, but as it causes great discomfort to many if left undone, or if illy done, it teaches the importance of being faithful and responsible in small matters, gives the student a definite idea of the relation of the individual to the whole and the whole to the individual, and adds materially to her equipment as a practical kindergartner or as a social settler.

The members have a share in government through fortnightly house-meetings, where solutions are offered by the students themselves of their own social and domestic problems, and where ideals of home-making and daily living are discussed, to be followed by the daily effort to apply the same and test their practicability. This leads to a sense of individual responsibility on the part of the student, gives her an opportunity to solve actual problems, and tends toward a broad-minded judgment of people and affairs.

This life in the House, combined with the class work of the Institute, not only educates young women as kindergartners and home-keepers, but furnishes them with the best kind of a basis for other lines of educational work, for home and foreign missionary work and for social settlement work. From twenty-five to thirty of the students have been resident workers at the following settlements: Chicago Commons, Helen Heath, Northwestern University, Clybourn Avenue, University of Chicago, Willard Settlement, Eli Bates House, Gad's Hill and Maxwell Street, all of Chicago; Hiram House, Cleveland; Franklin Street Settlement, Detroit, and Neighborhood House, Rivington street, New York City.

The family has grown, like the house itself, from year to year, and the testimony of parents, as well as of students, has encouraged the directors of the Institute to feel that it is no longer an experiment.

Gertrude House has now secured the building known formerly as the Kirkland School, 40 Scott street. The ample testimony given as to the merit of the work at Gertrude House warrants the effort to secure this building permanently. With this end in view, by means of a generous gift, Gertrude House has been able to remodel the building to suit Gertrude House requirements, so that now, building, location and environment are ideal for the work. The building is rented with the option of buying. If the purchase can be made the House may be incorporated permanently, at rates within reach of the student with limited means.

While Gertrude House places its strongest emphasis upon the ethical side of home-making, it now offers a course of study for young women who do not wish to enter the profession of teaching, but who do wish to obtain some knowledge of the characteristic work of kindergarten training, as well as some practical education in the art of home-making.

Such subjects as the following are included in the course:

The Right Environment of Growing Children.

Training of Children Through Games, Nursery Plays, Stories, Songs and Playthings.

Study of Children's Instincts and Activities.

Clothing, Food and General Care of Young Children.

Household Management and Hygiene.

Principles of Art Applied to Household Decoration.

In addition to this the usual lines of professional kindergarten training are carried on by the Institute, including a class in the regular two years' course; a class for kindergartners who wish supplementary study, and a post-graduate normal course. The directors of this work during the eight years of its history have been Mrs. Mary B. Page, Miss Frances E. Newton, Mrs. Ethel Roe Lindgren, Miss Caroline C. Crouse, Miss Amalie Hofer.

An artist friend sends us the following:

What meaning has the old phrase to-day, "Rejoicing in his portion under the sun"? Is it not the divine right of every soul that's born, and that is most of all unforfeited by the children who are to some of us as the stars and running streams, singing of the Spring? And so we bear this eternal debt to the world for its power of goodness in the world—by its very helplessness and trust in the greatness of grown-up people bringing out all that may be divine in us—for contempt of a little child is a thing not to be borne.

To think of children at all in the great throbbing machine of London is to think of the vain attempts of a bird with clipped wings to rise and see the sky.—London Echo.

"Our highest Orpheus walked in Judea, eighteen hundred years ago; his sphere-melody, flowing in wild native tones, took captive the ravished souls of men; and being of a true sphere-melody, still flows and sounds, though now with thousandfold accompaniments and rich symphonies through all our hearts, and modulates and divinely leads them.—Carlyle.

## COLLEGE SETTLEMENTS ASSOCIATION.

### STANDING COMMITTEE.

*President:* KATHARINE COMAN, Wellesley, Mass.

*Vice President:* HELEN CHADWICK RAND THAYER (Mrs. Lucius H. Thayer), Portsmouth, N. H.

*Secretary:* SARAH GRAHAM TOMKINS, 1904 Walnut St., Philadelphia.

*Treasurer:* ELSIE CLEWS PARSONS (Mrs. Herbert Parsons), 112 East 35th St., New York City.

*Fifth Member:* HELEN ANNAN SCRIBNER (Mrs. Arthur H. Scribner), 10 West 43rd St., New York City.

### SETTLEMENTS.

New York City—95 Rivington Street.

Philadelphia—433 Christian Street.

Boston—91 Tyler Street (Denison House).

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY  
CAROLINE WILLIAMSON MONTGOMERY,  
5548 Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago.

The thirteenth annual report of the College Settlements' Association, October 1, 1901, October 1, 1902, has just been received. Besides the usual lists of committees and reports of head workers and secretary, a partial report of the C. S. A. Fellow for 1901-02, Mary Buell Saylès on "An Investigation of Housing Conditions in Jersey City" has been published in full.

### Roxbury House.

SARAH PERRY BROWNING, RESIDENT DIRECTOR.

Roxbury House, situated at the corner of Mall street and Dayton avenue, in that part of Boston known as Roxbury, is now in its third year of systematic work under its present management, and in its eighth if we include those years in which it was called Ben Adhem House and was under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. Ashton. In the summer of nineteen hundred it passed out of their management and came under the control of a corporate body called "The Roxbury House Association," which is composed of a president, five vice-presidents, a secretary, a treasurer and eight directors, all of whom are from the representative and leading families of Roxbury. They meet as a body once a month to consider the best methods of developing the settlement, of securing money for its continuance and of solving the many other problems that constantly arise.

Upon coming into office they engaged at once a resident director and a kindergartner who

are still holding the positions. At first they hoped to secure residents who were able to pay a small hoard and who were also enough interested in settlement growth to take charge of one or more classes or clubs, but they have met with disappointment in their efforts, and consequently the House has been hampered by the lack of residents who could devote any appreciable time to the work. Of course there is much to be said in favor of the workers coming from outside, as they will probably stay with their classes a longer time than the ordinary resident of a few weeks; they may also be more familiar with the habits and thoughts of their own city; but the best arrangement would be a combination of both kinds of workers, residents and non-residents.

But though small in its residential force, it has nearly fifty volunteer workers coming not only from Roxbury and Boston proper but also from Beverley, Brookline, Cambridge and Dorchester. Trained in different schools, and representing different nationalities and religious creeds, they have strengthened the work by the very variety of their thought and expression.

The House has not deemed it expedient to take active interest in the broad problems with which many settlements are struggling, such as the school questions and municipal affairs. These we shall take up later, as the House gets better acquainted with its constituency and with the needs of the neighborhood.

Instead we have contented ourselves with working out the problem of Roxbury House from the standpoint of the home; that is, we endeavor to give to those who come to us some of the advantages that people in better circumstances enjoy in their own homes. We have games and amusements to keep children off the streets, we have educational and industrial classes in almost every line for which any one has shown aptness, and we have entertainments and parties where our neighbors can meet together for social enjoyment, as they can not in their own cramped quarters. As we deal with hundreds instead of the usual number in a family we can not always study taste and needs as carefully as we might wish, though when one examines the variety of the opportunities that are open it would seem that every one might be satisfied.

The work of Roxbury House, as far as it can be scheduled, has included this year as last, apart from the regular kindergarten: sloyd; drawing and painting; singing; sewing, primary and advanced; darning and patching; embroidery; cooking, three classes, one for

children, one for young women, and one for mothers; millinery, crocheting, stenography, boys' dramatics, boys' gymnastics; current events; Shakespeare; lessons on piano, violin, and guitar; private tutoring in geometry, Latin, Greek, French, and German; also social clubs, clubs for reading and games. Saturday morning kindergarten, nursery hours, fortnightly mothers' meetings, and fortnightly neighborhood parties. In addition the following have been started this year: Classes in typewriting, cane seating, basket weaving, lace crocheting, shirtwaist making, fancy work of all kinds, and two social clubs for girls, one of which is also interested in doing Indian bead work. A debating society for young men has been organized, and a second class started in sloyd, the violin and the piano.

No group is more interested in its work than the twelve that constitute the millinery class, which is made up of women of all ages. The class has a leader, and also a professional milliner in charge of the work, for which the materials have been most generously supplied by friends of the House. The members of the class are allowed to buy at rummage sale prices any of the hats which they make.

Considerable work is carried on away from the House, though under its flag; the class in Chandler's stenography and in typewriting meeting at their headquarters on Columbus avenue, and the private tutoring being done usually at the home of the tutor.

The stamp saving work has flourished this year, though we have had in all only one hundred and forty-five depositors. We have finally succeeded in persuading a young man to transfer his account to a real bank. The amount of any single deposit ranges from one cent to a dollar and seventy-five cents; yet it frequently happens that the small depositors have the most in the end, the old story of the hare and the tortoise. For instance, two big boys were starting an account, one with two cents, one with seventy-five plus the announcement that he could bring more next time. The latter ran his account quickly up to a dollar and eighty cents, as quickly withdrew it, and has not been seen at bank hours since. The two-cent depositor slowly increased his savings, has constantly kept pegging away at it, and recently has brought money to deposit for a bigger brother.

In our library there are about seven hundred volumes, but as some are for reference, and many not of the popular stamp, and as our readers are of all ages, the selection is never

wide in any special line. The demands range from history through fiction to fairy tales. While one is asking for the "History of Tokio" another is waiting 'twixt hope and fear to learn if the latest copy of "Mother Goose" has arrived.

The fortnightly socials of Roxbury House are quite a prominent feature of the life and are very popular among its people, and for the very good reason that the entertainments are always good, sometimes excellent. For this many thanks are due to the praiseworthy zeal of those who have had the responsibility of the affairs. They have come from the various clubs and churches in town and from the schools and colleges.

But the best work of any settlement cannot be put into figures, nor is it written on the calendar. As I have looked into the faces of these children, I have been reminded of the legend of the king, who, in his zeal to perfect the Æolian harp, had the steep banks of the river near which his castle stood lined with masonry, and then had wires of the finest material and of greater weight than had ever been used for that purpose stretched across by the most skilled of workmen. You know how he waited, and how others waited for the music. And you know that the breezes failed to elicit a sound. And the storms failed and the sunshine failed, until at last the place became known as the King's Folly. But had you heard that years after there swept through that valley a storm such as had never been in the memory of man, and that suddenly above the howling of the wind and the dash of the waters were heard strains of beautiful music, and lo! it was the King's Folly? Best of all, the wires once put in motion responded ever after to the slightest zephyr.

The wires we have been laying are invisible, and it may be that some have said, Nothing but folly; but who dare deny that sometime, somewhere in the battles of life, there will be sweeter music because of these months' labor at Roxbury House? The king builded better than he knew.

Denison House, Boston, has printed a compact little directory of clubs and classes, together with a brief history of the House.

The conferences of settlement workers in Boston on Friday mornings in February and March discussed the following topics:

February 6—Denison House, 93 Tyler street, "Settlement Ideals," Miss Vida D. Scudder.

February 13—South End House (at the South Bay Union, 640 Harrison avenue), "The Settlement and Municipal Government."

February 20—Hale House, 6 Garland street, "The Settlement and the Home."

February 27—Civic Service House, 112 Salem street, "The Settlement and Civic Education."

March 6—Elizabeth Peabody House, 87 Poplar street, "The Settlement and Industrial Education."

March 13—Epworth League House, 36 Hull street, "The Settlement and Public Health."

At the Social Science conferences in Boston at Denison House the Rev. Edward Everett Hale, D. D., gave the address in February, and in March Mr. John Graham Brooks spoke on "Problems Raised by the Recent Coal Strike," and the Rev. Edw. Cummings on the "Ethics of Trade Unionism."

On Tuesday, February 10th, the Roxbury "Women in Council" devoted an hour to four speakers who represented different houses or places of settlement work in Boston. Miss Mabel Gair Curtis spoke for the College Settlements' Association and for Denison House. The second speaker was Miss Brown, the head worker of Elizabeth Peabody House, who stated that the ideal of the residents was "home-making" and showed that the House was making a great fight for good citizenship. Mr. Whitman represented South End House with its three centers and the South Bay Union, whose work, especially along the lines of handicraft, he described in a most interesting manner. The fourth speaker was Miss Browning, of Roxbury House, who furnishes an article for THE COMMONS this month on the work of the settlement of which she is head resident.

#### Denison House.

The second of the series of Friday morning conferences of settlement residents was held at the new South End Club House—The South Bay Union—on February thirteenth. Mr. Robert A. Woods spoke on the Settlement in Relation to Municipal Affairs. He emphasized the need—for practical results—of securing the cooperation of political leaders of the district in striving for improved local conditions. The part of the settlement should be to see the need and to plan the work, then to let the local politician find out that it is for his interest to put the matter through and gain easy glory. The discussion which followed took the practical turn of considering actual accomplishments of settlements along the line of municipal reform.

The third conference at Hale House was addressed by Mrs. Lillian Betts, on The Settlement and the Home. She dwelt on the danger of letting the settlement become the means of breaking up the home. The frequent plan of beginning with the younger members of a family may too often result in causing them to look down on the things of home and to be uneasy or dissatisfied. Another opinion expressed by Mrs. Betts—that, after all, there was little indication that settlement work had, as yet, gone very deep in affecting the standards of life of the neighborhood, aroused a good deal of discussion.

At the fourth conference, held at the Civic Service House in the North End, Mr. Bloomfield and Mr. Davis spoke. Mr. Davis enlarged on the need of connecting the settlement vitally with the trades union movement. A great opportunity for this settlement lies in this direction, as the Civic Service House has shown. Not only should the settlement strive to become a sympathetic center of organized labor as it already exists in the district, but it should be active in the formation of new unions where they are needed and desirable.

ELIZABETH MAINWARING.

Resident Denison House.

### Bishop Brent's Social Settlement.

FROM THE MANILA TIMES, OCT. 22, 1902.

Among the many agencies which have been suggested for the betterment and elevation of the Filipino, few would seem to commend themselves more than the institution which has just been started by Bishop Brent. While differences of opinion exist as to the advisability of proselyting and spreading religious instruction among the natives at this time, yet it would seem that no hint of objection can be raised to such a movement as the Social Settlement.

During a recent conversation with General Bell, that officer stated that one of the great stumbling-blocks in our efforts to promote the welfare of these people and prove to them not only the goodness but also the cordial sincerity of our intentions, is the lack of harmony which exists between us socially. We are in, but not of, the Philippines. And so long as we give these people only of the precepts and principles of our civilization, and not of its life—that is, so long as we meet them only on matters of business and do not mingle with them on other than formal occasions—a true spirit of harmony and a community of interest can never exist.

The Social Settlement, as we understand it, will endeavor to inculcate in the lower class of Filipinos not only the externals, and outward expressions of our civilization, but also its real and inherent characteristics. As our news columns put it: "A group of people who will live among people of different and inferior class and share their hardships with them, will be taken into the home, the object being the social, mental, and moral elevation of the less favored element." That such a mission must prove most helpful and productive of practical and paying results would seem to need no assertion.

Among the detailed features of the scheme, one which appears to us most commendable is the provision of a dispensary for free treatment of the poor. In some measure this feature anticipates a plea which we had intended making for institutions of this kind in Manila. Just recently a case came to our notice where a Filipino boy had suffered for one whole year from an injury to the eye which impaired the sight and rendered him unable to work. When asked why he did not seek medical treatment the characteristic reply was made: "Mucho pobre." The American who interested himself in the case had the boy taken to the Civil Hospital. It was there stated that while the hospital was not intended for such cases, yet patients who were poor and deserving and could not be treated elsewhere, were never turned away.

The only hospital, it seems, where free dispensary treatment such as we know in the states, is given, is the San Juan de Dios; but even its service is not generally made use of by poor Filipinos.

What would seem to be needed is a number of dispensaries scattered throughout the city and maintained at the city's expense—places where, during certain hours of the day, poor natives may be treated gratuitously.

"I know that the Lord is always on the side of the right. But it is my constant anxiety and prayer that I and this nation should be on the Lord's side."—Lincoln.

"Let us have faith that right makes might; and in that faith, let us to the end dare to do our duty as we understand it."—Lincoln.

"That we have resolved that \* \* \* this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom, and that the government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth."—Lincoln.

### Chicago Settlements Against the Dance Halls.

Chicago Commons is glad to line up with Northwestern University Settlement and Hull House, the great St. Stanislaus Polish Roman Catholic Church and the moral sentiment of the West Side, under the lead of Alderman Smulski of our own ward, for the suppression of the saloon dance halls. In "The Neighbor," for February, published by the Northwestern University Settlement, Alderman Smulski thus gives his reasons for introducing his ordinance to the City Council:

"My reasons for introducing this resolution are the following: There are a number of saloons in this city that make the practice of holding dances in halls (if they may be so called) in rear of their saloons, or in basements under the saloons. Usually these dances are held on Saturday nights, and they are held merely for the purpose of attracting young boys and girls, who otherwise would not be permitted by their parents or their elders to attend any such functions. These dances are never attended by older persons, and are run by the saloonkeeper under the guise of raffles.

"In my estimation, these dances work a great deal of harm to the young people of Chicago, especially in districts populated by the working class, where the young boys and girls are anxious to have some recreation or entertainment, and easily fall in the trap of unscrupulous men, who, for the purpose of personal gain, use their saloon and dance hall as a means of making money, caring little as to what influences these dances have upon the morality of the young people who attend the same.

"I have frequently heard young people returning from these saloon dances, at all hours of the morning, especially Sunday mornings, usually in a state of intoxication, and it is a demand in the interest of decency and good order that the Council should pass such an ordinance. The saloon dance hall offers increased facilities for the young people of our city to be debauched and degraded. Some of these dance halls are merely adjuncts to the saloon and are maintained and managed for the purpose of making money. The efforts of all well-meaning and decent citizens should be united in demanding that some similar action be taken by the Council, and thereby add one step towards the redemption of our city from the gradual down-grade in the moral decline of our young generation."

In summarizing the situation about Hull House, Miss Julia C. Lathrop concludes:

"It is certainly desirable to protect social gatherings in any part of the city from the necessity for patronizing a bar; but at present a suppression of resorts 'run for the good of the bar,' and the typical wide-open Sunday afternoon dances, would doubtless contribute more to sobriety and decorum than any general measure forbidding a bar in connection with halls where dances are given. It is to be feared that such a measure would as yet seem only a mysterious and unreasonable interference with personal freedom to most of those who would be affected by it."

In an interview, Father Spetz of St. Stanislaus Church, which has 30,000 communicants and is said to have the largest parish in the world, is reported as saying:

"The hall with its separate buffet, away from the saloon proper is an improvement of the older form of halls; a few still survive, and their influence is distinctly and entirely bad. The saloonkeeper gets his profits from the sale of liquor, and so he wants to sell liquor as fast as possible."

St. Stanislaus Parish plans are on foot to organize a joint stock company to put up an office building with dance and lodge halls in it, the building to be under competent management, which should lease the halls only to respectable organizations, the hours also to be regulated. These halls would be primarily for the use of the numerous organizations of St. Stanislaus Church, which often give dances, etc., and are compelled to use the other halls in the district. In addition to these, Father Spetz felt convinced that there would be a large number of reputable societies ready and willing to patronize such an establishment.

By the kind permission of *The Neighbor*, we reprint what the Warden of Chicago Commons contributed to its columns on the situation in its ward:

If it were left to the vote of all the residents of the Seventeenth Ward over twenty-one years of age to decide whether the dance halls should be closed, they would be promptly shut up by an overwhelming majority, and never reopened with the consent of the adult population.

Why do we think so? Well, here is one reason. About seven years ago, when the men of the old Seventeenth Ward got together for the first time on a non-partisan and non-sectarian basis, the very first thing they did was to close the "Troadero," the infamous saloon dance hall on Milwaukee avenue near Halsted, by demanding that the police enforce the law against it. This led to closing all the resorts

of the same character in the eastern half of the ward for several years.

This is what the people did when they had the chance. Why would they do it again?

One reason is that such dance halls depreciate property all around them. They are such a public nuisance that people who have self-respect and want to have a quiet home in a decent neighborhood will not live near the noisy place that draws disreputable people from far and wide. So landlords soon find out that they either cannot rent their tenements, or must take into them a less reliable class of tenants, if indeed they must not rent them for immoral purposes or let them stand vacant.

Up on Ashland avenue a whole block of stone-front houses stands deserted and in ruins, because years ago a few tenants of immoral character were admitted to one or more of the houses. For years that block has stood as a warning of what will happen to other house owners if they do not safeguard the reputation of their property and its neighborhood.

Another reason is that these dance halls demoralize the young. Parents know and dread this. No mother or father who has self-respect, and also love for a child, wishes a boy or girl to go to them, or to be tempted to. It is safe to say that few children are found in them with their parents' knowledge and consent if they have fathers and mothers worthy of respect. Some parents may not know what goes on in them. Others weakly let a child be led into temptation, and then, when it is too late, wake up to their own fatal mistake. Still others, who have lost control of their children, vainly forbid and protest, and hopelessly suffer with their wayward son or daughter the long-drawn-out misery that is almost sure to follow. This is especially true of many foreign families whose children were dutiful and pure in their own fatherland, but cannot resist the temptations and break-up of habits that come with their immigration to the new country. Many a mother or father, with tears in their eyes and sobs in their voices, have said to me, "My children minded me and were all right in the old country, but here I can do nothing with them. Can't you help me?"

Well, the whole community could, and should, help every family, and itself too, in the passage and enforcement of laws closing such death-traps as these dance halls are.

Let an eye-witness show us how bad they are:

"At a masquerade ball I have seen over 200 dancing on the floor at once. The balcony and sides of the hall were crowded with spectators.

There is in one of the halls a bar not only on the first floor but just in the rear of the dance hall. Tables for serving beer are placed all along the sides of the floor. There is no attempt at modesty on the part of many. Girls sit in men's laps and men in girls' laps. The prostitute is among the number. You cannot enter the hall without seeing her drinking and smoking in the saloon proper.

"The masquerade balls are probably the most glaring in vice. At least this has been my observation. I have seen not less than 1,000 people at these dances. Dancing does not begin until about 12 o'clock Saturday night. It is broken only by the breaking of day. At the masquerade I have seen old men and women, young boys and girls and little children as young as eight years, dancing in the same great push.

"At the highest class of these balls I even saw the only man in 'full dress' on the floor, in less than two minutes after being introduced to a young woman, kiss her, very much to the disgust of the woman.

"As the night rolls on, drunken men and women have to be carried home."

Fortunately we have such an inspector of police at our station that the people of our ward have only to make their will known in order to have it carried out within the limits and to the letter of the law.

There is less excuse than ever for tolerating such public nuisances. When at social settlements and under the auspices of reputable clubs, opportunity for dancing may be afforded without the surroundings and temptations that promote drunkenness and sexual debauchery, not only among the vicious and criminal but among 'he young and unwary.

"Remember now and always that life is no idle dream, but a solemn reality based upon eternity, and encompassed by eternity. Find out your task; stand to it; 'the night cometh when no man can work.'"

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# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor  
from the Social Settlement Point of View.

GRAHAM TAYLOR, - - - Editor

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A Year

## EDITORIAL.

The newspaper report we give on our first page of Prof. John H. Gray's conversational discussion of evils and remedies inherent in our industrial situation, though not in the form in which he would have written it, is none the less true to his incisive insight, broad outlook, and fearless fidelity to facts. He, as we could say much more of the abuse and irresponsibility of trades unionism which employers justly complain of, but one cannot say everything at once. Yet the facts he states need to stand out by themselves just as bold and hard as they are. For only thus will many learn that they exist and be prepared to reckon with them as we all must. The article distributing the responsibility for limiting the manufacturing output in England which supplements Prof. Gray's discussion, comes from the entirely independent and uniquely advantageous viewpoint of another expert observer of economic conditions.

### Shall the Settlements Merge into School Extension?

The question whether the settlements would not enlarge their sphere of influence, and, at the same time, economize pecuniary and personal resource by merging their life and effort in the social extension of the public school is raised in the following letter. The fact that it comes from the esteemed leader of the Chicago Society for Ethical Culture, who has long been identified with our settlements and is one of their warmest advocates and best friends, gives great emphasis to the inquiry he so pointedly makes:

"To the Editor of The Commons.

Dear Sir: In view of the possibilities of what is known as the school extension movement, is it not proper that settlement workers should reconsider the question of the function of settlements? Will you and the readers of The Commons consider and answer such questions as the following?

Cannot all the class and club work now being done in settlements be transferred to the schools? If so, what specific work remains for the settlements? Instead of building up settlements, should not the effort be to enlarge the scope of work of the public schools? If the classes and clubs are transferred to the schools, should the leaders be salaried just as the regular teachers are now, or should they be volunteer, as most of the workers in settlements now are? All this does not affect the desirability of having men and women of education and means, or of education without means, take up residence among the poor and identify themselves as neighbors and friends and citizens with the neighborhood; but is there any call for an institution, or any justification for calling on the public to support it, save as support may be necessary for the persons of education without means referred to? I am by no means clear about these questions and make them as colorless as possible.

The question is a practical one for us of the Ethical Society, since the building in which Henry Booth House has been housed is to be torn down incident to the plan for a small city park for which the House has been working and which is to take in its site. We must soon decide what sort of a building we shall put up. The settlement has led in school extension efforts in our ward. As our problem is that of all settlements so far as they have not invested extensively in brick and mortar, I venture to hope that a general exchange of views will be given in the columns of your paper, to which settlement workers owe so much.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM M. SALTER."

In opening the discussion of Mr. Salter's query, which we hope may be followed up in successive numbers by representative settlement workers, let us admit first of all that it is a fair question that he raises. To be true to their motive and record settlements, more than any other organized effort, should be capable of squarely and dispassionately facing an issue involving their own existence. The "instinct of self-preservation," however legitimately it may be "Heaven's first law" of other life, is so far conspicuous by its absence from all settlements worthy of the name. They are singularly free from institutional self-consciousness. They have not lived unto themselves or existed for their own sake. Most of them have been so poor and have exacted such service that they have offered small temptations to the self-seeking spirit. Those of them



which have more prestige and attractive building equipment have in such large part depended upon the gratuitous service of volunteer residents that place-keeping has had very little, if any, influence upon the free development of the work.

Settlements have found it one of their chief functions, moreover, to risk the initiative and experimentation which lead other agencies to adopt and carry on what they demonstrate to be needed or desirable. Nothing that the municipality can be induced to take up have they been reluctant to give up. Libraries, baths, playgrounds, vacation schools, work for truants and juvenile delinquents, district nursing, and many other such extensions of public or private social activity have thus been made possible by settlements. With the schools of their districts, if not with the boards of education of their cities, most of them have maintained particularly close and helpful co-operative relations. Not only have they been allied with their regular and vacation-school work, but especially with the extension of their privileges and the use of their buildings to the life of the whole community. Are the settlements thus losing their lives to find them in the larger sphere of neighborhood influence which could be made to center at the public-school building? If it were only a question of sacrificing their life to save school extension, they would promptly and unanimously do it. But it may be doubted whether the movement for school extension might not lose much of its inspiration and support if it lost the outside help which it has all along had from the settlements as its principal allies and promoters.

The larger question remains whether the settlements have not social functions that far transcend either their own neighborhood work or even the far larger scope for local influence which public-school centers might command. It is well worth while for the settlements to take this occasion to bring their life and work to this self-exacting test of their *raison d'être*. The Commons will welcome contributions to the frankest discussion of the settlements' right to be and room to work as affected by public-school extension or any other change in the conditions of life and service.

"Many free countries have lost their liberty, and ours may lose hers; but if she shall, be it my proudest plume, not that I was the last to desert, but that I never deserted her."—Lincoln.

### Business Basis for "The Commons."

This journal now begins the eighth year of its service. It was started without capital and according to its introductory word "without promise for the future, except in the statement of our desire that it shall be helpful in explaining to those whom it may concern the motive and the progress of social settlements in general and of Chicago Commons in particular." It was aimed still more broadly "to present a view of work for the humanizing and uplifting of social conditions in the river wards and other industrial sections of Chicago and other cities." Published not for profit and always far below cost, the subscription price for the first year was placed at the nominal sum of twenty-five cents, to make sure that the paper might "reach the hands of those having sympathy with their fellowmen of every class and condition, and especially of every person who stands ready to help in the effort toward the betterment of the conditions of our common human life." Obligated by the increasing interest to double the number of pages, we raised the subscription price to fifty cents when we began our second year "with a good deal of regret and no little embarrassment."

The Chicago Commons settlement has thus for these seven years not only gratuitously contributed all the labor of editing and making up the paper, but also has borne most of the expense of publishing it. Until recently there has been little hope of securing regular lines of advertising, because our paid subscription list is so widely scattered over the whole country, yet it has steadily grown until our average circulation, including complimentary copies, numbers 4,500 per month. The low subscription price is also said to stand in the way of the kind of advertising open to us.

Meanwhile The Commons has become less and less the organ of this one settlement and more and more the representative of every other one, and of the whole settlement movement. Since the Association of Neighborhood Workers and the College Settlements Association opened their departments under their own editors, this paper has still more exclusively served the interests of others and of the whole social-service cause. The references to the Chicago Commons settlement have been restricted to the minimum, consistent with the fact that these columns have all along been its only medium of communication with its supporting constituency which is scattered over many states.

The time has now come when we can reduce this use of the paper usually to a single page, which may be conceded by all to be more than offset by the general editorial labor and financial responsibility wholly borne by Chicago Commons. It seems only fair to this settlement and true to the growing interests which The Commons serves, to put this publication upon a business basis. This can be done only in two ways, by securing advertising or by increasing the number and price of subscriptions, perhaps only by both. For only by increasing the subscription price can we meet the slowly decreasing deficit and provide for a business management that will secure both advertisers and subscribers. By our growing constituency in the east we are urged to raise the subscription price to \$1.00 a year. If accompanied by special announcements of the enlargement and improvement of the paper, the price may safely be raised upon all subscriptions beginning with the January number.

We cordially invite correspondence from our readers and all interested in the service and perpetuity of The Commons that we may have their frankest and freest suggestions regarding the conduct and the prospects of the journal, which may and should represent the entire settlement movement as no other publication has as good an opportunity to do.

#### Our Second May Festival.

On the eighth and ninth of May we are to repeat the May Festival, which was so successfully inaugurated last spring. The interest awakened by this opportunity to see some results of the winter's work and to gain a glimpse into the actual social life of the house was as marked among our neighbors as among our outside friends. Our next issue will be published in time to give due notice of the many interesting things in store for that occasion. Meanwhile we serve this requisition on all our friends within reach for some share of their time on Friday and Saturday afternoons and evenings, May 8th and 9th.

#### FORTH-GOINGS.

The warden has responded to frequent calls of late to speak to influential groups of employers and representatives of commercial interests upon the ever-pressing question of adjusting the strained relation with their employes. Before the co-operative class at the First Congregational Church in Evanston he spoke to the question, "Are labor unions as at present constituted worthy of the support of Christian people?" With the Chicago Bankers' Club he discussed, "A Clearing House for the

Industrial Situation." In the Merchants' Club symposium on "Things Chicago May be Proud of," he treated the "Hopeful Aspects in Our Industrial Life." At a banquet of leading manufacturers, business and professional men, in Milwaukee, Wis., he spoke and was questioned on industrial conciliation and arbitration, and how the settlements can contribute to their success.

#### P. S. A.

Our Pleasant Sunday Afternoons, which closed with last month, have had their most successful season, thanks to the large number of public-spirited musicians, readers, artists and speakers. The programs have been more varied and of a higher quality than ever. The neighborhood audiences, in the attendance of large numbers of adults and whole family circles, as well as in the keen enjoyment shown by all, proved how truly each occasion was appreciated and how large a place the Pleasant Sunday Afternoons filled in the laboring life all about us.

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# HULL HOUSE INVESTIGATION OF TYPHOID EPIDEMIC.

# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor from the Settlement Point of View.

Number 82—Vol. VIII

Eighth Year

Chicago, May, 1903

## A Settlement in City Politics.

The fourth successful political campaign hand-running, in which Chicago Commons has taken effective part, was won last month. As the settlement experience and civic significance of the three victorious years may prove sug-

struggle for the redemption of the ward and city.

It was no less significant in the fact that the regular nominee of the Republican ward organization was elected in a Democratic ward and with a Democratic victory for the mayoralty



THE PUSH-O-MOBILE.

gestive and encouraging to others as to ourselves, we let our readers have the story without misgiving even for its local coloring.

The election of Lewis D. Sitts as alderman of the Seventeenth Ward scored perhaps the most marked success which the Municipal Voters' League of Chicago and our Seventeenth Ward community have yet attained in their joint

and most of the city ticket. For to overcome a majority of nearly a thousand votes and have 381 to spare proves again that the balance of power is in the hands of the independent voters. The fact, too, that one party heeded their wishes and lined up its ward organization behind a man who commanded the non-partisan respect and support, is proof that independent

voters may succeed, and even the better, without forming an independent party. The defeat of the opposing candidate is also corroborative of this. For when the independents' protest against his nomination, because of his incompetence, was disregarded by the mayor, it cost him nearly 1,000 votes, which he could ill afford to lose in the closely contested election. The occurrence of this warning for the second time, with the demonstrated success of the opposite policy in between, ought to be a word to the wise sufficient for all time to come. For the retiring republican alderman, Mr. Smulski, was elected two years ago by nearly 1,300 votes in a Democratic year, and succeeded in being elected city attorney in the last campaign by running over 8,000 votes ahead of his party ticket. Meanwhile the reputable and able Democratic aldermen now so efficiently serving the city and the ward took his seat a year ago with a majority of over 1,800 behind him.

Between these elections came the legislative campaign of last autumn into which the Independents entered for the first time with a candidate of their own—because both parties not only ignored their protest but gave them no choice. In the election of their aggressively public-spirited representative they filed an exception to the ruling of both parties, which offered only three candidates for three offices, and presented only one worthy of support. Chicago Commons has taken great satisfaction in these results. For while it could by no means have achieved them alone, yet it is openly admitted by all the candidates and the press that without the work of the Community Club, backed by the Settlement, under whose roof it has its headquarters, neither the Municipal Voters League nor the party "organizations" could have possibly won these victories for good government.

Very practical were the politics played by these allies. To the Community Club fell the work of supporting the nomination of Mr. Sitts by the caucus and at the primaries; eliciting answers from both candidates to questions personally and publicly put to them by the club as to their policies on the civic issues of the campaign: publishing the records of each in circular letters to the 13,400 registered voters and securing the support of the metropolitan and local press. In some of the campaigns the club, including all our men residents, have taken the most active part as watchers and challengers at the polls, while the House supplied them with lunches at the seat of war and had

hot dinners awaiting them on their triumphal return at night.

A pleasant and remarkable feature of the last campaign was the ability of Chicago Commons to maintain its neutrality in the mayoralty issue, while backing the citizens' Community Club in the fierce aldermanic struggle. Each of the six candidates for mayor was invited to meet his ward organization at the Settlement dinner table and present his claim to be elected before mass meetings. Nothing whatever occurred to mar the pleasure of these social occasions, which were very successful in securing their principal guests, or to impair the success of the political meetings which crowded our auditorium. At the very crisis of the aldermanic fight, when the Community Club's headquarters in the basement was the center of the struggle for electing the successful candidate, the lithographs of his then formidable competitor lined the walls of the auditorium overhead, and his party associates were heard by hundreds of our neighbors.

The occasion on which the victory was celebrated was one of the heartiest responses Chicago Commons ever received to its proffered hospitality. At the Settlement dinner table were gathered the official representatives of the ward and the Municipal Voters League, together with other prominent guests, to meet the newly elected alderman of our own and the adjoining Sixteenth Ward. At the Community Club's congratulatory reception the same evening bright speeches were made by Prof. John A. Hobson, the eminent English publicist, the aldermen and their Democratic colleagues, by Father Spetz, of St. Stanislaus' great Polish Catholic parish, which led the overthrow of one of the most dangerous bosses by electing Alderman Jozwiakowski. Walter L. Fisher and Graham Taylor spoke for the Municipal Voters League. Over a hundred invited guests gave the most enthusiastic response and made merry in social festivities until late in the evening. For charming freedom of speech and neighborly intercourse the occasion was simply idyllic.

While the battle is still to be fought over and over again, a vantage ground of immense strategic value has been gained in only three years in a most cosmopolitan ward of 68,000 people that used to be considered the most forlorn of hopes even by those accustomed to work for better things against great odds. The initial struggle with violence and fraud for freedom to vote and a fair count was fought to a finish at the outset. It is not likely to be repeated, as it cost the imprisonment of two election clerks for three

years in penalty for altering the returns so as to count out the independent who was nevertheless seated.

A central source of leadership and supply for the city-wide campaign is the first essential to such success, and is furnished most effectively by the Municipal Voters League. But the Settlement with its non-partisan free-floor for the co-operation of independent voters of all parties provides the "live wire" which bring to bear the forces at the center upon the men who do things in the wards. To some degree the Settlement has superseded the saloon as the determinative center whence the balance of power is wielded. While the saloons are still to be reckoned with and must be visited as the only places of resort the men have, yet they have ceased to be the candidate's only reliance. For the last two men who depended exclusively upon buying their way in by subsidizing the bar were signally defeated. The word has gone out that "the 'saloon canvas' is played out in the Seventeenth Ward, and that the parties must nominate decent men if their candidates are to have any chance of election." When this word has been accepted and acted upon the Settlement clubs need endorse no candidate, and will with much more satisfaction devote themselves to offering all sides the freest hearing and fairest chance in substantiating their claims to the best political principles and municipal policies.

#### AN INQUIRY INTO THE CAUSES OF THE RECENT EPIDEMIC OF TYPHOID FEVER IN CHICAGO.

BY HULL-HOUSE RESIDENTS.

During July, August and September of 1902 there was an unusually severe epidemic of typhoid fever in Chicago, which raised the death rate to 402 from this disease alone, as against 212 during the same three months of the previous year.

In discussing the causes for this outbreak of typhoid Dr. Reynolds, Commissioner of Health, speaks as follows:

"There was no sewer-flushing rainfall during the entire period from October, 1902, to March, 1903, and the city sewer-flushing, always inadequate, was wholly suspended in January on account of the lack of funds. The sewers were congested with filth, of which typhoid stools formed a component part, and the surface of the earth, in city and country alike, was covered with the five months' accumulations. \* \* \* From March to July inclusive was the wettest season on record. The sewers were repeatedly

flushed out, and the accumulated surface filth was washed away into streams, ponds and the lake. \* \* \* In August a succession of high variable winds set in, the strongest being from the west. The lake bottom was vigorously stirred up by high-wave action, the sewage was drifted to the intakes, and the water-supply from all sources became so contaminated that it averaged only 38 per cent. good for the month."

This pollution of the water-supply was undoubtedly the greatest causative factor in the epidemic of the past summer, but there are one or two subsidiary factors which are not brought out in the report of the Board of Health and which may serve to explain the peculiar localization of this epidemic. The mortality statistics of the Board of Health show that a comparatively small area on the West Side was the region most severely affected. Within the limits of the Nineteenth Ward, which contains only one thirty-sixth of the total population of the city, there were between one-sixth and one-seventh of all the deaths from this disease. This part of the city is inhabited largely by working people. It contains one of the largest Italian quarters, most of the Greek colony, a small Bohemian colony, the northern end of the Jewish quarter, and the western part is chiefly American-Irish. As far as the general intelligence of the inhabitants is concerned, their knowledge of the laws of hygiene, their general housing conditions, cleanliness, overcrowding, etc., this part of the city does not differ from the other semi-foreign quarters, yet it suffered much more than any in this epidemic. Evidently there must have been some local conditions which favored the spread of the infection. The drinking-water alone could not be responsible, for this part of the city is supplied from the Chicago avenue and Fourteenth street tunnels, the same water-supply as that for the whole region between Forty-seventh and Lake streets, Canal street and Western avenue. Nor could the milk be chargeable, for though in this neighborhood the milk is often badly diluted, yet it averaged quite as good as that supplied to a prosperous residence district to the west, as shown by analyses made of the milk of both districts by the University of Illinois in 1898.

To those who studied the distribution of the cases of typhoid fever it soon became evident that the number was greatest in those streets where removal of sewage is most imperfect. This is an old part of the city; the sewers in many of the streets were laid before the

great fire, at a time when the neighborhood was more sparsely settled, and when usually not more than one family occupied each house. Adequate at that time, they are far from adequate now, and it takes only a moderate increase in the rainfall to make the sewage back up into vaults and closets, while clogging is of common occurrence in dry weather. The yards and closets are often below the level of the street, and are therefore easily overflowed. Last spring during the flooding rains it was no uncommon thing to see one of these yards, from six to fourteen feet below the level of the street, covered with several inches of foul water which in the neighborhood of the privy was distinctly sewage-contaminated. In this way the earth of the yards and that under the basement tenements became soaked with diluted excreta.

This condition of things is made possible by the primitive arrangements for the disposal of dejecta which prevail in this part of the city. Two of the residents of Hull House, which is situated almost in the center of the typhoid district, made a careful house-to-house investigation, noting the conditions as to drainage in each house and also the number of cases of typhoid fever which had appeared in each during the three months in question. Two thousand and two dwellings were thus investigated. A few extracts from the notebooks of the Hull House residents will give an idea of some of the conditions found:

DeKoven street (Jewish): Vault, said to be connected, but full; basement full of sewage-contaminated water from backing-up of sewer.

Law avenue (Greek): Seventy-six persons using three small closets under the house; very filthy; apparently no sewer connections.

Bunker street (Bohemian and Polish): Unconnected vaults; very foul; ten cases of typhoid with four deaths in this tenement; six-teen families.

Law avenue (colored): Connected, but out of order; full to the floor; boards at back are broken away so that cesspool is quite exposed.

Ewing street (Italian): Cesspool, said to have sewer connection, but full and running over, so that stream of sewage runs down the yard.

Taylor street (Italian): Old-fashioned privy; no sewer connection; one of six privies in a yard between a four-story front tenement and a three-story rear tenement. While we were inspecting it, a woman came down with a vessel filled with discharge from a typhoid patient,

which she emptied into the vault. No disinfectant was used.

Aberdeen street (Irish): One large vault used by sixteen families; very foul-smelling; unconnected. This was cleaned by a scavenger during August, and the filth left standing in an open barrow in the alley between two houses for a week. It was so offensive that the tenants in these two houses were obliged to keep their windows on that side closed. Complaints to the Health Department and Garbage Inspector were fruitless, and finally the personal influence of a physician prevailed over the landlord and he removed it, but not until it had stood there during a week of warm weather, when, naturally, the place swarmed with flies. There were five cases of typhoid fever in each of the two houses next to the alley.

Blue Island avenue (French, German, Irish and Greek): One vault for ten families; overflows into the yard at every heavy rainfall, so that the yard is impassable for two or three days and tenants must reach the closets from the alley.

It was found that only 967 dwellings, or 48 per cent. of the whole number investigated, had modern sanitary plumbing, as was made obligatory for all buildings by an ordinance passed in 1896. One hundred and forty-eight dwellings, or 7 per cent. of the whole number, had plumbing so badly out of order as to be a menace to health. Four hundred and thirty-three, or 22 per cent., had out-of-door water-closets supplied from the waste water from the kitchen sink and the rain-water from the roof. Two hundred and eighteen dwellings, or 11 per cent., had privy vaults with sewer connection, but without water-supply; vaults which are cleaned either by a scavenger or by means of a hose connected with the hydrant, and which, if not frequently cleaned, cannot be distinguished from the undrained, old-fashioned privies which form the fifth variety, and of which there are still 236 in this neighborhood, or 12 per cent. of the whole number.

Now, if there is any causative relation between the conditions described above and the distribution of the cases of typhoid fever, it must be largely through the agency of flies, since we know that typhoid infection cannot be breathed in but must be taken in through the mouth. It is true that germ-laden dust blown by the wind may also be a mode of conveyance of the infection. The typhoid bacillus has been shown to retain its vitality in dry soil for over sixty days. However, it was only after the middle of August that this agency

could have come into play to any great extent, for up to that time there had been constant rains, and there was practically no dust.

The importance of the common housefly in the spreading of typhoid infection was emphasized by Majors Reed, Vaughan and Shakespeare in their report on the "Origin and Spread of Typhoid Fever in the United States Military Camps during the Spanish War of 1898." They state that in many of the camps "flies were undoubtedly the most active agents in the spread of typhoid fever. Flies alternately visited and fed upon the infected faecal matter and the food in the mess-tents. More than once it happened, when lime had been scattered over the faecal matter in the pits, flies with their feet covered with lime were seen walking over the food."

Various laboratory investigators have shown that flies which are made to feed on cultures of typhoid germs will carry these germs on their legs and proboscis, and, if made then to walk upon sterile culture medium, will deposit the germs there. It seemed very probable, therefore, that the germs contained in the faecal matter from typhoid patients might adhere to the legs of flies which had frequented open privies containing such discharges and might be carried by them into the houses and shops and deposited upon food. This would seem to explain the connection between undrained vaults and typhoid epidemics. To settle this question a large number of ordinary houseflies were captured in two undrained, full and filthy privies, upon the fences and walls of the houses near them, and in a kitchen in which a typhoid patient lay. These flies were put into culture tubes and subjected to the usual methods of bacteriological examination at the laboratory of the Memorial Institute for Infectious Diseases. In five out of eighteen tubes the bacillus of typhoid fever was discovered.

When conditions such as those described above exist in any part of a city, they form a lasting menace to the health of the community. The danger is not over with the ending of warm weather and the subsidence of the epidemic. Experiments have shown that the urine and faeces of recovered typhoid patients contain living bacilli for many weeks after every trace of the illness is over. The winter cold does not kill the bacilli: they have been found living in sewage-polluted soil 315 days after they were planted there, although in ordinary non-polluted soil they soon disappear. There is every reason, therefore, to fear a recurrence of the epidemic next summer, and it was in the

hope of inaugurating preventive measures that this investigation was undertaken.

The residents of Hull House who made the house-to-house visits found only a hearty co-operation on the part of the tenants. In the houses containing several cases of typhoid there was a touching eagerness "to have something done about it." They encountered a general feeling of anxiety and helplessness, and in some instances bitterness and indignation that life had been needlessly endangered and lost. Among the latter at least two fatal cases had occurred in houses which were scrupulously clean and sanitary, but in close proximity to illegal and uncared-for vaults.

This district is, of course, subject to the same provision by the Board of Health which obtains all over the city, and which is perhaps entirely adequate in neighborhoods where the population is accustomed to modern sanitary plumbing and able to afford it and to keep it in order. In this region, however, it is at once plain, when careful house-to-house visits are made, that the powers and supervision which may appear sufficient in a prosperous neighborhood in the newer parts of town do not secure wholesome conditions or even full compliance with the city ordinances here. It seemed, accordingly, a natural feature of this inquiry to endeavor to learn the scope of the Board's powers and the methods it employs.

As it was frequently stated that complaints received no attention, the manner of dealing with them was first examined.

When the Board of Health receives reports which are properly signed and authenticated, these are distributed by the receiving clerk to the boxes of inspectors according to districts. Thus each inspector receives every morning the complaints of the day before. A complaint, however urgent, unless made in person at the office before 9:30 a. m., cannot be acted upon in the regular way until at least the day after it is made. Complaints by telephone and anonymous communications are disregarded.

The inspector each morning looks over his allotment of complaints. He may decide, for one of many reasons, that a complaint does not deserve a visit, in which case he so informs the clerk, who does not enter it on the record. Otherwise, the case is entered by the clerk in a permanent record, giving the address of the house to be visited, violation claimed, and name of inspector. The complaint inspectors' districts are large. One district, for instance, includes the territory between West Madison and Twelfth streets, and stretches from the river

on the east to the city limits on the west. Although the complaint inspectors receive aid from the inspectors who combine complaint work with the inspection of plumbing in new buildings, yet one can easily credit the statement that there is no time for "pick-up-work," meaning violations which they themselves may discover. The force is small, usually from seven to nine men, and the inspector seldom succeeds in making an immediate report. Some delay is, therefore, inevitable, although one man recently turned in thirty-nine reports under one date, having given in nothing for four days before and none for eight days after that date. Of the thirty-nine reports a surprising number were marked "no cause for complaint." Such an instance, apparently unchallenged by the department, suggests a condition of irregularity much more damaging than the inevitable delay of an overworked force.

If the inspector's first report shows a violation of ordinance, a notice is sent from the department ordering changes. Three or four such notices may be sent. If no attention is paid to the notices, suit is instituted theoretically; in practice this occurs rarely. The records show an "abatement" column, in which is set a date, presumably that on which the inspector called and found the nuisance abated in accordance with notice. This "abatement" column contains no details, nor does it give the essential facts of the violation. If suit is brought, there is no entry in the "abatement" column.

On the testimony of the inspectors themselves they are often satisfied with a mere "clean-up," or they become convinced that nothing can be done. It is impossible to learn the actual state of property from the records. For instance, the city ordinance has forbidden open privy vaults since 1896, but when complaint is made of such a vault the record "nuisance abated" frequently means merely that the inspector has ordered the owner to order the scavenger. Having done this, the inspector may report to the office that the "nuisance is abated," although the most revolting conditions still prevail and the situation itself—the very existence of the vault—is illegal. There is absolutely no method of determining from the records in the case of specific tenements whether or not any effort has been made to enforce the ordinance of 1896.

It is well to reiterate that the services of a scavenger, if secured, would not meet the legal requirements, as the very existence of these vaults has been illegal since the passage of ordinance No. 1122 in 1896. The figures for the Board of Health for recent years as to these vaults are as follows:

	1900	1901	1902
Vaults cleaned .....	4,049	3,365	2,466
Vaults abolished .....	1,247	1,404	1,164

Comparing the statements as to numbers of vaults cleaned and abolished, it would appear that there still exist 1,302 vaults. This assumes what is by no means uniformly true, that each vault is cleaned once a year. The residents of Hull House who made the investigation constantly encountered rumors of inspectors who made visits to places obviously illegal and dangerous to health, but who reported to the department "no cause for complaint." The explanation rife in the neighborhood is that the inspector is "fixed."

The unfortunate discretionary power lodged in the inspector is often used in favor of the landlord, who urges that the returns from the property do not warrant the expenditures necessary to comply with the law. As the purpose of this inspection is solely in the interests of public health and sanitation, on what grounds have the inspectors a right to consider private real-estate interests when these public interests are at stake?

There is no doubt that the influence of politics or wealth often intervenes in favor of the landlord, who does not wish to incur the expense of sanitary plumbing, and the Board of Health gives as an excuse for the existence of many of these illegal vaults that their prosecutions have been non-suited, although here again the Board of Health records show nothing. The following instances show the results of such influences:

There are only open vaults attached to certain houses on Jefferson street, owned by the brother of a well-known politician.\*

When these vaults were overfilled during the last summer and the tenants were unable to secure the scavenger from the landlord, they made two complaints to the Board of Health, but with absolutely no result, save the visit of an inspector. Another case of politician's ownership is found on Forquer street, where, in a row of houses sheltering sixteen families, there is provided only one large open vault. Repeated complaints have been unavailing to secure anything beyond the mere visits of an inspector.

In another instance a tenement was owned by an ex-alderman. The main waste-pipe of the building was broken for more than five months,

\*For obvious reasons, the exact locations of houses mentioned are not given, but full and exact details have been obtained and are preserved at Hull House.



to the knowledge of the investigator. The basement was flooded with filth for that period. At the same time the closet on the second floor, separated from the living-rooms of a tenant by a loose-hanging door, was clogged, so that on the floor there was a puddle which the woman daily swept down the front stairway. This liquid filth also seeped through the ceiling and dripped down on the floor below, occupied by a Greek. The condition of this building has been reported to the Department of Health at least five times during this period, as can be proved by affidavits. Yet nothing was done, and the records of the department show no complaints. In the meantime the water-supply pipe was broken, so that for the last three weeks of this period water could not be drawn on the second floor for any purpose. Finally a personal appeal to the head of the department secured the visit of an inspector, whose report was truthful and showed the need of instant action. Nothing was done, however, until ten days later, after repeated inquiries over the telephone and a threat of publicity, a suit was begun. It has been found that suits of this character frequently result either in a trifling fine (which it is much cheaper to pay than to make repairs) or in an appeal which may postpone the matter for two years or longer. At this point the corporation counsel was appealed to personally, and under his vigorous orders the suit was pressed and repairs were at once made on the one house in question, but of so flimsy a character that, although the requirements of the law were ostensibly complied with, in a month the condition was worse than before. It remains to be said, further, that the owner has adjacent property, also in shameful condition, which is untouched. This property is in litigation and, as the title is uncertain, there is a point of view from which it seems a hardship that a nominal owner may be compelled to pay heavy repair bills for which he may be unable to secure reimbursement. From this point of view, also, a certain leniency at the City Hall may seem only a decent courtesy. On the other hand, the tenant keeps on paying full rent in advance. His little business is established at this point and would be injured or destroyed by removal, as it is constantly injured to some degree by the bad state of the building. He pays for what he does not get, his interests are prejudiced, his health and that of his family are injured, and he has no redress. The law, official courtesy, and official supervision are all exerted in favor of the owner of the real estate as against the tenant and against the third and most important interest, the public health.

The law's delays, the carelessness, or worse, of inspectors, the indifference of landlords, each alone or combined, may put off the most essential repairs for months and even for years, as is frequently seen. *Yet, in fact, the city ordinances are full and explicit in affording to the Department of Public Health complete power to summarily abate nuisances and adequately protect the health and lives of tenants, so far as they are threatened by unwholesome sanitary arrangements.*

As the investigation showed, occupants of property where there is the most scrupulous compliance with sanitary ordinances cannot safeguard their own health or their lives if near them are such nuisances as have been described above. What is thus true of this district is true of the whole city. The river wards cannot be isolated from the other resident portions of the town. In this district are the stables of various large firms whose delivery wagons are sent throughout the city and suburbs; many of the teams doing city contract work are kept here; the peddlers' carts which carry fruit and vegetables in every direction within a day's journey start in large numbers from this region and their supplies are stored here. With all these go the houseflies, bearing, as we may believe, the typhoid germ.

#### THE SOWER.

Who is it coming on the slant brown slope,  
Touched by the twilight and her mournful  
hope—

Coming with Hero step, with rhythmic swing,  
Where all the bodily motions weave and sing?  
The grief of the ground is in him, yet the power  
Of the Earth to hide the furrow with the flower.

He is the stone rejected, yet the stone  
Whereon is built metropolis and throne.  
Out of his toil come all their pompous shows,  
Their purple luxury and plush repose;  
The grime of this bruised hand keeps tender  
white

The hands that never labor, day nor night.  
His foot that only knows the field's rough floors  
Sends lordly steps down echoing corridors.

Yea, this vicarious toiler at the plow  
Gives that fine pallor to my lady's brow,  
And idle armies, with their boom and blare,  
Flinging their foolish glory on the air—  
He hides their nakedness, he gives them bed,  
And by his alms their hungry maws are fed.

Not his the lurching of an aimless clod,  
For, with the august gesture of a god—  
A gesture that is question and command—  
He hurls the bread of nations from his hand;  
And in the passion of the gesture flings  
His fierce resentment in the face of Kings.

—Excerpts from Edwin Markham's poem, written after seeing Millet's painting, "The Sower," and contributed to the New York Journal.

## THE SOCIAL FUNCTION OF THE COUNTRY CHURCH.

BY JOHN J. MARTIN.

Social service in rural districts as everywhere is most fascinating in its nature and boundless in its influence. The only requisite to stir the depths of any social servant here is for him to thoroughly identify himself with the actual needs of the society in which he lives. This identification of oneself which stirs one to enthusiastic activity compels also the recognition of certain features of service which cannot be overlooked without serious hindrance to social progress. My own identification with country parishes has revealed to me certain functions of social service which I think the country pastor and his church cannot ignore without serious loss to the purpose for which they exist.

The first of these functions of service relates to the matter of roads. We do not always remember it, and yet the subject of roads is very vitally connected with social progress and spiritual development. The Kingdom of God does not come up out of the earth; it comes down out of heaven from God. It is to be realized through the preaching of Christ. Now, however much we may be willing to embody in this term, it is patent to every sane person that unless men come together for worship, for instruction in holy things, for the purpose of having their finer natures quickened, their consciences become hardened, their ideals low and sordid, their living corrupt. But what have roads to do with this? The answer is not difficult. The leisure season for country folk is the winter. It is then that the social servant must work most ardently to accomplish his ends. In planting and harvesting times the people are neither physically, mentally nor spiritually fitted to develop their higher selves, even if they had the time. The matter then reduces itself to this that if they are to be ministered to and to minister to one another they must do so in the winter months chiefly when they have the time at their disposal and are not overworked. But it is then that the roads militate against every suggestion that looks toward social progress and social perfection. People are not likely to drive long distances in the cold when driving is not only slow but also aggravating, and when carriage and horse and health are jeopardized. The consequence is that people stay at home and do not get that necessary inspiration for symmetrical living suggested above. When roads are good, people turn out. Driving is then a pleasure. They

are then not detained by storms. Mingling together in the atmosphere of holy communion, they gain the spiritual impetus for life's duties, are prevented from living isolated and profitless lives, and are moved to sympathize with their neighbors. Let the country church, therefore, agitate the question of good roads. Let the trained mind of its pastor show the advantages of this in its relations to the saving in transportation and to general convenience as well as its benefits to the moral and spiritual development of the people. Christian men must subdue the earth and make it tributary to the Kingdom of God.

A second matter in which the country church can serve the community is in regard to its educational interests. The separation of Church and State has had the general tendency on the Church to feel that all it had to do was to see that Divine worship was conducted in the community and to minister in those things which are directly religious, leaving the affairs of the community which grow out of religion to be guided by whom they may. This has been a mistake. The result has been disastrous, and especially so in our rural districts. Here, notwithstanding all that our educationalists have attempted to do and have accomplished in the past decades, in almost every instance the country school is furthest from what it should be. The condition is this: The vast majority of patrons have actually no intelligent interest in the school. A teacher is hired, set down in the school house, must get her board and lodging where she can, is seldom if ever visited in her work by directors or parents, and the result is that, unless she is exceedingly and conscientiously devoted to her work, under the dull monotony of a rural school and the unreasonable criticism of criminally careless patrons, she slumps into commercialism, beats time through her term, and is never awake to the fact that she is dealing with, and shaping, immortal beings—beings that constitute the State, indeed, as we hold, beings that constitute Heaven.

The country church cannot be indifferent to this condition. It cannot without loss to its cause say that this is purely a matter for the State. It can serve the community in this respect and it must. The clergyman should be intimately identified with this interest. His library should be stocked with the best pedagogical literature and should be accessible to the teachers. The teachers should be made to feel that they are co-workers with the church and the families in the community in which they

labor in society's most constructive work. On the initiative of the pastor and the leading men in his church, there should be meetings arranged in which directors and teachers and patrons shall be made to feel their mutual obligation and their mutual dependence in their momentous work. And when the church so identifies herself with this life-interest of the neighborhood, it can with greater boldness and authority speak of those things in which life itself is rooted.

Not only, however, should the rural church minister to the community's educational interests through the schools; it should further serve it by providing such education and amusement as the lives of the young people call for who have passed through the schools. If the country church fails to do this, one of three things happens. The young people of its constituency will either become recluses; or they will gather in some place where the very air is polluted, and where the brain becomes puddled, and the conduct corrupted; or else they will flock to towns where sadly enough only vile company seems open to take them in. The eyes of the country church must not be closed to these things. It is incumbent upon it to furnish the community with such formative agencies as will produce the most perfect and symmetrical manhood. If it does not do this it is recreant to its trusts. The pastor should bind the leading men of his church and community so closely to himself that he can lead them in providing lectureships, entertainments, social gatherings, and the general items with which the play instincts of life are properly developed and are made to contribute their quota to the realization of the highest self. This will not detract from the spirituality of the church's ministrations; it will rather intensify them. Being identified with the life-interests of the neighborhood, the church with its pastor will thus, if they are so disposed and know how, be better able to identify the neighborhood with God.

In the third place, the rural church should serve the community by working to discourage what looks like the genesis of a new Irish Landlord System. The economic condition in many of the richer parts of our farming states is anything but conducive to social progress. Farmers stay on their farms until they have a good competence. While they are doing this, they do not feel very public-spirited, and when they have obtained their desired competence, they leave the farm and move into town. A renter is put on the farm to work it on shares

or for cash rent. This renter does not expect to make it his permanent home. There is no hope that he will ever be privileged to buy the farm, and he is not sure of living on it for more than one, two, or (say) five years. At all events he does not as a rule become a burden-bearing, burden-sharing constituent in the community any further than he is obliged to become by laws. The condition then in our country parishes becomes like this. We have two different parties living directly off the land—one is a resident without any great sense of community interest; the other is a non-resident getting his living out of the community, and contributing nothing to it, and perhaps in many instances never has contributed anything to it. Thus our country districts are impoverished and their social interests are made to lag. And indeed this situation would not be so serious socially, if when our farmers moved to town they became a social force in the communities in which they entered. But as a rule they do not become so. Nor are they altogether blameworthy that they do not become so. They are unfitted to be. Men who have always lived on a farm cannot feel at home in a city any more than a fish on land. The problem is an intricate one, and it may be better not to attempt a solution here, but one thing is very certain, that the influence of the country church is being thrown in the right direction when it works to save its own men to the country where they are men of influence, and when it works to prevent them from becoming non-producers and idlers in some little city. The social conscience of our country folk needs to be cultivated, and this is the social function of the country church whose Master is Jesus Christ, and whose spirit therefore must be social.

A fourth social function that the country has failed to recognize as it ought to do, and in many instances has failed to recognize altogether, is its relation to the foreign population which is so inevitably possessing our rural sections. A fallacious temper seems to pervade our Protestant churches in this country, which makes them feel that they have no mission except to men who speak the English language. The refuge of ease in which they reside is that the second generation of these immigrants will come along and join the church. What a travesty of the spirit of Christ whose Body is the church! The difficulties in reaching the people, and shepherding them, are indeed rooted in the most fundamental principles of social life—the principles of likeness and unlikeness.

These difficulties culminate in language, that greatest of social bonds and social forces. But because these difficulties, inhering as they do in the very structure of society, are so great, must the Church surrender, and must the country church make no attempt to overcome them? This is contrary to the Spirit that dwells in the Church. If men of other tongues and customs cannot be brought to respond to the same stimuli that we respond to, it is our business as priests in the Kingdom of God to furnish the stimuli to which they will respond, and to care for sheep which may not chance to belong to the same flock as ourselves. What about the sympathies of these hearts? What about their hungerings and thirstings? What about their spiritual needs? Have they none? Are they not Christ's own purchase? These hearts form the field of the country pastor and of his church, and once that field is occupied, these same hearts become the force of the country pastor and his church, and a power in their day and generation. It is a difficult field to occupy, but it must be occupied, for it contains rich treasure, aye, in many instances it contains the precipitant of the Reformation. If the pastor cannot occupy it by means of the English language and customs, let him do it by other means. Let him import help occasionally, if needs be, such as can furnish the proper stimuli to which the best in these people must respond. His church should support him. Or perhaps better still let him master the language and customs of these people himself. He can then minister to them himself. Must this be thought a thing too hard? Foreign missionaries do it. Why should not the home missionary? It would quicken his mental activity, enrich his linguistic powers, and furnish him the instrument by which he could communicate the bread of life to hungering hearts for whom Christ died.

Chicago Theological Seminary.

### THE SETTLEMENT AND THE PUBLIC SCHOOL.

BY MARY K. SIMKHOVITCH.

The question has been raised, is not the Settlement becoming superfluous? Cannot the public educational system take over all the functions of the settlement?

This question involves a consideration of the nature of public education and of settlement work.

The work of the public school may be classified as educational in the narrower sense, as recreational, and as ethical. Education in its

narrower sense is yet far broader than educators of only a decade ago could have fancied possible. It includes both the ordinary academic instruction and the wider field of nature study and manual work that demand the training of those powers of observation and creation which the ordinary instruction ignores. Manual training is now of course everywhere recognized as an integral part of a real education that aims to bring out the latent powers of the child. The reason that manual work is able to accomplish this result is because the child in seeing and working at the actual processes of construction perceives a sequence, and the entire reasoning and perceiving faculties of the child are thereby developed. This result of a trained nature it is practically impossible to attain without the aid of manual instruction, although of course the need for this method is far greater for certain children than it is for others. This method, valuable as it is, cannot be used as extensively as an educational idealist would like, as the majority of children have to go to work at an age that allows of but a limited kind of training of any kind, and a sort of equilibrium has to be maintained between the clerical and manual method.

All this manual work is properly a part of the educational system, a deep and integral part—not a faddish frosting of the good old plain cake of arithmetic, writing and reading.

Any manual training work that the Settlement undertakes therefore must be regarded as temporary, or as experimental, to be undertaken to show what the public schools should adopt. But the Settlement cannot undertake even this experimental work satisfactorily; for not being systematically coordinated with the other elements in public education, it will be regarded as something outside the system and not as an integral part of it.

But while manual training is really a mandatory part of public education, there are other functions the public school may properly perform and the extension of which is desirable, such as the use of the school for games, for the organizing of excursions, and even, as may happen, for social evenings in which the parents of the children may share.

The organizing of clubs is another perfectly proper function of the public school. At present the lack of good club leaders and the bare and unsuitable accommodations of public school buildings render the school clubs unattractive in comparison with settlement clubs having homelike influences and surroundings. But there is no reason in the nature of things why

schools should not be built with this more liberal idea of education in mind. For the educational value of the club lies in its development of ethical relationships in society. To learn to live well in a club means how to live well in all those larger religious, political and social relationships to which the citizen is later introduced.

All these larger functions of public education are bound to be developed. The narrower interpretation of education is an inheritance of the older village conditions where the family life provided in a larger measure for the all-around development of children than the crowded, hurried life of the masses of our city population can afford.

But while it is true that the enlarged functions of public education will very likely make it unnecessary for the Settlement to continue the larger part of its club and class activities, this by no means involves the disappearance of the Settlement, but rather brings out to clearer view its more permanent functions.

The Settlement's true value consists in its becoming the local center of neighborliness, of the interpretation of neighborhood needs, and of civic influence. These functions of the Settlement follow in a natural sequence. The foundation of knowledge lies in the daily give and take of neighborly kindness and confidence. To know "conditions" one must know persons; for "conditions" are no economic entity unrelated to individuals. To hunt for "data" without the knowledge of the deep springs that underlie daily action is as unscientific as it is unpleasing.

But neighborliness alone won't do. "It must be unpleasant to be paid for being a neighbor," a headworker was told on the East Side. And there is something revolting and self-righteous about being a "neighbor" unless it leads to something further. The next step is the interpretation to the city and to society at large of those lives so unlike the life of the well-to-do and yet so fundamentally the same. Here is where the test of one's democracy comes in; does one truly believe that in the lives of the down-most is to be found the springs of personal greatness and of civic beauty and that what society has to do is only to recognize this fact and working on this basis to uplift the whole? Or is one skeptically to feel that society is to be regenerated from the top by the imposition of beneficent "improvements"? The Settlement if it stands for anything stands for this, that the seeds of a perfect society are to be found in the lives of the humblest, and that

under more favorable conditions the people at the bottom will have a chance to take their place at the table of life.

And then the Settlement, after its interpretation through its daily knowledge of the actual, must see to it that its protest against social mistakes gets recognized by society; that is, not only that laws get enacted, but that the social conscience rises to a higher plane.

Is the Settlement then to develop in this way alone—as a group of people working for the uplifting of the city and the averaging-up of social conditions? Has it no institutional character to look forward to at all? One cannot be doctrinaire in these matters, but it is safe to predict that for a long time to come one institutional development will be useful and in fact necessary; and that is the establishment of local buildings to be used as centers for local organizations. Clubs like to have permanent quarters. The public school cannot provide for this need. Organizations political, social or ethical need homes of their own. The Settlement will fill a great need by establishing such centers. This function too of the Settlement may disappear, for this movement for the establishment of local halls may well be undertaken either by a private corporation or by the city itself.

In the long run, then, the Settlement will find its real value in the three ways pointed out; first, as a neighborly group, second, as an interpreter to the public of the life and condition of the neighborhood, and, third, as an active protest against social errors and a positive force for social betterment. Naturally this is a somewhat academic conclusion. For communities differ in their ripeness for the enlarged functions of education and municipal undertakings in general. And the Settlement worker who amounts to anything is not going to follow a platform but is going to work under the given conditions. So we are not to condemn the institutional settlement or to give unstinted praise to the settlement of the other type; for it may well be that the activities of one may have a great temporary value (and values have to be measured in terms of time), and that the interpretation and protest of the other are valueless on account of the inefficiency of those who make up the band of workers. Nevertheless the Settlement on the whole should look forward to the second type as the more permanent.

For institutions and institutional activities one type of person is desirable; for the lasting type of Settlement another sort of person is

needed; and, let us confess it, the right persons for effective work of this kind are very rare. If such persons be found, they should not be allowed to be diverted from this life for lack of a private income. To endow persons would often be a better investment than to endow activities that may turn out to be of doubtful value. If a man be found with this rare gift of sympathetic insight, of effectiveness in making people listen to what he has to say, and in getting the public to want something better and to insist upon it, must he be driven to an uncongenial occupation in order to support his family? This is social wastefulness. And this brings us to the consideration of settlement work as a profession.

There are only a few who are fit to be leaders, and besides these those who live in settlements and who do the best work are most likely to be professionally engaged in other allied occupations. This leaves room, however, for those who voluntarily come and give their lives to the simple daily round of neighborliness which is the foundation on which the whole structure rests. In this relation mental training is subordinate to that training that comes from life itself.

But to the average young man or woman who thinks of entering settlement work as a profession one can only say, "Fit yourself for some work of definite use to society entirely apart from the settlement, and then you will be most useful there. Be a nurse, be a teacher in the public school, fit yourself to be a club director in the play center schools, be a lawyer, be an artist, be a public official—but be something definite, and then live among your fellowmen and for them, using your profession for that social uplift which is at once the inspiration and reward of those who have once caught the vision of the City Beautiful."

Greenwich House, 26 Jones St., New York.

#### **An Appeal to American Women in the Philippines by the Ladies at the Head of Settlement House.**

Through Bishop Brent the women at the head of Settlement House, Harriet B. Osgood, Margaret B. Spencer, Eliza Maria Staunton, Clara Thacher and Margaret Waterman, have issued a strong appeal to the American women in the Philippines. It is as follows:

The Transports and Liners are bringing to Manila scores of American women. Some stay in Manila, some go to the provinces. Many remain but a few weeks; a large number are the wives and relatives of officers of the army, or

officials in the civil service whose probable term of duty will keep them here for a period of years. A few even now announce their determination to make the Philippines their permanent home. Altogether, many American women are coming to these islands, and we want to ask what is to be the effect of their coming? and this seriously, not with mawkish sentimentality. We love America not merely because we honestly believe her to be enlightened and advanced in the path of true progress beyond the other nations of the world. The women, the wives, the mothers and daughters of America are her pride and glory. They have stood with American men in every movement where patriotism was involved. Intelligence and moral valor are their characteristics, and now their help is needed in the Philippines.

The only rational view of our relationship to these islands is that they constitute a grave responsibility; this is the view which is winning its way slowly but surely among the men of our land, both here and at home. It has to encounter a lazy conservatism and a selfish commercialism, but it is superior to both and will conquer. We women can help in the shouldering of this responsibility and we ought to do it.

Never were more difficult problems proposed to a nation. It will need our finest qualities, the best that is in us, to solve them. The problems are racial, educational, religious, economic, sanitary, therapeutic—a longer list might be made. Looked at in the largest sense the prospect seems discouraging, overwhelming. A prime requisite is patience—the patience which begets continued individual effort.

It is important to emphasize the value of individual effort. In the long run the natives will know us to be what we are, man for man, and woman for woman, in our personal and individual relationship toward them. Corporate and institutional work will do much, of course. But the truest Christian philanthropy results when Christ is born in a human heart to the needy one. And not only this individual effort, but continued effort. Narrow the sphere of our activity as much as we may, the prospect is still likely to seem almost hopeless for a long time to come. This should not cause us to draw back. One woman, isolated, can do something.

An instance—a letter—has come to us from an American woman, wife of an official of a town. We quote a part of it:

"\* \* \* There is so much need here of the most simple assistance, and the people not only

do not know how to render it to each other but they seem too ignorant even to apply for medical aid where it might be obtained. Just one little instance made me think that if even one person were willing to devote a part of his time to the work, a great deal might be done. There is a family across the street in which is a baby two months old. The people are not of the poorest class, as I found out later, but ignorant beyond everything. I heard the baby crying almost constantly for two days and I could not stand it any longer. I went over and took my house-hoy to interpret for me, and when I asked the mother if the baby were sick she said 'No,' but at the same time asked me if I would not come up and see the baby. I went up, and, on looking at the child, found it covered with sores, some of the dreadful native skin diseases. I had no real knowledge of the disease, but I at once took over some simple remedies I had in the house, with plenty of clean bandages, and after the baby was washed and wrapped in them, with an ointment to allay the inflammation, she went to sleep and rested all the afternoon. There is a very good native doctor here, but the people never send for him, or anyone, unless they recognize that the trouble is really fatal. \* \* \* There is a great similarity in all these skin diseases and they are the particular bane here; the same remedies would serve for many cases. I have an abundance of time, and a house where the children could be brought and looked after while their mothers were given the necessary things—and really the help is so needed. Perhaps it would not be practical, but if you can see how I can help to extend in any way, even the most limited, the work of your social settlement, I shall be so very glad to be of some use. Americans have no place out here unless they can do some good. \* \* \*

A letter like this suggests possibilities and it is just because we believe the idea is entirely practical that we wish to propagate it. Our "Settlement House" in Manila has been started not for purposes of proselytism but that its workers, living among the natives, may exemplify the Christian life in its spirit of helpfulness. We shall try to get into close touch with the common people, learn their language, know their difficulties, see things as they see them. We shall have a well-equipped dispensary, with assistance of skilled physicians, native and American. A kindergarten is provided; other agencies of ministrations will doubtless be developed as time goes on. We particularly wish to have it understood that the use of any equip-

ment which may be gathered here and any experiences which we may acquire we shall gladly share with others.

To sum up and apply—our circular is thus an appeal to American women:

1. To enter upon their residence in the Philippines, whether it is to be brief or protracted, under a sense of responsibility. Our mission here is not to pass a holiday or to kill time. It will be easy in certain circumstances to allow social engagements so to tyrannize over one that both physical and moral health will suffer, or placed otherwise, time will hang heavily from lack of enough to occupy the days. In either situation, well-directed effort to help others will react beneficially upon one's own life and strengthen character.

2. To beware of adopting a prejudiced or despising or despairing attitude toward the people of the land. Their blood, their temperament, all their antecedents are different from ours. It will take a very long time at best before we can understand them. We must be patient, studious and prayerful. We may easily allow ourselves to think that the problems are most difficult; true faith forbids us to think them incapable of solution.

3. That each American woman should make some definite and individual effort for the betterment, the well-being, of some Filipino neighbor; this in a persistent, intelligent way. The letter above quoted will afford a hint. We expect to be able to furnish from Settlement House, upon application, such remedies and appliances as will be most frequently needed, and we invite the visits or correspondence of those who are interested.

4. To take advantage of any opportunity to train and teach the natives. We know the case of a woman of means, whose husband's occupation placed her in an isolated position, without enough to do. She gradually gathered the children of the natives around her, gained their confidence and affection and taught them much useful knowledge of a practical sort. There are doubtless many opportunities of a similar nature.

5. To consider whether some sort of association with our Settlement work would not help them and us alike to a better fulfilment of our common responsibility.

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"I have not willingly planted a thorn in any man's bosom."—Lincoln.

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"I do not impugn the motives of any one opposed to me."—Lincoln.

**COLLEGE SETTLEMENTS ASSOCIATION.**

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Philadelphia—433 Christian Street.

Boston—91 Tyler Street (Denison House).

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY  
CAROLINE WILLIAMSON MONTGOMERY,  
5548 Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago.

The Visiting Nurses' Settlement, 24 Valley St., Orange, N. J., has sent out a circular giving the character of the work, and schedules. Miss Margaret Anderson is head worker.

The first annual report of the Ridgewood Household Club has been received. The club is situated at 333 Bleacher St., Brooklyn, and the head worker is Miss Ethel R. Evans, who is well known as a former resident of the New York College Settlement.

The eleventh annual report of the Bermondsey Settlement, London, by J. Scott Lidgett, (warden) emphasizes the greater need for the settlement extension in his neighborhood owing to the withdrawal of so many of the uplifted forces of the neighborhood to the suburbs, and above all institutional methods and features places the spirit embodied in the Settlement as its most essential part.

The Philadelphia Society for Organizing Charity has published the report of special committee of the board of directors on Wife Desertion. They state that out of 6,664 cases dealt with during the past year in 211 families the distress was due wholly or in part to desertion of the father of the family. There is no adequate provision in Pennsylvania to deal with such situations by law. Accordingly the report follows these lines:

1. The present situation in Pennsylvania and how to better it.
2. A resume of laws and opinions in other parts of the United States.
3. Notes on some types of deserters.

**The Work Done by Vassar Students.**

Among the students of Vassar College a large number are engaged in social work of some kind or other. In connection with the Christian Association of the college, many of them help in the Sunday schools of Poughkeepsie, and in the Young Women's Christian Association. Many, also, are doing regular friendly visiting in connection with the churches in town. An effort is now being made by the College Settlement Association of Vassar to start a settlement on a small scale in the poorest portion of Poughkeepsie. A small group of children of a class not reached by any other organization in town has been gathered into the rooms of the Young Women's Christian Association by Miss Fannie Marens, a Vassar senior. The club thus formed has proved very successful, and has met regularly all winter. The rooms of the association were small and inadequate, and the need of larger accommodations was evident. The question of renting a few rooms came up and the idea of a small settlement grew. In connection with the Vassar students a committee of town people are acting and are endeavoring to help the enterprise along in a financial way. It is hoped that in the fall it will be possible to get a small house in the section of the city where the work is most needed, and to have some one person resident there. This house will then be open to all, and a kindergarten and clubs will be started. In the meantime, some clubs are to be organized this spring, in order to have a nucleus with which to start. Expeditions will be made with the children into the country about Poughkeepsie. In the summer, if it proves possible to obtain rooms in the public school, a six-weeks' kindergarten will be organized. Many of the students and of the townpeople have promised their help in the clubs which will be formed. It is, of course, necessary to start on a small scale, but great enthusiasm is being shown, and it is to be hoped that the plans will prove successful.

In the college itself for several years work has been done by the students with the maids, of whom there are over a hundred constantly employed. Educational classes, dancing classes, and entertainments have been held by the students each week, and have proved successful. A club house for the use of the maids—the need of which is keenly felt by all those who are interested—will be started as soon as enough money is raised. The whole cost, including an endowment fund, will be \$20,000. Of this, \$10,000 is necessary before the build-



ing can be begun, and between four and five thousand of this sum has been raised. The building will contain a large sitting room, a library, club rooms and a kitchen on the first floor. On the second floor, a matron's room, some rooms for clubs or classes and bathrooms.

In order to have some form of organization to control the management of this building, the maids have recently been organized into a club. They have chosen their name, elected their officers and drawn up their constitution themselves. Interest is shown by many, and the weekly meetings for social purposes are well attended. The maids are enthusiastic about the club house, and are themselves planning an entertainment, with the view of raising money toward the fund. It is hoped that it will be possible to build it soon, as the college is growing, and the need for it is to be felt more and more. Among the students there is a growing interest in all matters of a social nature, and the increasing willingness on their part to give of their time and their help is proof of this. In the fall, slips are circulated, stating those things in which a student may help. These are signed by those wishing to engage in work of this nature, and from the lists thus formed assignments are made by the committees in charge of the different branches of the work.

LEA D. TAYLOR.

Vassar College.

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## ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD WORKERS, NEW YORK CITY.

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY  
MARY KINGSBURY SIMKHOVITCH,  
26 Jones Street, New York City.

### Review of Prof. Zueblin's Lectures.

Prof. Charles Zueblin, of the University of Chicago, has just completed two courses of lectures before the Association of Neighborhood Workers of New York City on the "American Municipality" and "English Sources of American Social Reform." This is according to the plan of the Association to have a course of lectures on social topics for social workers each winter, and follows Mr. Robert A. Woods' lectures of last spring.

In the first course, the "American Municipality," Prof. Zueblin in six lectures discussed charters, franchises, municipal ownership, finance, the civil service and Democratic administration.

Though wonderful strides in civic improvement have been made in the last decade, our municipal government remains undemocratic. The reasons for this are manifold, but arise chiefly from the interference of the state in local affairs, "bossism" and the dominance of national political parties, the illiteracy in cities as well as the ignorance and indifference of many educated people in civic affairs, and the desire to shift the responsibility of city government on one man, the mayor.

To remedy this it is necessary to have better governing machinery, by which a more direct relation with the people can be obtained in the simplest possible manner. The number of elected officials should be reduced, perhaps, to the mayor and council; the functions of the council should be extended and made more important; the initiative and referendum should be encouraged; and intelligent citizens should unite in an independent municipal party. Too often the municipality is the creature of the state, regulating conduct and serving the mass of the consumers as the agent of the state, when it should be in itself an organization of the consumers. The frightful municipal corruption in so many of our cities in connection with granting franchises might be overcome by having all franchises drawn up by the city council, not by the corporation desiring them; then granted on the basis of competition and advertisement, and approved by the council and by a popular referendum. "Every franchise should include the privilege of municipal

ownership"—should the city desire it. Prof. Zueblin believes that municipal ownership promotes good citizenship, civic pride and private initiative. "The most important question at issue to-day," he says, "is the lack of initiative among the American people."

Yet the movement for civic improvement in the last decade has been most encouraging. It has already created a new civic spirit, has trained the citizen in administration, as well as remade the government of many of our cities. What we still need in municipal government is more simplicity, directness and publicity. In order to serve the consumers the municipality must be democratic, representative, provide a civil service and control its electorate. Municipal administration will be democratic as we realize the "public will" behind it. The people can generally be trusted in regard to conscience. When we have learned to trust the people, we shall have made a great moral and economic advance.

In the course on "English Sources of American Social Reform" Prof. Zueblin gave five lecture studies" on the men who were the prophets of our modern social ideals—Samuel Taylor Coleridge, Thomas Carlyle, John Ruskin, William Morris and Thomas Hill Green, with a final lecture on "The Legacy of the Nineteenth Century." These lectures have been an inspiration to all who were able to hear them, and have shown clearly the distinct place which each of these men held in reference to his time, as well as to our present "practical idealism."

The "Christian Socialism" of Coleridge was an outgrowth of the German philosophy, religious controversy, political reform, industrial evolution and the social distress of his day. The introduction of the factory system gave individual opportunity, and from it men began to work out economic laws. In the confusion of thought of his time, Coleridge saw clearly that the responsibility of the old feudal system was gone, and no new responsibility was put in its place. He had no conception, however, of our modern idea of organized social responsibility. He did not believe in democracy, nor in popular liberty, in the modern sense. His doctrine of "Social Service" was his greatest contribution to the social reform movement.

In "Carlyle's Attack on Laissez Faire," we find another great advocate of personal responsibility. Carlyle's teachings were largely negative. He was the great protector of his time, the Jeremiah of the nineteenth century. He not only protested against the "Laissez Faire" philosophy, he also condemned the growing

faith in democracy, criticized the religious individualism of the churches, and denounced social shams. On the other hand, he believed in a feudal kind of industry, in which not only the "captains of industry," but organized industry itself, should have certain definite rights. He was far in advance of his time in demanding a universal system of education. His idea was that education should remake people by remaking their environment, the same theory that we are at present trying to work out by means of our model tenements, small parks, public baths, playgrounds, etc. Carlyle was not scientific, but his plea was always human.

John Ruskin was a greater *man* than Carlyle and his teachings were more positive. His theory of "Benevolent feudalism" was based on merit, as opposed to our modern social and industrial feudalism, which is based on money. The "cash relation" was almost as revolting to him as to Carlyle. He also felt deeply the need of personal responsibility, but his was the responsibility of the Baron. He had no share in the evolutionary and democratic ideas of the day. He was not a believer in liberty, as we understand it, but was an advocate of justice and a lover of men. He was one of the great men of Oxford who stimulated Toynbee and others to live in East London and originate social settlements. It was Ruskin who gave the first piece of ground for public playground purposes. As a man of wealth his doctrines of the ethics of wealth carried weight. He said, "There is no wealth but life," and he lived his philosophy.

Like Ruskin, William Morris was a rich man and an aristocrat, but he believed in "the common blood." He was more democratic than any of his predecessors. "He was the most versatile man of the nineteenth century," says Prof. Zueblin. As an architect, poet, designer and decorator, lecturer, teacher, organizer and master workman he made a marked impression on his time. In his work his aim was a "realization of art made for the people and by the people, a joy to the user and the maker." This artistic social instinct led to his "Romantic Socialism," which he thus defines: "It is right and necessary that all men should have work to do, work worth doing, work of itself pleasant, work done under such conditions as would make it neither over-wearisome nor over-anxious." The characteristic note of Morris' whole life was "fellowship." He puts his own belief in the words of his hero, John Ball, "Forsooth, brothers, fellowship is life and lack of fellow-

ship is death, fellowship is heaven and lack of fellowship is hell, and the deeds that ye do on the earth, it is for fellowship's sake that ye do them."

Thomas Hill Green was more of a practical politician than any of his great predecessors. An Oxford professor, a philosopher and a lecturer on Greek ethics, he was at the same time a man of activity in all political and human affairs—a member of the municipal council from Oxford, and a strong Liberal. He early expressed an earnest sympathy with the people, and with great breadth of mind and intelligence, opposed all oppressions and advocated reforms. His conception of the state was to "make it possible for people to realize themselves by obtaining a good which is a common good." This makes the first aim of the state a moral one. Green's ideal of the "common good" had a profound influence on English thought, and brought him a number of followers, of whom David G. Ritchie is the most conspicuous in social writings to-day.

The work and influence of Coleridge, Carlyle, Ruskin, Morris and Green was a part of the great industrial, democratic, economic and humanitarian movements of the last century. The results have been the organizing of trade unions and great co-operative societies, founding of trade and technical schools, development of representative municipal government, so that Great Britain has to-day the best city government in the world, civic and political reforms, and all kinds of humanitarian work which form such an integral part of our modern society. Modern philanthropy requires not only a sympathy with but a knowledge of humanity, and this is the great work of the social settlements. Education has become more democratic and is producing a broader culture among all classes than has been known before. The great ideal of the nineteenth century which has been given to us is liberty for the worker, equality for the citizen and fraternity for men and women.

LOUISE E. BOLARD.

Greenwich House, New York.

#### Four Labor Laws for the Better.

Since April 1st four bills have been passed by the legislature at Albany that mark a distinct advance in labor legislation in the state, especially with regard to children. These bills are the three child labor bills and the compulsory education bill and the points of chief importance made by them are as follows:

1. In cities of the first and second class no child under 14 years of age is to work in any

mercantile establishment or factory AT ANY TIME. Hitherto children from 12 to 14 years of age could work in stores during the school vacation.

2. Children from 14 to 16 years of age can work in mercantile establishments or factories but nine hours a day or 54 hours a week, instead of ten hours a day or 60 hours a week, as was allowed by the old law.

3. "Mercantile establishment" is defined to include besides stores, offices, restaurants, telephone, telegraph and messenger offices, express and delivery offices and the delivery departments of these same and of stores.

4. The requirements for securing working papers are made more rigid and include a birth certificate, school record and sound physical condition.

5. The children delivering for factories, laundries, bakeries, etc., are included in the action of the factory law.

6. No boy under 10 and no girl under 16 years of age shall sell newspapers on the street and no boy between 10 and 14 years shall do so unless he has a permit and badge and no such child shall sell papers after 10 p. m.

7. The age for school attendance is from 7 to 14 years of age instead of from 8 to 12. Boys from 14 to 16 that have not finished the common school course may attend night school instead of day school if they are at work.

The passage of these bills is the result of the combined effort of the departments concerned and the child labor committee reinforced by all the organizations interested in children and in social progress.

SUSAN W. FITZGERALD.

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# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor  
from the Social Settlement Point of View.

**GRAHAM TAYLOR, - - - Editor**

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A Year

## EDITORIAL.

### Arbitration of Trade Agreements.

The enormous growth in the number and power of industrial organizations now taking place is increasing the demand for arbitrating differences over trade-agreements. As the rapidly growing labor unions and the multiplying employers' association more nearly match each other in strength, there will be less dictating of terms upon the part of either and more necessity to come to agreement with each other, either directly or through boards of arbitration. The mutual respect begotten by nearly equal power will add new sanction to the inviolability of the contracts entered into between employers and employes, upon which the public as the great third party will have more and more to say and do.

The umpire, or third man, in these courts of conciliation, represents the public very much as the judges do the commonwealth in the law courts. The demand for men of good judgment and impartial attitude, who are enough in the confidence of both sides to give carrying power to their decision in either direction, is far greater than the available supply.

### A Compromise on Unionizing.

Called upon to break a dead-lock between the Wholesale Drug House Association and the union of their employes, the writer faced this situation. The employes insisted, as the condition of accepting the otherwise completed agreement, that there should be an article providing that two weeks after entering the service of any drug house every employe must join the union. The employers were equally determined in their decision not to discriminate for or against membership in the union in the hiring or discharging of employes. The fact that all the drug houses were included in the association and all their employes except from three to five per cent were members of the union made it possible for the umpire to propose and for the representatives of both sides unani-

mously to accept the following alternative to their respective ultimata, as the first article of the agreement:

"By signing this trade agreement it is understood that each party recognizes the full contract-right, responsibility and independence of the other; that both parties give preference to dealing only with each other's members; that neither party shall be estopped hereby from contracting with other individuals and organizations; but that if either party hereafter enter into contracts with others it shall in no case be on any other terms than are hereinafter specified, and shall only be for cause, which upon the demand of either shall be submitted to an umpire to be selected by the four arbitrators first provided for," i. e., by two representatives of either side.

These considerations may be urged in the interest of both parties for this attempt to flank the main point of attack and defense, around which the battle is on as nowhere else. It makes it far easier for them to deal with each other than with others outside their respective memberships. It makes it more difficult to discriminate against the claims which each has upon the other by virtue of entering into contract relations together. It requires cause to be shown why either should be justified in dealing with others in the judgment of a disinterested umpire. It leaves both parties free to enter into contract relations with others when the cause therefor is thus adjudged sufficient. Thus neither is forced to drive men into each other's ranks. But, in any event, all abrogation or evasion of the terms of the agreement between them as to conditions of employment are expressly prohibited. Why are not the interests and self-respect of both employers and employes provided for and safe-guarded by this agreement? What is there to hinder other labor unions and employers' associations adopting it, especially when either side embraces so nearly the whole constituency tributary to each organization?

### John Graham Brooks' Mediation.

It may well gratify Mr. John Graham Brooks to learn that arguments from his volume on "Social Unrest" are being quoted in boards of conciliation and arbitration for the settlement of industrial disputes. It is the most fundamental and practically helpful contribution ever made in America to the literature of industrial mediation. Its strength lies in the avowed recognition of the rights and wrongs on both sides of

the complex situation, and in its reportorial mission to present the reader with the facts as seen through the eyes and sensed by the intuitions of each of the great contestants in the titanic struggle for industrial freedom and justice. The author's wise insistence that trades-unionism is the conservatism of the labor movement is the best antidote to the indiscriminate and incendiary onslaught of such ranters as Parry. Employers, even in the National Association, which he is so unfit to lead, will not be slow to choose between the American Federation of Labor and the rampant political radicalism into whose ranks the conservative majorities of trades unions would be drawn by any successful policy of economic repression, much more of attempted legal suppression.

#### Public Indebtedness to Hull House.

For the summary of the Hull House investigation of the responsibility for the typhoid fever epidemic, from which the tenement house wards of Chicago suffered so great a loss of life and family resource last year, our readers are indebted to Dr. Alice Hamilton, whose expert investigations contributed invaluable to the result. By this fearless and scientific service the City of Chicago is again more than repaid for all its citizens have ever done to cooperate with Miss Addams and her capable colleagues in making Hull House possible. It has really become a center of such civic importance that it deserves to be considered an extra-official department of the municipality. The effect of its impartial inquiry into the reasons for the continued existence of unsanitary conditions has already borne the first fruits of a greater harvest. A "stay book" has been unearthed at the office of the Commissioner of Health, containing the signatures of the officials whose "pull" was sufficient to suspend, if not nullify, the enforcement of the law against the specified properties which, on complaint, the inspectors reported to be in dangerous condition.

The cartoonists have begun to caricature the situation. The newspaper protest is unanimous. The mayor is moving toward a general investigation of the department through the civil service commissioners. And, best of all, something is being promptly done when complaints are lodged at the City Hall.

Next month's issue will be largely devoted to the report of Miss Gertrude Palmer to her instructors in sociology and economics on the "Savings and Spendings of Children," which she investigated while resident at Chicago Commons on the Michigan University Settlement Fellowship.

#### Chicago Commons Events.

The Warden has successfully conciliated three important industrial struggles within the past four months. In a long and hard-fought shoe-shop complication, involving evidence on the conditions of labor in thirty factories, scattered across the whole continent, his decision was accepted as final, after a four months' contest.

The hitch between the Employers' Association and the Employes' Union of the Chicago Wholesale Drug Houses was cut by substitution for the ultimatum insisted upon by each side, the compromise on unionizing, discussed on the editorial page, the unanimous adoption of which carried with it the acceptance of the entire agreement. The scale of wages and hours of the carriage and wagon-makers in Chicago was settled without difficulty or delay. In all these cases he was accepted by both as the disinterested third party. In the first he was nominated by the union, in the second by the employers, in the third his name was on both lists of nominees.

The dinner parties given to the six political party chiefs and the members of their respective ward "organizations", together with the citizens' mass meetings at which each of the mayoralty candidates were heard and questioned, were remarkably successful and are of strategic value in the policy of the settlement. The congratulatory occasions reported in the first article were the simplest and most cordial ever held in the house.

Professor and Mrs. Graham Taylor go abroad the middle of May for their six months' leave of absence. It is their first prolonged absence from settlement work in their eight years residence at Chicago Commons. A strong group of residents will maintain the full service of the house, and its outside friends should so provide for its support that the long-needed rest of the Warden should not be broken by solicitude for the finances.

The house-parties of residents at the Warden's cottage on the Macatawa shore of Lake Michigan during the kindergarten vacation every spring have been among the pleasantest experiences and memories of the many tired workers who have rested and refreshed themselves there. This year added the pleasure of a reunion with two former residents, who returned from a distance to share the fellowship once more.

Notifications of arrearage are being sent to all delinquent subscribers to The Commons, and no names will be gratuitously carried on the mailing list after Sept. 1, except those of the settlements, all of which receive complimentary copies. This is the first step toward placing this paper on a business basis.

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# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor from the Settlement Point of View.

Number 83—Vol. VIII

Eighth Year

Chicago, June, 1903

## EARNINGS, SPENDINGS AND SAVINGS OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

### \*Investigation of the Social Settlement Fellowship of the University of Michigan at Chicago Commons.

BY GERTRUDE E. PALMER.

With all that has been said and written regarding the employment of children in stores and factories, little attention has been paid to the financiering of the child who is not a regular wage-earner. How his odd pennies are picked up, what they mean to him and to his parents, how he spends them and what his inclinations are toward saving, seem as yet to have aroused comparatively little interest.

Mr. Will F. Monroe, of Boston, has made an interesting report on the "Money Sense of Children," in the Pedagogical Seminary, vol. 9. He based his report on the answers to the following questions which he submitted to the children of some of the public schools of Massachusetts: "If you had 50 cents a month to spend as you liked, what would you do with it?" "For what would you save?" He asked 100 boys and 100 girls of eleven years of age, "What would you do with \$1,000?" This, as he says, was to ascertain "the mental effect of a large sum of money," and the result was the statement from 98 per cent of the boys and 72 per cent of the girls that they would save it. He found by the answers to the question regarding the 50 cents a month a uniform growth in thrift tendencies with increase in years. He notes also that in all cases the tendency to save is stronger in boys than in girls, and substantiates his statements with results obtained from a similar investigation by Miss Anna Köhler, of California published in *Barnes Studies in Education*, Stanford University.

Mr. Monroe was intimately associated with the public schools when he wrote and his inquiries were thus prompted by an interest in

\*We take pleasure in presenting as full a summary as our space allows of Miss Palmer's report of her inquiry to the University department of economics, which deserves to be rated with Mr. Melendy's on "Social Substitutes for the Saloon" and Miss Clark's on "Juvenile Delinquency in Chicago."

child study. For purposes of psychology these suppositional cases are quite sufficient.

For this report I have asked the children not only "What would you do?" but "What are you doing?" And I have supplemented the answers I have received with actual observation on my own part. Personal acquaintance with the children through clubs and classes at Chicago Commons and calls on the parents in the neighborhood suggested facts to be demonstrated by other means, and gave an abundance of illustrations for the principles I saw at work there. By visiting the stores and school shops I noted facts regarding their spending. At the juvenile court I witnessed the trial of cases in which the desire for money or its equivalent seemed the root of the evil. Different boys' clubs and savings bank stations gave hints and suggestions. But the most definite knowledge of the facts of the case was gained from a questionnaire presented to the children of some of the public and private schools of the city and suburban towns. Answers were received from 1,339 children between the third and eighth grades, inclusively; 1,062 of these from the poorer quarters of the city, 54 from a private school in which the most cultured if not the wealthiest families are represented, and 223 from public schools of neighboring towns.

Three large schools were chosen with reference to the encouragement each gave to saving, and also with reference to the nationalities represented in them. One was in a neighborhood predominately Scandinavian, one largely Italian and another Russian and Polish. One had a very prosperous school bank, one a meagre one and one none at all.

The utmost care was taken in presenting the questions that the children should answer them carefully and truthfully. The fact that their names were not asked for was emphasized to encourage their telling the whole truth. On the whole the children worked earnestly on the questions, and I have every reason to feel that their answers embody their sincere beliefs and that the errors in them arise from the very nature of the questions and the limita-

tions of the children's minds. The questionnaire asks for sex, age and nationality, as well as information regarding money.

The questions are: Boy.... Girl.... Age.. Nationality..... 1. If you had 15 cents a week to spend as you chose what would you do with it? 2. What would you do with \$1,000? 3. Are you saving any money? If so, for what? 4. About how much money do you spend a week and for what do you spend it? 5. How do you get the money you have to spend? 6. How often do you go to the theatre? How much do you pay for a ticket?

Many of the papers give evidence of a very clear money sense. This is especially true among the poorer children who have not only experienced inconveniences and suffering from the lack of money, but have known from actual efforts the difficulties in earning it. One little boy sagely remarks in this connection, "We must work to earn money."

#### IDEAS ON INVESTMENT.

Many of these children have very definite ideas of investing money. For example, one lad says regarding the \$1,000, "I would put it in the bank and get 3 per cent interest." An Italian boy says, "I would invest it, because you get interest on it, and you save more money than if you had to keep it in a trunk." Still another Italian boy of 13 says, "I would keep what I needed and send the rest to earn more, by loaning them to other people and pay me interest." A German boy of 12 says he would "buy a house and lot and have people to rent it." Several references are made to government bonds as the best way to invest large sums, and some suggest that they would buy houses and "rent them for money."

#### THE PURPOSE OF MONEY.

That money is but the means to an end and not an end in itself is granted by a large number of the children. Most of those who would save the \$1,000 have some definite purpose in mind for saving it other than mere hoarding. This purpose is often charitable, either for the support of their parents when they are old, or for the poor or unfortunate. A Danish girl 13 years old says, "If I had \$1,000 I would save it for Fourth of July and I would like to keep a hospital." (Perhaps the connection between the two is not wholly accidental in the child's mind.) Another young philanthropist says, "I would put it in the bank to bear interest so that by the time I grow up to be a woman it would be a great sum. With that I would establish a 'home for the homeless.'" However, the end for which money stands as a means, in

the child's mind, is not always so sublime. An Italian boy of 12 says, "If I had \$1,000 I would buy the best suit. Then if I had some more I would make some presents to my brother and sister. Then, with the other money I make myself a sport." Again, a boy of 11 says, "I would give my mother the \$1,000 and she would give me some of it. I would be a sport and buy me a hat, a suit, a shirt and everything I need." A Jewish girl expresses this same sense of the utility of money when she says, "I would spend it, for when I would die I would leave it behind."

Some of the children have divided up the sum very carefully in some such way as this: "If I had \$1,000 I would invest \$800 in the Milwaukee Avenue State Bank and give \$175 to my mother as a present, and with the rest of it I would buy shoes, clothes, etc.," or "If I had \$1,000 I would save \$500 till I get old enough to go into business, give \$300 to my mother for board and keep \$200 for my own expenses." Still another says, "I would give \$100 to poor, \$800 to my pa and ma, \$50 for clothes and a bicycle, some books and the rest I would spend."

#### CORRECT ESTIMATE OF VALUES.

Most of the papers show a reasonably correct idea of \$1,000. Where there is deviation the tendency is to overestimate the value of large sums rather than to underestimate it. This is especially true among the poorer children. An illustration of the overvaluing of the sum is this answer which a German boy gave to the second question, "I would buy a farm, a house, shoes, clothes, books, gun, watch, chain, ring and pencils." In striking contrast to this is the answer of the little Italian boy who said he would buy a hat if he had \$1,000. These cases of underestimating the value of money, however, are very few—not more than 3 or 4 per cent of the whole number.

#### DEFINITENESS IN THE PLANS TO USE MONEY.

On the whole the children from the poorer schools have a much more definite idea of the use of money than those of the wealthier class. Only 20 per cent of this latter class were more definite in their statements as to what use they would make of \$1,000 than that they would save it or give it to the poor or to their parents. Eighty-one per cent of the poorer children had very definite notions of just what they would do with it. This, of course, is most natural. They feel circumscribed at every turn by lack of means, and \$1,000 to spend as they choose suggests at once relief from some of the anxieties they feel in regard to food, clothing and



homes. Thus it is that even their philanthropic aspirations take very definite forms, as the establishment of 'orphanages,' or hospitals, or the support of "poor old people." The wealthier children, with no anxiety regarding the means of living, and with many of their desires already satisfied, have no special end in view for which they would save or spend. And when the children of this class do mention definitely any thing they would buy they enumerate luxuries rather than necessities, and that without much reference to their cost. Thus a boy of 14 says he would buy himself "a small electric plant," while a little girl of 9 has aspirations toward "a black silk coat, a pair of pink slippers, a pink parasol, pink gloves, pink dress and a bicycle."

MONEY SENSE.

The harder the life of the street boy the keener his money sense becomes. Some of the little newsboys who are self-supporting, or are practically supporting the family, develop the shrewdest of business heads. I know of a little Italian boy of about 11 living down in the heart of the city, who was making about \$10 a week selling papers. He had a bank account of \$50 and was helping to support the family, yet he was dressed as wretchedly as any boy on the street. The leader of a boys' club in that part of the city consulted him one day about the advisability of putting in baths and charging for the use of them. The boy replied, "Sure! let 'em in free for a month or two and den charge 'em deir odds; sure dey'd pay! Dey go to de theatre and pay!" Then he added by way of suggestion, "Why don't you have a restaurant and sell bread, coffee and red-hots—charge a cent or two for bread. Sure dey'd come!"

ALTRUISM.

The philanthropic spirit is remarkably strong among these children, and especially among the girls from 12 to 14 years old. The great majority of the papers have some reference to money spent for parents or sisters or brothers; while a great many of the children think that a large part of their \$1,000 would go for charity. Of course it is very much easier to be unselfish with an imaginary sum than with one already possessed, and so the second question has brought out this spirit to the greatest extent.

Some illustrations of this have already been given. Others are: German boy, 14, "I would put it (\$1,000) in a home for the old people of Chicago." Swedish girl, 12, "If I had \$1,000 I would invest \$500, give \$300 to my mother and give \$200 to charity." Italian girl, 12, "I would give it to my ma and pa to buy clothing

and food for our family and poor people." German girl, 13, "I would give \$500 for sufferers near Mt. Pelee and the other \$500 I would rent a home for my parents." As that calamity occurred but a short time before these questions were asked, it furnished a centre for the philanthropic speculations of several of the children.

The altruism of the children in money matters will receive further consideration under the "Spending," and especially under the topic "Savings," where it will be exhibited less as a theory and more as a reality.

EARNINGS.

"How do you get the money you have to spend?" This question elicited some very interesting facts—and some very significant ones. It drew a line more distinctly than any other question that was asked between the children of the rich and the poor. On the one side the answer is, "It's given me," and on the other "I earn it." The following table, compiled from the papers, expresses the facts quite accurately, I believe.

CLASS.	EARN MONEY.		RECEIVE IN GRATIS.		AMBIGUOUS ANSWERS.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
Poor.....	71%	59.5%	26%	38.5%	3%	2%
Rich.....	18.5%	14.8%	74%	85.2%	7.5%	.....

The idea of earning what is received is much more prevalent among the poorer children than among the wealthier. This is evident from the fact that 42.5 per cent of those in the poorer class who say that they earn their money are earning it by working for their parents. The child of poorer parents sees a very close relation between money and service, and makes the receipt of one dependent on the performance of the other. On the other hand the idea is quite as deeply rooted that they can't afford to work for nothing. "What is there in it?" is the spirit in which they are apt to regard anything which they are asked to do.

While a regular allowance of spending money is a very usual thing among the more fortunate children, it is almost unknown in the poorer class. Forty per cent of the boys and 30 per cent of the girls of the former class say that they have a regular amount given them. In the latter class only three mention such an allowance.

MEANS OF EARNING.

(In treating this subject only the children of the poorer class will be considered.)

Of the work of the girls 56 per cent is for the parents, and consists of errands, housework, care of children, etc.; 36 per cent of it is doing errands for other people, and 3 per cent housework outside of the child's own home. The remaining 5 per cent represents the dozen-and-one special ways in which individual children earn their money.

From 365 boys who are regularly earning the following data were procured: Thirty per cent of them were working for their parents; 28 per cent doing errands; 15 per cent selling papers; 8 per cent selling ice; 4 per cent doing some sort of store work; 3 per cent were caddy boys on the golf links; 3 per cent were bootblacks; over 3 per cent sold junk, and the remaining 5 per cent either gave ambiguous answers or indicated some way too special to be classified.

The same thing that was said of the girls regarding helping the parents will apply to the boys. To the list of errands and housework may be added, however, the fetching of coal and wood from the yards and helping the father in his shop or store work.

#### ERRANDS.

The errands which these boys run are numerous and never without pay. As a shop keeper in one of these crowded districts said, "Boys won't turn around for less than a nickel," and as if for proof she added, "When I wanted some ice the other day I had to pay a boy 10 cents for getting it and 10 cents for the ice, which cost 5 cents." Such fancy prices as these, however, are not always to be had. As a rule a child will do an errand for a regular customer for one or two cents, while a stranger will have to pay him a nickel for the same thing. These errands are generally referred to by the boys as "going to the store for a lady," but many of them consist in what is popularly called in those parts "rushing the growler."

#### NEWSBOYS.

The hustling newsboy can make more money selling papers than in any other legitimate way. This is especially true, of course, of the children who are not regularly in school. From the leader of a boys' club near the corner of State street and Van Buren I got some very interesting information regarding the receipts of newsboys in that quarter. He tells of one boy, a lad of 9 years, who has a news stand on a street corner and makes from \$1.50 to \$1.75 a day. This boy says he gives his mother \$1 and keeps the rest himself. During the summer races he got one of the other boys to deliver the

papers to his regular customers for a month while he went down to the race tracks to sell papers there. He made \$40 during the month and kept his business going in the city at the same time. In talking to the leader about it he proudly informed him that he "didn't lose a customer." Another boy from the same club makes 75 cents a day selling papers on the streets. Still another makes from \$1 to \$5 a day selling papers and carrying grips and packages for people who come in on the train. These boys either are not in school at all or attend very irregularly.

One newsboy used to deposit from one to two dollars a week very regularly. He told me that he made all the way from two to four dollars a week, which he gave to his mother. Then the mother would give back all she could spare, and this he put in the bank. That is, he gave his mother all he earned except a few "odds," amounting to thirty or forty cents a week, which he spent every night for candy. Later in the spring he told me he had stopped spending his "odds," and gave them instead to his little sister for her bank.

The children in school, according to the answers to my questions, make from 20 cents to \$4 a week. One dollar and fifty cents seems to be the average receipt. One boy, an Italian, 16 years old, who is still in school, greatly exceeds this. He says he makes \$7 or \$8 a week selling papers on the street. There is more money in the "regular customer" method of selling papers. When the boys buy the papers outright, without the privilege of returning what are not sold, they get them for from 50 per cent to 60 per cent of the selling price. When they sell on commission with the privilege of returning what are left, they have to pay as high as 75 per cent. The wholesale prices and commission vary, however, with the different papers, especially among the higher priced ones.

#### ICE SELLING.

Eight per cent of the boys say they earn their money selling ice. This they get "down to the tracks," as they say, buying it from the train men for a nominal sum and selling it out for two or three times what it costs them. Some of them have regular ice customers whom they keep supplied during the summer months. One boy says he makes 30 cents a week in this way; another makes 50 cents. (I didn't get sufficient data on this point to say what the average earning is, tho' I think it depends entirely on the "hustling" propensities of the boy.)

## STORE WORK.

The classification "store work" includes a variety of tasks and a great diversity in the amounts earned. A Hungarian boy of 10 years says, "I work in the bowling alley and I get \$3 a week." An Austrian girl says, "I work on Saturdays at a department store and only a few hours. I receive 35 cents, which I gave to my parents." A Polish boy of 14 says, "I work on a Saturday in a plumber shop and get 50 cents." An 8-year-old German boy sweeps the floor of a saloon and an American boy of 11 runs errands after school for a wholesale tobacco store, but neither of them say how much they make. (I might add right here that while the amount earned was not asked for in the papers, it was asked for orally in connection with the fifth question.) A Polish boy, 13 years old, says, "I work in a clothing store for cash boy and get 50 cents every Saturday."

## CADDYING.

The caddy boys—3 per cent of the number earning—are all from one school. One of the golf clubs of the city sent to a settlement near the school for some boys to come out on Saturday and Sunday to caddy. About 70 boys were sent and it furnished a most delightful, as well as lucrative, outing. I was surprised at their boundless enthusiasm for the rolling hills and growing flowers. They were given opportunity to go into the woods near by picking wild flowers, and they took the greatest delight in learning, for the first time, the names of bloodroot, cowslips and trillium.

They were given 15 cents an hour while they were caddying, and some of them made as much as 90 cents a day. This means of earning is unfortunately too ideal to be possible for many of the boys who need it most.

## BOOTBLACKING.

We are so in the habit of thinking of newsboys and bootblacks as the infantile business men of the streets that there may be some surprise at the low percentage given to bootblackening in the above table. As a matter of fact, of 514 school boys from the laboring and the poorest classes, only 11 said they blacked shoes. The increase of shoe-shining parlors and departments for the same purpose in the barber shops and the corresponding decrease within the last few years of individual "shiners" in the street, bear a close relation to each other. Obviously the growth of one has brought about in some way the decrease of the other. The fact is that these shops have not merely drawn in the trade of the street boys by a natural and

slow-growing process of absorption, but their owners have diminished the number of bootblacks by more direct methods. Barbers, hotel proprietors and the owners of these "shining parlors" have been instrumental in getting the city to require a license of the boys for bootblackening. This practically forms a sort of union, by which the number engaged in the business is controlled and limited.

## JUNKING.

Junking involves the most serious problem of any of the above means by which children earn money. While the mere picking up of scraps of metal and old rubbers in the alleys is not only legitimate but praiseworthy, the opportunities it offers for thieving are so great and so generally improved that efforts are being put forth to stop it altogether. An assistant in a charity bureau situated in the midst of several junk shops said to me: "Being brought in daily contact with the poor boys in the district, we cannot help feeling that a large majority of the boys get their initial lessons in crime from their relation with junk dealers. That they steal brass, copper, pewter and lead pipe, even committing burglary in order to get these goods to sell them to the dealers for a few cents, is a fact which faces us every day. It is not a rare occurrence if one keeps his eyes open to find small boys in alleys, in empty lots and around garbage boxes intently searching for bits of metal. They know that the junk dealers are willing to buy it and it is an easy means of satisfying some of their natural desires, for candy or perhaps for bread. For it is no unusual thing for boys to stay away from home for days and nights. They must eat. If they can pick up the metal, well and good; if they can't, there are other means. We have known cases where, for a few cents, the boys would, during the protecting darkness, cut out lead pipes, thus committing a grave offense." An ordinance in this direction is already in existence, but with questionable efficiency. It provides that no junk shall be bought from a person under 18 years of age under penalty of a fine of from \$5 to \$50 for each violation. The police say they are doing all they can to enforce this ordinance and they in turn place a large share of this youthful stealing on the parents, who take the articles brought home by the children to the junk dealers and secure money for them.

On the other hand the authority quoted above says she thinks most of the children carry on junking without the consent or knowledge of the parents. Wherever the blame may be

attached, with the junk dealer, the police, the parents or the child himself, or with all, as is probably the case, the fact still remains that thieving from this cause is rife among the boys in the poorer districts of the city. This statement is well borne out by Judge Tuthill of the Juvenile Court. He publicly stated that during a period of two and a half years fully 300 boys had been before him charged with stealing junk, and he adds that he has found that junk dealers have invariably encouraged these youthful offenders to steal.

There are three steps at least in the solution of the problem. The ordinance governing the junk dealers is strong enough to put a stop to the buying of junk from children, *if it is properly enforced*. This should, however, be supplemented by another measure. The junk dealers should be compelled to keep a record of all junk bought, and from whom it was bought, this list, of course, to be officially inspected. Wherever it can be shown that the parent encourages the boy to steal the parent and not the boy should be punished.

Very frequently the children are quite ignorant of any stigma attached to junking. Two bright little boys of exceptional refinement, 6 and 8 years old, used to deposit in the bank a few cents about twice a week, and tell me with the utmost frankness that they got it selling junk.

The amounts earned in this way are very small. The boys quite generally agreed that 15 to 20 cents was a very fair "haul" from one "junk hunt." Some of the more adept make very much larger sums. One boy told me he made \$1 in one evening; another that he had made \$1.10 a day or two before, before three o'clock. Still another said he had made as much as \$5 at one time. I very much doubt the truth of this last statement, although the principal of the school this boy attends told me that if there was a boy in that school who could do it, he was the one.

#### THE REMAINING 5 PER CENT.

The miscellaneous tasks by which school children earn money are varied. One enterprising German boy, 17 years old, says, "I re-screen screens and screen doors, file keys, put in locks and do a little electrical work." A Jewish boy of 13 says, "Work for it, I sing in church." An Italian boy "plays in a band on Saturday," and another draws pen-and-ink sketches. A German girl, 10 years old, says she "crotchets for a shop to get her money." Another, an Italian girl, says she sews pants

week days for her mother, and then her father pays her.

Several references are made to earning money by some special act of merit. A Russian girl, 13 years old, answers the question regarding the way money is earned with "My parents give it to me when I obey them." An Italian boy of 11 says, "I get it by being good and I deserve it." Another "When I get excellent in deportment I get 15 cents." A little Irish boy deposited \$1 in the bank at one time and told me he had gotten it 5 cents and 10 cents at a time for taking his medicine when he was sick.

While begging can hardly be classed as earning, it may perhaps be appropriate to briefly mention it at this time. Of course there is no child in school who would coldly state that he begged for his money, and few opportunities are given to really learn much about this class. I did learn of one little boy who gets his money this way, and through an infirmity takes advantage of the pitying public. He lost his right leg flipping street cars; and of course, being a cripple the people naturally pity him. When he or a crowd of boys want some money, he tells them to stand back while he gets it. Then he goes to the Auditorium or some place where there is a large number of people passing in and out all the time, and begs. Often he cries bitterly and makes up a pitiful story, which brings still more money. He sometimes gets large amounts in this way in a short time, and then he takes all the boys to some cheap theater, treats them to candy and ice cream, and has a good time generally.

#### CAUSES OF WAGE EARNING AMONG SCHOOL CHILDREN.

The immediate cause of the wage earning among school children is hard to determine. It sometimes is the result of the extreme poverty of the parents, who feel forced by circumstances to get some assistance from the children, and yet wish, or are compelled by the truant officers, to keep them in school. If the cause is in the parents, it is still hard to determine whether the financial help of the children is really necessary or whether it is merely a means of satisfying greed or warranting laziness. Whatever the financial condition of the parents may be, however, it is known that they often compel their children by the fiercest threats to bring home, by *some* means, a certain sum in the evening. One who is very familiar with the boys in the down-town district—perhaps the worst quarter of the city—has no hesitancy in saying that this demand of the parents is the greatest cause for so many "kipouts," or "sleep



dren dictate regarding them. A shopkeeper, with the welfare of the children at heart, could most insistently urge that home-made molasses candy was in vogue; but if the children said "chocolate babies," she would have to sell them "chocolate babies" or nothing. A shopkeeper told me that the children kept asking all one day for ice cream sandwiches. She didn't know what they were, and tried to satisfy them with something else. But nothing else would do, and she saw if she kept her trade she must have *ice cream sandwiches*. They proved to be two Nubisco wafers with a layer of ice cream between them, and they sold for a cent apiece. These were great favorites with the children. During a few minutes spent in the store while they were having their rage, 12 out of the 31 children who came in bought them.

Six shopkeepers, all in this same neighborhood, told me that they sold much more candy than anything else. At one store, during the half hour before school in the morning 19 children bought candy, 1, gum; 7, pens and pencils, and 1, transfer pictures. At another shop during a few minutes after school 15 children bought ice cream; 12, candy; 8, "prizes;" 3, toys; 2, transfer pictures, and 1, gum. Of course the temperature decides to a great extent the sale of ice cream. Those who buy it are the ones who buy candy if it is cool, so its sale never seems to affect that of toys in the least. Some data were collected from the children in school. In one room of first and second grades where there were 31 present, 22 said they had spent money that day; 11 had bought candy; 5, marbles; 3, jacks, and 3, toys.

In another room, 15 had bought candy; 5, pickles; 8, ice cream; 4, marbles, and 4, school supplies, during the day. The shop that keeps home-made candy sells more of that than of any other kind, especially to the younger children. The older ones buy a good many "chocolate creams." The home-made candy sells for one cent an ounce, and the children think they are getting more for their money by buying this. They invariably—the younger ones at least—consider quantity rather than quality in buying.

Most of the candies are quite inexpensive. The prices of some of the most popular ones are: 10 little caramels, 1 cent; 10 chocolate babies, 1 cent; 12 licorice drops, 1 cent; 2 "papers of buttons," 1 cent; (These are long strips of paper with two rows of little colored candies pasted on them, 60 on a strip); 7 caramels, 1 cent; 10 candy cigarettes, 1 cent; 5 "taffy on a toothpick," 1 cent. The chocolate creams are a cent apiece. The profit in candy

is about one-half. The shopkeepers realize that some of the children buy too much cheap sweets and the more conscientious of them try to check it. One of them told me that a little boy, 10 years old, who had recently died after an illness of only two days, had been in the habit of buying 10 and 15 cents worth of candy a day. One can see from the prices just quoted how much that would amount to. She believed that "his constitution could not withstand the sickness because it had been undermined by so much sweet stuff."

There is a diversity of opinion among the sellers as to whether boys or girls buy the more candy, but the weight of authority rests on the side of the boys. One says she thinks they spend about the same amount of money on it, for though the girls spend less when they do buy, they buy oftener. All agree that boys buy in nickels, while girls buy in pennies. In some "gangs" the boys, after they get to be 8 or 10 years old won't spend anything less than a nickel if they can help it. From my own observations, I should say that not only in amounts, but in frequency, the boys spend more for candy than do the girls. During five minutes at recess time one day, 1 girl bought candy and 1, ice cream; and 7 boys, candy and 1 ice cream. At another time and another shop the ratio was 6 girls to 20 boys who bought candy and ice cream, and 9 girls to 4 boys who bought some toy or trinket. Still another case I have noted gives 19 boys and 7 girls who bought ice cream or candy. The only observation I made which reversed this proportion gave during a half hour 16 girl and 11 boy purchasers, 11 girls and 9 boys buying candy.

Shopkeepers often enlarge their trade by offering some old commodity, slightly changed, perhaps, under some new name. One day about one-third of the children who came in the store asked for "lunch bags." I was curious to know what this new fad might be, but it proved to be only a little sack of a few kernels of popcorn and still fewer pieces of candy.

The children take a great deal of interest in all chance schemes. There is one which consists of a box of very small parcels, all exactly alike, twisted up in tissue paper. The children pay one cent for these; and after drawing one out of the box they undo it eagerly to find a small candy heart and a number. These numbers correspond to numbers on "prizes" displayed behind the counter, which they wait breathlessly to receive. The first one I watched got a dilapidated looking orange, another a cheap stick pin and a third a very small skein

of worsted yarn, containing, perhaps, two yards. They all looked disappointed, but probably did the same thing over again the next day.

There is another scheme by which the children drop the penny they are about to spend in a slot machine; and if, in its zigzag course downward between pegs which alter its course, it finally stops at a place marked 2 or 5, they get the value of that in their purchase for the one cent spent. I noticed that the shopkeeper never seemed curious to know the result, although the children watched for it eagerly. They say that the penny *sometimes* stops on the 2-cent spot. If there is one of these machines in the store the children almost always use it, for there is nothing lost and there *may* be something gained.

One cent is the ordinary amount spent at one time except in the cases of children 12 years old and over. I noticed very few exceptions to this rule. One peculiarity of their buying is, that when they have a nickel to spend they generally ask the shopkeeper to change it for pennies. When the change is made they proceed to spend them, one cent at a time, till the five are gone.

The average receipts of these stores seem to be between \$2 and \$3 a day. One woman said that before the "penny savings" was put in the schools she used to take in as much as \$8 some days—\$5 in pennies and the rest in nickels and dimes. At that time, however, she was taking in only \$2 or \$3 a day. Another told me she took in about \$3.50 a day, and a third said \$2 on week days and sometimes \$5 on Sunday. Sunday is a holiday in these quarters and consequently a great day for spending. Another reason for it is that the fathers, many of them, get their wages Saturday night, and the children get some of it the next day. Then, too, the stores very often catch the pennies that are started toward Sunday school. Reference to Sunday as the spending day occurred often in the papers in such answers as, "Save it till Sunday and then spend it," or "I spend 10c on Sunday."

#### ICE CREAM WAGONS.

The shops have a rival in their ice cream trade in the shape of a small hand-cart which goes through the street selling it. The wagon is really a large box on wheels, filled with ice in which the pail of cream sets (and having a cover). It is generally surrounded by a group of children, and especially if the day be warm. The cream is sold out—a large spoonful for

one cent—on pieces of paper which serve as both dish and spoon.

#### SMOKING.

One way in which the boys spend money, and which is not referred to on the papers in a single instance, is in buying tobacco. Most of the boys in the neighborhood I have been discussing smoke some, and some of them a good deal. There is a state law against selling them tobacco but they get it just the same. As one boy said, "Au! a kid of 'leven or twelve can get tobacco. The storekeeper won't sell it out and out, but he'll t'row a package on the floor an' youse kin pick it up and drop your nickel."

#### GAMBLING.

The boys seemed less reticent in speaking of gambling than of smoking. Several references are made to it on the papers, especially in answering the question regarding their spendings. One boy answered the first question with, "If I had fifteen cents a week I'd say 'I pass for fifteen cents.'" The same boy says he spends "twenty-five cents a week on gambling." Crap shooting seems to be the most prevalent form, but the boys are pretty sly about this, as the police are watching for it. One of the oldest residents in the neighborhood told me he had seen the boys "shooting" with as much as \$10 on the board at a time. A few days before our conversation he had seen the police get \$3.60 from some crap shooters ten to fifteen years old.

#### THEATERS.

The cheap theaters afford one of the most common forms of amusement among the children, and catch a considerable amount of their spending money. Among those who answered the question, "How often do you go to the theater?" 414 boys and 244 girls in the poorer quarters indicated that they were in the habit of attending. Only 86 boys and 201 girls said they never went. This is not an occasional pastime for some of the children, but a very frequent one. Several of the boys told me they went three or four times a week, and a few go almost every day. The result is that by the time these boys are twelve or fifteen years old they are so saturated with "blood and thunder" and the commonest vulgarity that everything else seems tame and commonplace to them. Several different boys told me that they used to go to the theater very often, but that they had gotten tired of it—it was all alike. Oh! these blasé boys of fourteen that are unattracted by the modern stage.

The frequency with which they attend is

indicated by the following figures: Eighteen boys, 17 girls, twice a week; 97 boys, 66 girls, once a week; 36 boys, 42 girls, two or three times a week; 110 boys, 52 girls, once a month; 70 boys, 78 girls, several times a year; 35 boys, 37 girls, once a year, and the remaining number less frequently and irregularly.

The usual price paid by the boys for a ticket is 10 cents. One hundred and nineteen boys and 41 girls pay this. The tickets which most of the girls buy cost 25 cents, and 94 girls and 86 boys give that as the price they pay. About 30 of the children pay over 50 cents, but the greater number of these go only a few times a year.

The children of the better class go with their parents and the price of the ticket does not concern them.

#### SPIRIT OF SPENDING.

It occurred to me, both from the spirit in which the children spent and from their tendency to speak of saving as "buying stamps"—which are used as certificates of deposit—that their craze to buy something was not so much their desire for the article as it was to handle money. This spirit, so general among boys and girls alike, is quite contagious, and parents moving into the neighborhood from small towns say that their children who rarely asked for money before "are now in a perfect fever for spending." One mother told me that she felt sure it was not the candy that her children wanted, but to *buy* it. She had tried offering them maple sugar, but that would not satisfy. They *must* have a penny—and then very often the candy it bought was thrown down half eaten.

If this is the reason for so much spending among the children of these crowded districts, the remedy which will be not only a cure for the evil, but a positive virtue in itself, is the penny savings system. By this means not only will their spirit of commercialism be allowed a wholesome expression, but they will find that by a *postponed* spending, in the shape of saving, they can do more than a penny business with their money.

#### SAVINGS.

##### ACTUAL THRIFT TENDENCIES.

With a view to ascertaining just how general this virtue might be, I included in my questionnaire submitted to the school children of Chicago the question, "Are you saving any money? If so, for what?" The replies from 1,339 children show that 75.87 per cent of the boys and 74.89 per cent of the girls are actually saving money.

The utmost care was taken in presenting this question that no hint as to the kind of an answer desired should be dropped.

##### COMPARISON OF CLASSES.

From schools in the poorer districts 74.4 per cent of the boys and 72.66 per cent of the girls are saving; from the wealthier class 82.6 per cent of the boys and 82.5 per cent of the girls save. This apparently shows a difference of from 87 to 107 in the thrift tendencies of the two classes. I feel, however, that this exaggerates the true conditions. By carefully questioning the children from the wealthier families, I found that *very* often their "savings" represented large sums given by their parents for that very purpose, and not their own "spending money" which must be the instrument of the child's own financiering. And so while the real *tendency* to save may be stronger in the children of the more prosperous class—due to the training of careful parents—I believe the difference between the two of 10 per cent represents the actual facts of saving, rather than the psychological bent, and that the many needs of the poorer children and the small amounts they possess, lower the rate of their actual savings below that of their inclinations toward thrift.

While saving is always more general among boys than girls, the difference between them in this respect seems greater in the poorer class, where it is nearly 2 per cent. This difference is probably not merely in the figures, or accidental. It is the result of conditions just referred to, and the facts mentioned under the subject "Earnings," that poor boys have more opportunities of earning small sums than do poor girls; while the boys and girls of the other class, getting their money almost entirely from their parents, share quite equally.

##### COMPARISON OF AGES.

A comparison of ages in respect to "savings" shows among the boys a rise of 10 per cent in thrift tendencies from the seventh to the eleventh year; a drop of 6 per cent in the twelfth, and a gradual increase from this age to fifteen, when it reaches a maximum of 84 per cent. Among the girls there is a gradual rise to a maximum of 80 per cent in the eleventh year, and a decline to 50 per cent in the fifteenth year. These variations are probably to some extent accidental, as there seems to be no logical reason for any such difference as that existing in the boys between the eleventh and twelfth years. There is more chance for inaccuracy in the tables after the twelfth year, as the number of children in school—and con-



sequently the number of answers received—greatly diminishes after that age. In fact, only about one-quarter of the papers are from children over twelve years old.

The following is the tabular form of the results of the question on saving. The percentage given represents those who are saving:

AGE	BOYS.	GIRLS.
9.....	68%	78.8%
10.....	75%	76%
11.....	78%	80%
12.....	72%	74%
13.....	76.8%	72%
14.....	77.9%	66%
15.....	84%	50%

Although the figures may not represent the conditions absolutely, they are at least suggestive of the trend of things. There is undoubtedly an increase in the thrift tendency in the boys after the twelfth year, and a like decrease among the girls at this age. The boys with the awakening of manhood begin to feel its responsibilities and prepare to meet them by earning and saving money. The girls at this age, following *their* instincts, take a special interest in dress, and spend their money to adorn themselves. There is both proof and result of these changes in the fact that of the whole number saving, the number of boys planning for the future is not only greater than the number of girls, but very much greater *in proportion to the number saving for present needs.*

#### COMPARISON OF NATIONALITIES.

For the study of thrift habits from the point of view of nationality only those schools were taken which were situated in the immigrant districts. Were the other schools, which represent the middle and wealthier classes, included in this consideration, the proportion of American children saving would be greater than the facts warrant, for the mass of the children here are American, and here, too, the actual "savings" are greater. There are still enough American children in the schools chosen, who are brought up in the same environment and under the same unfavorable conditions as the foreign children, to give an estimate just to both native and immigrant.

The statistics show a difference of 27 per cent in the thrift of the German children and the improvidence of the Italian. The Germans lead with 81.5 per cent of their number saving. The American children are second to their Teuton cousins with 77.7 per cent saving. The Scandinavian and Slavonic children follow with

76.2 per cent and 75 per cent respectively. And the Italians who are saving number only 54.2 per cent.

The following table gives the averages for the boys and girls separately, and, also, in parentheses the percentage for each nationality when all of the schools are included.

Number who are saving:

NATIONALITY.	BOYS.	GIRLS.
German.....	83 (84)%	80 (82)%
Scandinavian.....	79.6 (78)%	73 (73)%
American.....	76.6 (80)%	78 (82.6)%
Slavonic.....	77 (76)%	74 (74)%
Jewish.....	70 (70)%	79 (79)%
Italian.....	54 (54)%	55 (55)%

#### AMOUNT SAVED.

These savings represent for the most part small amounts, from 1 to 15 cents, deposited quite irregularly. In one school I had 124 infantile financiers directly under my supervision. From April 4th to June 9th these children deposited with me \$58.53. During this time two weeks were lost by vacations and other interruptions, so the saving covered only seven weeks. The deposit for this length of time averaged 47 cents for each child. The greatest amount saved was \$3.85. Two saved \$3.50 each, and ten saved between \$1 and \$2. In another school 30 children deposited with me during four weeks in April and May, \$12.58, or an average of 42 cents for each child. This average is undoubtedly lower than it would be earlier in the year, for the coming of summer is one of the severest tests of a child's power to save. Then the children begin to take car rides to the parks; ice cream and cold drinks are especially tempting when the warm days come; and the shop windows are full of marbles, jacks and jumping-ropes.

In one of the schools just referred to five intermediate rooms, consisting of about 200 pupils, deposited from Nov. 20 to Dec. 19, \$131.48; from Jan. 2 to Jan. 31, \$76.37; from Feb. 3 to Feb. 28, \$85.20. The large deposit in December is easily explained by the approach of Christmas.

In another school, located in a rather poor quarter of the city, \$1,021.85 was deposited from the time school began until the first of June. This represents about 1,000 different depositors, about 700 of whom deposited regularly. During the year \$150 was transferred from the school bank to the big bank.

Reports from six other schools scattered over the city show various degrees of success. From each school a pack of stamp-cards about to be

withdrawn was taken indiscriminately, and from these 1 made the following deductions:

School 1—Ghetto district: Twenty-seven cards, showing total deposit of \$27.71, with an average of five months between the issuing and withdrawal of the card. Smallest amount saved on any one card, 10 cents. Largest amount saved, \$5.90.

School 2—Ghetto district: Eleven cards, \$47.15 deposited. Average length of time, 6 months 2 weeks. Smallest amount represented, 23 cents (this card had been issued but 10 days). Largest amount, \$11.

School 3—Near Lincoln Park: Twenty-eight cards, \$43.75 deposited. Average length of time, 5 months 2 weeks. Smallest amount, 4 cents. Largest amount, \$9.50.

School 4—In Englewood: Twenty-six cards. Total deposit, \$62.52. Average time, 5 months. Smallest amount, 24 cents. Largest amount, \$8.24.

School 5—Ghetto district: Nineteen cards. Total deposit, \$14.13. Average length of time, 4 months 2 weeks. Smallest amount, 10 cents. Largest amount, \$1.65.

School 6: Eighteen cards, \$9.64. Time, 6 months. Smallest deposit, 6 cents. Largest deposit, \$2.25.

I find the amounts saved do not depend so much on the financial condition of the neighborhood as on the interest which the one having it in charge has in the project. However, there is more *uniformity* in the deposits of the well-to-do neighborhoods than in those of the really poor, although this uniformity is never very marked. More elements enter in to hinder the poor from saving, and more varying degrees of success naturally follow.

The diversity in the amounts saved is shown more clearly by a glance at the cards themselves. I will give the first three on each pack—that is, the dates of issue and withdrawal of each, and the amount saved during that time:

ISSUED.	WITHDRAWN.	AMOUNT.
Nov. 21, 1901	June 19, 1902	\$ 1.72
April 8, 1902	June 19, 1902	.50
Nov. 6, 1901	June 18, 1902	.52
Oct. 8, 1901	June 12, 1902	10.25
Oct. 7, 1901	June 12, 1902	10.20
Feb. 6, 1901	June 12, 1902	8.95
May 10, 1901	June 12, 1902	.29
Jan. 31, 1902	June 12, 1902	.16
Oct. 23, 1901	June 12, 1902	9.50
May 20, 1902	June 12, 1902	.35
May 6, 1902	June 12, 1902	.37
Feb. 7, 1902	June 12, 1902	.24

ISSUED.	WITHDRAWN.	AMOUNT.
Jan. 28, 1902	June 17, 1902	\$ 1.00
Jan. 4, 1902	June 17, 1902	1.40
Jan. 30, 1902	June 17, 1902	.50
Nov. 5, 1900	June 12, 1902	.06
Sept. 30, 1901	June 12, 1902	1.00
Oct. 30, 1901	June 12, 1902	.25

In one of the schools in a very poor district two brothers have each saved \$100 through the penny bank.

During the year 1901 the Chicago Penny Savings Society gave out to its various stations stamp certificates to the value of \$33,000. The amount of money withdrawn during the same year was \$20,000, and the amount placed in trust by the society for the children was \$1,455.

The whole amount saved through the Chicago Penny Savings Society from June 15, 1897, to Jan. 1, 1902, was over \$166,000, and this represents largely the savings of children.

The ready response with which the banks have met, is the strongest testimony to the tendency toward thrift in children. The expression of a desire to save, written on a slip of paper, is one thing; the deposit of \$166,000 by school children of Chicago is quite another. These figures represent not a mere passive wish, but an actual tendency asserting itself, in spite of obstacles, in concrete facts.

#### "IDEAL" THRIFT TENDENCIES.

While one might expect the intention to save money to exceed the actual practice, the papers really show theoretical thrift to be weaker than the actual. Data from the questions involving suppositional cases show a difference of from 10 to 40 per cent among different classes, ages and nationalities, in the number who say they *would* save and of those who *are* saving. In reply to the first question, 39.6 per cent of the boys say they would save the entire sum; 24.4 per cent would save a part of it, and 36 per cent would spend it all. Or, in other words, only 64 per cent think they would save any money if they had a regular allowance of 15 cents a week, while as a matter of fact 74.4 per cent of these same boys are saving. This difference of 10 per cent does not argue necessarily for any discrepancy in the boys' statements. It is easily made up by the number of boys who are, though saving at present, spending 15 cents or more a week; and facing the question squarely they think they would still spend the same amount, if it were all they had.

The percentage of the girls who would save on the allowance stated is, on the whole, larger. Forty-one per cent would save all of it; 28

per cent would save some, and 31 per cent would not save any of it. This proportion of those who would save 69 per cent is a little nearer that of the 72 per cent who are saving. This is quite consistent with the reason just given for the slight fall in the "ideals" below the "actual" in matters of saving, for the number of girls spending more than 15 cents a week is much smaller than the number of boys. From the three schools in the poorer districts, 57 boys and 35 girls who are not saving are spending over 15 cents a week.

There are a few children who do not mention saving in their answers to the first question, who nevertheless infer it in, "I would buy clothes," "I would buy good books," etc.

The number of those who would save the supposed \$1,000 is still smaller. Only 33.5 per cent of the boys and 36 per cent of the girls, of the poorer districts, say they would save the greater part of it. There are two other kinds of answers which *might* be interpreted as saving, however. Fifteen and five-tenths per cent of the boys and 17 per cent of the girls would give the money to their parents; and 25 per cent of the boys and 15.8 per cent of the girls would buy property. In some cases where the amount was to be given to the parents it was inferred quite plainly that this was for the purpose of saving it; again it was stated that the sum was for them to spend for living expenses—food, clothing, or fuel—and still more often the purpose in the answer is very doubtful. So with the "property" answers; some were evidently matters of investment, and others were meant for homes.

If these purposes are reckoned as saving, the percentage is increased to 74 for the boys and 69 for the girls, which tallies very well with the rates of the actual expressions of thrift.

There are naturally a few discrepancies on the papers in the matter of saving. Some of the children who are *not* saving, and yet are spending more than 15 cents every week, say that if they had 15 cents a week to spend as they chose they would save at least a part of it. As a matter of fact, however, these cases are very few. Only 25 boys and 18 girls out of the whole number of 1,339 show this inconsistency.

#### PURPOSES OF SAVING.

The purpose of their saving, as given by the children, is for the most part for some present need or pleasure. From the poorer schools 286 boys and 348 girls are saving for the very near future, while only 45 boys and 26 girls are

saving for an indefinite future. The excess of girls over boys in the first case and the excess of boys over girls to the extent of almost double the number in the second, is another result of the facts mentioned under "Age Comparisons." The boys, especially after the age of eleven, are looking forward to business life and its responsibilities; the girls are occupied to a greater extent with dress and present pleasures. In the one case it is the expression of the man's instinct, just developing, of self-assertion and care for others; in the other the woman's willingness to trust the future to some one else.

While the boys exceed the girls in their regard for the future the girls exceed in unselfishness—and perhaps their very "carefreeness" just referred to is one reason for this.

Among those saving for present needs 80 per cent of the girls and 92 per cent of the boys have "self" in mind. These purposes, with the number expressing each, are: Clothes, 126 boys, 182 girls; wheel or horse and carriage, 63 boys, 13 girls; outings and recreation, 39 boys, 19 girls; books, 6 boys, 12 girls; jewelry, 3 boys, 13 girls; music, 1 boy, 8 girls; "confirmation," 3 boys, 4 girls; miscellaneous, 19 boys, 27 girls. Among the unselfish ends for which the children save are: Family needs, 4 boys, 4 girls; gifts, 15 boys, 54 girls. Four girls are saving to "fix up" their parents' graves.

In the wealthier class 73 boys and 111 girls have the present in mind in their saving, and 11 boys and 12 girls are looking toward the future. Eight of these girls are saving for "old age."

In the first case 91.7 per cent of the boys have selfish ends in view. Of the girls only 77.5 per cent are selfish.

The differences between the two classes in their purposes in saving are what might naturally be expected. Comparatively few of the rich are saving for clothes, where fully one-half of the poor had that end in view. About one-third of the former class are saving for a bicycle or a horse and carriage, and almost as many are saving for outings and recreations. "Gifts" constitute the sole unselfish end, of present interest, in this class, with the exception of two girls who are saving for "family need."

Of those planning for an indefinite future, 4 boys and 6 girls from the poorer class, and 2 boys from the wealthier, are saving for an education. Fifteen boys and 2 girls from the first class and 4 boys from the latter are saving for business. The prospects of "old age" is an

incentive for 25 of the poorer children and for 10 of the wealthier to save.

The unselfishness of the poorer boys and girls in their money matters is sometimes almost pitiful. The little boy of thirteen who said, "Yes, I am saving 'cause I will buy a little dress for my sister," was probably ragged himself. Two brothers, eight and thirteen years old, used to deposit money in the penny bank, and always gave as their reason, "Oh, mudder may need it some time." Another told me he was saving for a shawl for his mother, and a German girl said she was saving to send her mother home to the old country. I remember one time two brothers about eight and ten years old deposited, one 8 cents and the other 13 cents, with the remark that they had "kept some of it a week, already." I asked, rather indifferently, "And haven't you spent any?" and the older one burst out in surprise, "Why! no ma'am! mudder ain't got no teeth—only five!" as if that were reason enough for their saving. He afterward assured me that they were going to save their money and buy her some.

While the poor are often mentioned as sharers in the child's "supposed" wealth, only 3 girls from the poorer district and 2 girls and 1 boy from the wealthier give any philanthropic purpose to their actual saving. And yet this seems a large number when we remember the many needs of the poorer children especially, and the vagueness with which all charity work is conceived in the child mind. It is quite in place in the suppositional cases of having money, because it itself is as much a dream to these children as the idea of having \$1,000 for their very own. But when the real money is actually in sight, philanthropy vanishes before their ever present wants and wishes.

#### PURPOSES IN SAVING \$1,000.

As has already been remarked, comparatively few of the children said definitely that they would save the \$1,000. Of the number who did do so, so few of them stated their purpose in saving it that no exact conclusions can be drawn from them. A very large number of them, however, would save it for a home, for living expenses, or the support of the parents. A few would save it to engage in some business when they are older; and others, for an education. Two or three seemed to have a very gloomy view of life. One of these, a German girl of twelve, said, "I would save it for my mother's, father's, sister's and brother's burial." An Irish girl of fourteen said, "I would save it

and insure myself, and when I would die I would leave it to my parson."

#### PURPOSELESS SAVING.

Great care should be taken that children do not mistake hoarding for saving. Mere accumulation of money without a definite idea of its use is more demoralizing than uplifting. I found that some of the children who were saving had very little notion of what they were saving for. Here is the opportunity for the one having the bank in charge to press the lesson home that thrift is merely postponed consumption. Some of the boys, too, gave no other reason for making a deposit than "de udder guys are." Here, too, a lesson in the value of providence should be taught. These cases were very rare in my experience, and are, I believe, in all the stations where the proper care is taken in introducing the subject to the children. For the most part the depositors have pretty definite ideas about their object in saving, even if that object be nothing more tangible than that of the American boy who said, "I am saving so I'll be used to saving when I am grown up"; or of the German who is saving "so when I grow to be a man I won't have to beg."

#### INSTRUMENT OF SAVING.

Reference has been made several times to the Chicago Penny Savings Society and to individual penny banks. These banks are all stations of the one organization which came into being June 15, 1897. The society is purely benevolent, as no one receives any financial advantage from it except the depositors. It is under the management of and direct supervision of a board of trustees, representing some of the most influential men of the city, who give their services without compensation.

The object of the society, as stated by them, is "to encourage and make attractive the saving of small sums, from one cent upward," and to extend the opportunity of doing this as far as possible. It is the desire of the trustees to aid in the forming of habits of thrift and providence and to teach in the most practical way the truth of the old saying, "Take care of the pennies and the pounds will take care of themselves."

The plan pursued by the society is very simple. Stamps, serving as certificates of deposit and having representative values of 1, 5, 10, 25 and 50 cents, are sold out to the various stations. When a child wishes to open a bank account he is given a card folded double and bearing on the outside his name and ad-

dress. The name and address of the station and the date of issue. On the inside he pastes the stamps corresponding to the value of each deposit. These are redeemable at any time. No interest can be paid on deposits since the expenses of the society, office rent, printing, etc., must be met by the accruing interest of the aggregate. When the amount on the card becomes large enough to make it practicable to do so, the depositor is urged to and helped in opening an account in some safe bank, where his money will draw interest.

Stations have been placed in settlements, public schools, charity bureau offices, stores and Sunday schools. There were at the end of June, 1902, 68 stations in the city schools, 16 in county schools and 51 miscellaneous stations, giving a total of 135 banks where deposits may be made of 1 cent and upward.

#### VALUES.

The results of the penny savings system are various and far-reaching. Its value to the child and through him to economic conditions generally may be indicated by a few examples.

#### ECONOMIC.

One little girl with her small savings bought a ton of coal, the first full ton the family had ever had. In this way she saved almost half the price usually paid for it when purchased by the basket. Another girl, who had saved \$12.50 in the school bank, said to me quite proudly when she withdrew it, "Pa's sick and I'm going to pay the rent." In one school it was suggested to the pupils that they help their parents by saving for their text-books. As a result, the whole class bought their own books for the next grade.

#### EDUCATIONAL.

As Mr. Oulton puts it, "School banks are to the lessons in thrift what pen, ink and paper are to lessons in writing." Many of the children have little idea of the value of money until they begin to save it, and little idea of the value of thrift until they have watched their penny deposits grow and known the joy of owning and spending a fairly large sum. A new inspiration for saving comes to the parents through the children, and the virtue spreads.

One little girl, who became interested in saving, found by the end of the year that she had a bank account of \$60. This greatly surprised the family and was a lesson to them of what could be accomplished through small and regular deposits.

But thrift alone is not all the children are

taught by the system. They are given experience in banking, especially when their deposits are transferred to the large banks, and are taught the first principles of business. Opportunity is given, through the stations, to teach the children discrimination in the matter of banks, and this knowledge also spreads to the parents. This is a lesson which has to be urged again and again upon the poor and inexperienced. They dread the complication of a large and reliable bank, and deposit and often lose their meager savings in small, unreliable concerns. Last but not of least importance is the lesson the banks should teach, and do under careful leaders, in the wise use of money. It transpired in one station that the nickel which a little Jewish boy was depositing every day had been given in the morning by his father for his lunch. He had gone without his noon meal to save the money, and had yet to learn that spending may be wiser than saving.

#### ETHICAL.

Many examples of the unselfishness developed by the practice of saving have already been given. Still another is furnished by the little boy who withdrew his bank deposit to buy his "mudder" a cloak. Wishing to be encouraging, the agent said: "My, that will be fine, won't it?" And the boy replied: "Shure! It'll be the finest one she ever had! It's going to cost \$4.98." We see results in self-respect and worthy pride, when children can hold up their heads with a just satisfaction in a new dress or suit or hat which their own small savings have purchased. Self help is learned by the children when they find that the pennies which used to go for candy, once accumulated, will buy their books and clothes, pay the house-rent and help support the family. All except three of the withdrawals in one school during two months were for clothing or the actual needs of the family.

Many boys and girls have broken the habit of gum chewing, etc., by learning to save. The children recognize the opportunity it offers in this direction and are generally glad to take advantage of it. When the introduction of the Provident was first discussed in one school a seventh-grade lad went to the principal and said: "I wish I could save my money here, for I believe if I could I could quit smoking. My change *will* go for cigarettes." The bank was put in and at the end of the first week he had saved \$1.10.

It is said that the only enemies of the savings system are the keepers of small shops where the children buy candy and trinkets.

The agent of one of the school banks felt no hesitancy in saying that the amount deposited there had come directly out of the candy store next door. This statement was substantiated later by a conversation I had with the shop-keeper. She said she used to support her family of seven very comfortably by means of her shop, and that occasionally she "could buy a dress or something for one of the children." But since the banks were put in the school, they had taken away just about half of her receipts and now she could hardly make ends meet. She was unable to do any heavy work and the prospects seemed pretty dark.

Her anxiety and discouragement brought me face to face with the other side of the story, and for the moment I was almost ashamed of the bank books I had in my hand and thankful that she did not know what they were.

I had been two or three weeks winning her confidence to the extent that she would tell me her financial difficulties, and at the end of that time I saw very clearly the seriousness of the injury the bank was doing her and her family. However this is only one more case in the general truth which social scientists are continually facing, that social progress involves the sacrifice of the few for the many. In this case, fortunately, the few are *very* few compared to the great number benefited.

What the earnings, spendings and savings of the children mean to the home has already been illustrated by many typical cases. Their significance in the life and character of the child can hardly be over-estimated.

The *dangers* associated with his money which confront the child are threefold. First, the possibility that his moral nature may be stunted and actually corrupted by some of the means of acquiring money. Second, that recklessness and improvidence and even harmful indulgences may become fixed habits through his spendings. Third, that avarice and the love of money for its own sake may be encouraged by the wrong kind of saving. These are all too individual in their nature to attempt to remedy them by general, hard and fast rules. Some suggestions, however, have been made throughout the paper of the wrongs in which these evils may be met.

The disadvantages which accompany the child's dealings with money are overshadowed by the benefits he may derive from them. There is, first, the development of self-reliance and independence which comes with his earning—

as well as an appreciation of what money costs; second, wisdom in its use, and the proper estimate of values which are gained by the spending of it; and, third, the realization of the importance of small sums and the habits of thrift and providence which inevitably follow careful and purposeful saving.

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By Graham Taylor. An Address and Discussion at the International Congregational Council in Boston, 1899. Twenty-five cents.

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# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor  
from the Social Settlement Point of View.

**GRAHAM TAYLOR, - - - Editor**

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A Year

## EDITORIAL.

Mr. Raymond Robins is in editorial charge of THE COMMONS, during Professor Taylor's absence abroad. Under the title "View Points Afield," the latter will contribute descriptive comments on the social life and movements with which he comes in contact in England and on the continent.

### University Fellowship Settlement Studies.

The University of Michigan Social Settlement Fellowship at Chicago Commons has amply justified the students in contributing its modest expense and the faculty in granting academic credit for the original research of its incumbents. While only such subjects and results have been possible as undergraduate students could undertake, yet what is being achieved has a practical value which is recognized by the University, the settlement and the public. The reflexive influence upon the university life is proportionate to the marked direct effect of settlement residence and work upon each incumbent, who upon returning to Ann Arbor has abundant opportunity to inform and inspire. The subjects of inquiry have all had intrinsic value to the investigators and for the published results of some of them there has been a public demand. Mr. Royal L. Melendy's contribution to the Committee of Fifty's "Substitutes for the Saloon," was also published by the "American Journal of Sociology." Miss Edith I. Clark's description of "Juvenile Delinquency in Chicago," is still called for from our files. Miss Gertrude E. Palmer's painstaking inquiry into the money sense of school children, to the summary of which this number of THE COMMONS is largely devoted, is sure to awaken a wide and interested reading. The present incumbent of the fellowship, Miss Inis H. Weed, is midway in her first hand study of "The Social Influence of Manual Expression."

### ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD WORKERS, NEW YORK CITY.

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY  
MARY KINGSBURY SIMKHOVITCH,  
26 Jones Street, New York City.

### The Society for the Protection of Italian Immigrants.

This society, incorporated March, 1901, is not intended to encourage immigration, but to elevate the character and neutralize the evils of the immigration which comes to us under our present laws. It was formed to meet crying needs for protection, for education and for elevation to good standards of citizenship on the part of a very large and increasing number of Italians who are emigrating to this country. In 1901 over 140,000 landed at the port of New York; for the year ending June 30, 1902, the number reached 165,631.

Many of these foreigners are not only uneducated, but lack all knowledge of the habits, customs and language of this country, and their difficulties begin from the moment they are landed at Ellis Island; these arise both from conditions which would be harmless to a person acquainted with life in this country, and from the practice of evilly disposed persons who systematically victimize these poor and simple immigrants.

It is the definite aim of the Society to remedy these abuses and in this effort both the emigration and the police authorities are now heartily co-operating. Since October 1, 1902, the police have submitted the names of all applicants for runner's licenses to the Society for investigation and its report in each case is considered in determining whether to grant a license or not.

The Labor Bureau is satisfactorily supplying Italian labor to employers throughout the country, and will, it is hoped, become the chief supply of Italian labor in this city, with the result that the laborer will not be robbed, as formerly, of his wages; the system of the padrone being to appropriate to himself as much of the laborers' hire as it was possible to do, in which he was helped largely by the laborers' ignorance.

The society has arranged that immigrants can obtain comfortable accommodations at the rate of 50 cents per day, including meals and lodging, at the home of the Italian "Beneficenza," in West Houston Street.

"Come what will, I will keep my faith with friend and foe."—Lincoln.

**COLLEGE SETTLEMENTS ASSOCIATION.**

## STANDING COMMITTEE.

*President:* KATHARINE COMAN, Wellesley, Mass.

*Vice President:* HELEN CHADWICK RAND THAYER  
(Mrs. Lucius H. Thayer), Portsmouth, N. H.

*Secretary:* SARAH GRAHAM TOMKINS, 1904 Walnut St., Philadelphia.

*Treasurer:* ELSIE CLEWS PARSONS (Mrs. Herbert Parsons), 112 East 35th St., New York City.

*Fifth Member:* SUSAN E. FOOTE, Port Henry, New York.

## STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUB-CHAPTERS.

*Chairman:* LOUISE B. LOCKWOOD, 441 Park Ave., New York.

## LOCAL COMMITTEES.

Boston—Bertha Scripture, Chairman, Lincoln, Mass.

Philadelphia—Isabel L. Vanderslice, Chairman, 436 Stafford Street, Germantown, Pa.

## SETTLEMENTS.

New York City—95 Rivington Street.

Philadelphia—433 Christian Street.

Boston—93 Tyler Street (Denison House).

**The Annual Meeting of the College Settlements Association.**

HELD AT 95 RIVINGTON STREET, NEW YORK CITY, MAY 2, 1913.

The annual meeting of the Electoral Board of the College Settlements was held at the New York Settlement on the first Saturday in May. The roll call showed electors present from Wellesley, Smith, Vassar, Bryn Mawr, Wells, Packer Collegiate Institute, Swarthmore, Elmira, Barnard and Mount Holyoke, who, with the Associate electors, members of the Standing Committee, Head-workers and delegates, made a total of 30 present. Miss Cowan, President of the Association, presided.

The Secretary reported the following changes in the Board since October, 1902: Miss Sarah F. Sheppard succeeds Mrs. Hill as Vassar Alumnae Elector; Miss Marjorie Hixcox succeeds Miss Upton as Vassar College Elector; Miss Ella K. Truesdale succeeds Miss Knipe as Wells College Elector; Miss Stella Foreman succeeds Mrs. Bretz as Packer Alumnae Elector; Miss Charlotte H. Crawford succeeds Miss Butler as Cornell College Elector; Miss Margaret Cragl succeeds Miss Clothier as Swarthmore College Elector; Miss Gertrude D. Seely succeeds Miss Dexter as Elmira College Elector; Miss Caroline E. Wilson succeeds Miss Kerr as Woman's College of Baltimore

College Elector; Miss Winifred A. Saunders succeeds Miss Grevstad as Mount Holyoke College Elector.

Mrs. William Gammell, of Providence, Rhode Island, was elected to membership on the Board and Mrs. Arthur H. Scribner, the retiring fifth member of the Standing Committee, was made Associate Elector. The election of officers for the coming year resulted in the re-election of the officers of the past year with the exception of Mrs. Arthur H. Scribner, who was obliged, under the pressure of other duties, to withdraw from the office of fifth member. Miss Susan E. Foote, who has served on the Board as Smith Alumnae Elector, was elected to the office.

Other routine business was the reading of the report of the Standing Committee and the report of the General Treasurer. The Standing Committee report contained two items of general interest. One was in regard to the publication last January of the entire result of Miss Mary B. Sayls's investigation of housing conditions in Jersey City, made during her year as College Settlements Association Fellow, 1901-1902. The American Academy of Political and Social Science issued the report as a supplement to the January number of the *Annals*. Copies of the monograph may be obtained from the Secretary of the Association. The other item of the Standing Committee report referred to the outlook for a chapter of the Association in the Women's College at Brown University sometime in the near future. Miss Dudley of Denison House was able to arouse some enthusiasm among the students there by a recent address on the work of the Association and its settlements, and on invitation of the Standing Committee a representative of the Brown students was present at the annual meeting. Miss Chace, one of the two Association Fellows for the year 1902-1903, is a graduate of Brown University, class of 1900.

Following the reading of the Treasurer's report of income, and the apportionment of the usual funds for the work of the three settlements, for committee expenses, etc., the discussion of the morning was directed mainly into two important channels and resulted in the forming of several committees to carry on work during the summer and report at the autumn meeting of the Board. The need for present educational activity on the part of the Association and the line along which the Association shall extend its future development were topics of special moment brought up for consideration.



The need is felt at this time by electors who are working in college chapters and by those who are working more directly in the outside world, of educational literature which shall set forth clearly and forcibly the aim of the settlement movement aside from its practical visible accomplishment in the day by day work at the settlements. Great interests are at stake besides this practical achievement and it is necessary that every worker should grasp this fact and then turn to help in the task of imbuing whole neighborhoods and people with the idea of what settlement work really is. The association plans a revival of propaganda and at this annual meeting a committee was formed, two members of which are Mrs. Helen Maud Thayer and Professor Vida Dutton Seudder, which will at once set about the preparation of some pamphlets or leaflets to help meet the required need.

The taking up of a new settlement, the increasing of present appropriations to its three settlements, or the extension of expenditure along the line of fellowships were the three questions confronting the Board when the subject of special appropriations came up for consideration. The remoteness of many of the college chapters, notably Smith and Mount Holyoke, from any one of the three college settlements makes the advantage of a new settlement in one of the college neighborhoods seem particularly obvious. Electors at the meeting were unanimous in their feeling that the settlements are the definite stimulus of the college chapters and that where the colleges are distant interest is likely to flag. Discussion as to the increasing of present appropriations centered about the present situation at the Philadelphia Settlement, where work and opportunity are developing with great rapidity and where local support is rather more difficult to secure than in New York or Boston. The consideration of the matter was put into the hands of a committee. The discussion of extension along the line of more fellowships to be offered by the Association resulted in the appointment of a committee to undertake the work of providing scholarships and fellowships in relation with the colleges, and in the appropriation of \$200 to be expended at the discretion of this committee.

The Board voted a non-competitive Fellowship for the coming year to be given to Miss Frances A. Kellor, who has been one of the Association Fellows for 1902-1903. Miss Kellor made an informal report to the Board of her work during the past year. She has been in-

vestigating employment bureaus for women in New York and Chicago, and is at present in residence at Rivington Street, New York. Her work has been developing in opportunity and interest and promises to be valuable in its results. Official reports, growing out of her investigations and the investigations of others along the same line, will probably be made to the cities in which she has worked. Miss Kellor is also making a collection of laws governing employment bureaus and it is hoped that these, used in connection with facts gathered, may lead to legislation on the subject at some future time.

The Board also voted an appropriation of \$300 for an open competitive scholarship which will be offered by the Association.

Miss Davies of the Philadelphia Settlement and Miss Williams of the New York Settlement presented, informal reports of the work of the past winter at the two settlements. The Electors from the colleges present at the meeting then spoke of their special difficulties or made helpful suggestions to the Board, after which the Board adjourned and were the guests of the New York Settlement at luncheon.

The first hour of the afternoon was spent by the members of the Board in visiting the Ludlow Street house and the new gymnasium on Orchard Street. At half past three o'clock addresses were made by Mr. Robert Hunter of the University Settlement on the recent child labor agitation in New York City, and by Mrs. R. Y. Fitz Gerald on New York Tenement House Reform and the opposition with which it has met.

#### THE MONTH AT CHICAGO COMMONS.

The departure of the Warden and Mrs. Taylor for a six months' tour of England and the continent was the chief happening of the past month. This vacation is many times the longest absence of the Warden from the settlement since taking up his residence at the "old Commons" nearly eight years ago.

The loss our household suffers through this protracted break in the family circle will be met by the brave and generous spirit of mutual helpfulness and good will which has been stored within and about Chicago Commons by the unremitting service of seven years.

Refreshed and strengthened by the greatly needed rest, and bringing a goodly heritage of observation and suggestion for solution of the many problems of our common life, the return of our travelers will be awaited with happy anticipation of sharing in all the pleasures and benefits of their long voyage.

## THE MAY FESTIVAL.

The annual Commons May festival, held on the afternoons and evenings of May 8th and 9th, brought to its close a very successful winter's work among the clubs and classes, the handiwork of more than 1,000 children being on exhibit.

A miscellaneous display of raffia work, passepartout, bead chains, crocheted slippers and lace, aprons, belts, etc., represented much patience and persistent effort on the part of the members of the Girls' Clubs. The operetta rendered on Friday night to an audience that packed the auditorium hall was also a feature of the regular club work.

Manual work was exhibited made by the boys and girls working in the shop, who did great credit to themselves and their instructor by their bench work, burnt wood work, carving and staining.

The sewing school, made up of children under twelve years of age, showed an interesting collection of sample books and garments. The woman's embroidery class had an exhibit of Mountmellic work in silk and linen.

The cooking school had the usual inviting display, that made by the Housekeeper's Club being especially attractive, consisting of the national dishes of the different members.

Our neighboring Washington and Montefiore Schools co-operated with the Commons and made an excellent and praiseworthy display, the rooms allotted them being filled to overflowing with hand-work in sewing, carpentry, weaving, burnt-wood work, sloyd, paper-folding, painting, drawing, etc., etc. The exhibit of the Washington School was largely constructive work, an especially fine display being made in bent-iron work and pottery. This school, owing to the untiring energy of the principal, possesses several potters' wheels and a kiln of their own and do most original and artistic work.

An exhibit shown by the Montefiore School from kindergarten to eighth grade was noticeable for the high standard of its literary work, the lessons for the year being artistically illustrated and arranged in books with hand-decorated covers, all showing the faithful and conscientious work of principal and teacher.

The beautiful collection of pictures loaned through the generous interest of Mr. W. Scott Thurber were greatly enjoyed and became one of the chief centers of interest.

Programs were given afternoon and evening by pupils of the elocution, music and gymnasium classes, assisted by Prof. Tomlins' children's chorus and the Chicago Commons Choral Club.

The beautiful bronze tablet presented by Mrs. Charles D. Blaney to the memory of her father has been placed on the vestibule wall to the right of the front door. Its inscription reads:

JOHN MARSHALL WILLIAMS,  
RESIDENCE HALL  
CHICAGO COMMONS  
1901.

The Tabernacle Church of our neighborhood, which shares with the settlement the use of the Chicago Commons building, is slowly but surely building up from within, under the pastorate of Rev. James Mullenbach. Numerical increase is slow, owing to the fact that the trend of church-going families is away from its parish and the incoming population is not to its manor born. But the depth, breadth, and essential value of this church's direct and reflexive influence are far greater than can be estimated at any stated gatherings, or by any statistical test. The farewell reception given by its members to Prof. and Mrs. Taylor and their presentation of steamer rugs in token of affection contributed one of the freest and simplest occasions of the year.

## HELP NEEDED FOR PLAY-GROUND.

With the co-operation of the Vacation Schools and Play-Ground Committee we gladly re-open the public play-ground for the children of our two great neighboring schools, under a competent resident-director. It needs new equipment at \$200 cost and support at the rate of \$50 per month additional to the \$25 monthly rental. Our Washington school gives its principal to the superintendency of the summer vacation schools.

## RELIEVING THE WARDEN FROM SOLICITUDE.

To relieve the warden during his absence of the financial care which he has so long borne all alone, a finance committee has generously assumed the responsibility for the support of the Chicago Commons work until he returns next November. The five busy people who should receive, without personally soliciting it, the \$3,000 or more needed are:

Alexander B. Scully, Halsted and Fulton Sts.  
Edward L. Ryerson, 18 Milwaukee Ave.  
Miss Jane Addams, Hull House.  
Frank O. Lowden, The Temple Building.  
Edwin Burritt Smith, First National Bank Building.

"I have no ambition so great as that of being truly esteemed of my fellowmen, by rendering myself worthy of their esteem."—Lincoln.

# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor from the Settlement Point of View.

Number 84—Vol. VIII

Eighth Year

Chicago, July, 1903

## THE LORDS OF LABOR.

To be sung by the National Coöperative Festival Society's Great Choir, at the Crystal Palace, London, July 11, 1903.

They come! they come in a glorious march!  
You can hear their steam-steeds neigh,  
As they dash through skill's triumphal arch,  
Or plunge 'mid the dancing spray.  
Their bale-fires blaze in the mighty forge,  
Their life-pulse throbs in the mill,  
Their lightnings shiver the gaping gorge,  
And their thunders shake the hill.  
Ho! these are the Titans of toil and trade,  
The heroes who wield no sabre;  
But mightier conquests reapeth the blade  
That is borne by the Lords of Labor.

Brave hearts, like jewels, light the sod—  
Through the mist of commerce shine—  
And souls flash out, like stars of God,  
From the midnight of the mine.  
No palace is theirs, no castle great,  
No princely pillared hall;  
But they well can laugh at the roofs of state,  
'Neath the heaven which is over all.  
Ho! these are Titans of toil and trade,  
The heroes who wield no sabre;  
But mightier conquests reapeth the blade  
That is borne by the Lords of Labor!

Each bares his arm for the ringing strife  
That marshals the sons of the soil;  
And the sweat-drops shed in their battle of life  
Are gems in the crown of Toil,  
And prouder their well-won wreaths, I trow,  
Than laurels with life-blood wet;  
And nobler the arch of a bare bold brow,  
Than the clasp of a coronet.  
Then hurrah for each hero, although his deed  
Be unsounded by trump or tabor;  
For holler, happier far is the meed  
That crowneth the Lords of Labor.

—MACFARLAN.

"I appeal to you again to constantly bear in mind that with you [the people], and not with politicians, not with presidents, not with office-seekers, but with you, is the question: Shall the Union and shall the liberties of the country be preserved to the latest generation?"—Lincoln.

## WOMEN'S CLUBS vs. CHILD LABOR.

TO THE GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS:

During the past year marked advance has been made in securing Child Labor legislation throughout the states of the Union. Women's Clubs have been active in this movement, which has consisted both in enacting new laws and amending old ones. The argument against this legislation, which has been most universally encountered, has been that the earnings of little children are needed to support widowed mothers. The Committee on Child Labor of the General Federation of Women's Clubs is convinced that the argument has been unfairly used, that the number of poor widows in any community is limited, and that among the limited number there are comparatively few whose oldest children are between the ages of ten and fourteen years, the time when the temptation to use the premature labor of children is strongest. Nothing could be more valuable to the cause of Child Labor than to lay this ghost which has so long frightened many of the sincere friends of little children, and has furnished the basis of the emotional appeal so often used against sober argument.

Your committee therefore earnestly requests that the Women's Clubs throughout the country aid the cause of Child Labor by securing information as to the number of working children between the ages of ten and fourteen years whose mothers are widows; and then the number of those mothers who are in any wise dependent upon the earnings of their children and also, the amount of the wages of the child, so far as it may be ascertained. The Committee would advise the City Federations of Women's Clubs to meet and partition the manufacturing districts of each city among the clubs, using as the basis of their investigation the records of the public and parochial schools, the factory inspector's office and charitable societies. In the smaller towns and villages the problem will be much simpler; and, if a number of communities are investigated the information thus secured will be most valuable.

The Committee requests those Clubs who

wish to do more than investigate to take the following action: Whenever possible to persuade the children thus employed to return to school, undertaking to pay the amount of the weekly wage which the child formerly earned to his widowed mother every Saturday night, upon presentation of a certificate signed by the child's teacher, testifying to his regular school attendance the entire five days of the previous week, the money to be called and regarded as a scholarship. This plan greatly resembles one in successful operation in Switzerland for 25 years, where it is carried on by the state authorities.

The Committee is convinced that the Club women realize not only their traditional responsibility towards the children of the community, but the fact that, as women are so largely the purchasers of materials for food and clothing, they are thus indirectly employers of children and constantly utilize their labor. Such action will tend to show interest in the welfare of mill operatives by the Club women and should in time help to establish permanent home-keeping among those who have so largely formed a floating element in the population, especially in the new mill towns of the South.

It is hoped that the investigation will be undertaken during this coming year and that the facts collected will be sent to the Chairman of the Child Labor Committee before March 1st, 1904. They will be incorporated into a report for the St. Louis biennial, and form the basis for future recommendations.

CAROLINE D. G. GRANGER,

(Signed)

FLORENCE KELLEY,

JANE ADDAMS, Chairman.

### **Civic Centers: Their Importance and Utility to the Citizen.**

BY J. O. PHELPS STOKES.

The proposal to establish throughout the city, as need and opportunity arise, groups of municipal buildings each in harmonious architectural relation to the group as a whole, and each in wise social or utilitarian relation to the requirements of the neighborhood in which the group is situated, is worthy of the thoughtful consideration of citizens. Each year sees vast sums of money expended on municipal improvements; parks and playgrounds are laid out, public libraries and baths are erected, new schools are built, and thus, gradually, the municipality is spreading objects of greater or less beauty at intervals throughout the community. But these buildings and parks and playgrounds,

placed each in isolation by itself, and bearing no group relation the one to the other, fail of their fullest usefulness. If there is any virtue in beauty, if the enjoyment of beautiful buildings, or parks, or pictures, or beautiful objects, of any kind affects life and character in any way whatever, whether for better or for worse, then it is clearly desirable that we consider the nature of those effects and their relation to the kinds of enjoyment which produce them.

It is evident that the enjoyment of beautiful things is sometimes associated with intense selfishness and with much that is "fashionable" or "aristocratic" and unsocial or even sensuous. The enjoyment of beauty that has characterized the court life of many periods is illustrative of this, as is also the social narrowness that characterizes most "collectors" and owners of private museums. The selfish enjoyment of beauty is apt to be demoralizing, or at least socially narrowing, whenever and wherever found, just as is the selfish enjoyment of anything. Where, on the other hand, beauty is quietly enjoyed in common, by large numbers of people together, there the selfish elements are subordinate, and socializing, humanizing influences prevail. So long as those who have things to enjoy, enjoy them selfishly, each by himself, just so long will the community remain unsocial and self-seeking, and in a large measure regardless of the interests and welfare of the whole. The advancement of the common welfare should be the aim of every citizen; and every movement set on foot that seems destined, if successful to affect the common welfare, should be frankly and freely discussed, and when defective, as frankly opposed or corrected.

It has been recently proposed that when the municipality plans the construction or creation of several municipal buildings and a park or playground, in any given locality, such buildings and park or playground should, in so far as may seem likely to best promote the common welfare, be grouped together in such manner as to form a harmonious whole, in which the various architectural and park features would be so correlated that a beautiful "civic centre" would result. At the present time persons in municipal positions of authority are advocating the early erection or creation upon the lower East Side, of a new school house (to be the largest in the city), two new public libraries, and a new public bath, a large auditorium for public meetings and concerts, a new court house and four new small parks or playgrounds, the latter to be equipped with outdoor gymnasium apparatus. Shall these much needed im-

provements be scattered helter-skelter throughout the district, or shall they be so placed in groups that each element shall reinforce the usefulness and beauty of another? Obviously, it is desirable, for instance, from the standpoint of mere utility, that the playgrounds should be near the schools, and that the new libraries should be easily accessible to students and pupils. Why not place public baths also near at hand, and add to them large and well equipped public gymnasia? And why not group the buildings that are thus so naturally related in function to one another, around open park spaces—however small—where grass and flowers can be suitably protected and enjoyed, and where benches can be provided, and where on frequent summer evenings outdoor music can be enjoyed? Behind the school houses, which would perhaps form the central features of such groups, ample playgrounds for boys and girls and little children could be provided. If the proposed municipal auditorium were also so placed as to face upon such a group, say from the opposite side of the street, a social, educational and recreational centre of great usefulness and beauty might result. It would cost no more to the municipality to group the buildings and the small parks and playgrounds than to scatter them about indiscriminately, and much would be gained to the community aside from the mere beauty. For by gathering such public buildings into groups around open spaces larger numbers of people would come together to enjoy them, and by such coming together and by such enjoyment in common, mutual pleasures would be more widely shared and broader mutual interests would arise. When we enjoy things together we for the time being feel and think together, and the more often we share the same thoughts and emotions the more unified in thought and feeling we become. It is only when we think and feel for and by ourselves alone that social injustice spreads, and with it the bitterness and ill-feeling that are its natural consequents.

Heretofore, opportunities for the enjoyment of beauty and of rest have been provided quite lavishly in the more wealthy sections of the city; but in the less wealthy sections such opportunities have been few and far between. A moderately beautiful building here and there is not enough; such buildings if crowded in narrow streets with no park or other open space adjoining awaken but little social interest, for there is no place from which they can be enjoyed in common. If placed surrounding a little park, with benches and walks and grass

and flowers, not merely their aesthetic but also their social usefulness is obviously greatly enhanced. From the standpoint of mere social fairness the municipality should give more attention to the need of beauty on the lower East Side. Obviously the city should expend larger amounts of money on beautiful buildings and open areas in the sections where beauty is rarest than in those where it is most frequently seen. The placing of beautiful buildings isolated from one another and where few can enjoy them is unwise. Public schools and libraries and baths and other public buildings should when practicable be so gathered and grouped about public squares or other open areas as to produce centres of beauty and social usefulness that large numbers of people can enjoy simultaneously and together. The social element to be found in such communal enjoyment is needed to prevent the development in us of those desires for indulgence of merely selfish kinds, which lead so dangerously near to sensuousness and social apathy.—From *The Jewish World*, N. Y.

### SOCIAL MUSEUMS.

BY PROF. H. M. SCOTT.

Here is a new field for private or public beneficence. A social museum is a central place in which everything that can illustrate social improvement shall be on exhibition. Especially are the needs of workingmen to be considered, and books on better methods of labor, protective agencies, the dwelling house problem, public health, strikes, labor unions, information about various trades, alcoholism, nutrition and food, conferences, arbitration, questions of wages, division of profits, etc., should be at hand, with all needed diagrams, models, etc., to illustrate the text. In Munich, Paris, Vienna, and Amsterdam such museums have been provided by private citizens. The German government long declined to help such an institution, though it had long provided for less important things, such as war museums. But at last, in 1901, the German Parliament voted a sum for this purpose. In Hungary, too, similar action has been taken. The government has voted to establish, 1903, in Buda Pest, a social museum after the pattern of that in Paris, where the first such appeared, and that only seven years ago. These museums take up at first such important subjects as protection against accidents, public hygiene, pure food, proper dwellings; but soon, as in Vienna and Paris, widen their scope. The *Musee Social*, of Paris, founded by Count Chambrun, in

honor of his wife, with an income of \$20,000 a year, is a model. Many exhibits were given it from the Paris exposition of 1889 and from the last exposition. It offers "the people plans, proposals, sources, models, outlines, communications, statutes, etc., without cost, bearing on all social efforts;" also, "to elevate the material and moral condition of workmen, under exclusion, however, of all religious and political questions." It offers a splendid exhibit of models, tables, busts, portraits, etc., bearing on industry; also a selected expert library of over 16,000 volumes, and thousands of magazines in the chief languages of Europe, with large reading and working rooms. There are lectures, courses of study, a bureau of information, traveling commissioners to seek instruction in other countries, publication of books and magazines, bestowal of prizes, and appointment of correspondents in all lands as sources of information. This museum is in charge of a governing director, a committee of control, a secretary, a librarian, a "delegate for industry and labor," and a "delegate for agricultural matters." The "Christliche Welt," No. 24, from which we gather this information, tells us that these delegates must correspond with labor unions, lecture before them and arrange lectures for them, attend all national and international social-political conventions, and read the organs of labor unions in order to glean the best from them. There is a third "delegate for press relations." Besides these there are a legal committee, a keeper of archives, and seven commissioners, who are specialists in (1) agriculture, (2) labor organizations, (3) insurance of laborers, (4) provident arrangements and division of profits, (5) law, (6) missions, studies and inquiry, and (7) on relations to learned and other societies. Perhaps the chief benefit of the museum hitherto has been its work as giver of information and advice. In the first five years of its history it gave written advice in 1,200 cases, and oral in more than 3,200 cases, in all fields of activity. Its next great work is giving printed information. Its monthly magazine, *Le Musee Social*, is given largely gratis to artisans, unions, etc. Reports of its traveling commissioners have been published already on the labor problems in America, Italian associations and credit unions, the German agrarian question, the commercial and industrial revival in Germany, the Westphalian labor population, Australian state socialism, etc. The Paris museum, also, takes a friendly initiative in all acute labor questions. It seeks to forecast and educate. Con-

sequently, it is fast gaining the national confidence. It has given \$15,000 in prizes already for the best essays on "Division of Earnings," "Insurance of Laborers," and "Labor Unions and Owners' Associations." These essays have been published by the museum. A beautiful custom is to hold labor festivals, with prizes for able and true workmen—up to date fifty-six have been thus rewarded—and prizes or medals worth from \$200 to \$400 to the most efficient labor unions. All these extra expenses have been met by Count Chambrun himself; it is hoped the museum may be able to continue such good work. May some patriotic American soon arise to plant in New York or Chicago a thoroughly equipped social museum.

#### A Tour Among Boys' Clubs.

BY WINFRED J. SMITH, SUPERINTENDENT BOYS' CLUB, BRICK CHURCH INSTITUTE, ROCHESTER, N. Y.

Beginning at Boston the first place visited was the Bunker Hill Boys' Club in Charlestown.

It is near Bunker Hill Monument. Mr. E. L. Hunt is the director. It was incorporated in 1899. The Club occupies an old and interesting residence in the most congested district in that portion of Boston. It has a large membership, with an average attendance of 125 boys each night. Mr. Hunt and his wife live in the house and devote their entire time to the work and, considering their facilities, it would seem that their plant is being worked to its utmost capacity. They need a new building very much and are trying at the present time to raise money to build.

The Club is a combination of what is known as the "mass" and the "group" clubs, resembling our own in this respect also. The Printing Club and the Free-Hand Drawing Club are very successful. The reading room is unique in its furnishings with its old fashioned fire place and its cheerful fire, and is used very freely by the boys. It had a large number of books and many periodicals.

In all of the settlements of Boston, boys' work has an important place, but it is entirely in "group" clubs, meeting perhaps once or twice each week in charge of a director and in every case taking up special lines of work. There is no doubt but that the chief interest of the boys is centered around the gymnasium and all athletics.

The building for the Boys' Club at Fall River was given by Mr. M. C. D. Borden, of New York City, and was opened December 25, 1897. The

club was organized February 1, 1890. The lot cost \$5,000, and the building \$90,000. It was the first building built especially for a boys' club in this country, and although two others, one in New York and one in Pawtucket, have since been built, we think the one at Fall River is still most suitable for the work.

It has fine libraries of more than 2,500 volumes, an attractive entertainment hall, seating 540, with fine stage and scenery, two gymnasiums, two bowling alleys, two shower and three tub baths, a swimming pool, class room, game rooms, printing establishment, in summer a vacation school of 200 children, a large farm, upon which 80 to 100 boys spend a week each, a membership of about 2,000 boys and an average attendance of about 250 each evening. Suitable times are set apart when men and women can use the gymnasium and the swimming pool.

Here again we find the combination of the "mass" and the "group" clubs. At noon men and boys are provided with a place to eat their dinners, or read, free. Gymnasium and outdoor athletics have their full share of attention. There is a law school with law library, a natural history society, a loyal temperance legion, and the young men's Hebrew Association Club meeting Sunday afternoons.

Mr. Thomas Chew is the superintendent and has been since its organization. He devotes his whole time to the work. He was an operator in one of the cotton mills for seventeen years. This being the chief industry of Fall River, it enables Mr. Chew to understand perfectly the needs of the boys of his city and he certainly is doing a splendid work.

Pawtucket Boys' Club, situated in a city of about 40,000 population, has a building opened in 1902 and is called by some a model building. It was built by Col. Lyman B. Goff, a wealthy manufacturer. The cost of the building is not known, but it is probably worth more than \$100,000. The swimming pool is as fine as can be built, as are also the three bowling alleys. The gymnasium and entertainment hall are so arranged that they can be thrown into one room. The library is large, handsomely furnished, and well equipped with books, periodicals and pictures. The game room is large and will accommodate easily 250 boys at one time.

It is the intention of Mr. Geo. O'Niell, the superintendent, to introduce the "group" system as rapidly as possible; but his plans are not matured, the club having been opened for so short a time. It will be interesting to note the development of this new enterprise.

The Avenue A Club in New York City, which is exclusively for boys, was built by Mr. E. H. Harriman, and although opened one year ago at an expense of \$150,000, is to be increased with a large addition this year in which will be a swimming pool and bowling alleys and an entertainment hall. This club is twenty-five years old, its present superintendent, Mr. Tabor, having been in charge for about five years.

This is another combination of the "mass" and "group" club. It would be impossible to outline the work being done by the small clubs, as there are probably forty or more of them. Here again we find the gymnasium and outdoor athletics occupying a large amount of time and attention. We can get but little idea, even by reading the club's reports and records, of the vast amount of work that is being done.

In New York, as in Boston, a great amount of work is being done for boys by the various settlements, almost entirely upon the group plan, believing that they get in closer touch with the boys. This is undoubtedly true; but we believe that the very best work is done by the clubs which combine both the "mass" and the "group" system, because a much larger number of boys can be under good influence and not all boys care to take up special lines of work every evening. Therefore they only get together once or twice each week, and the balance of the time are upon the streets and in their little gangs, without the influence of pleasant surroundings, social games, and the direction of people who are interested in trying to make them better citizens. However, most of the settlements have not the facilities necessary for caring for boys in large numbers at one time, which accounts for their work being confined wholly to the "group" system.

The Boys' Club, Brick Church Institute, Rochester, N. Y., maintained by the Brick Presbyterian Church, is an illustration of what can be done by a city church for the betterment of the social condition of the neighborhood.

This club has a membership of over 650 boys, divided into two clubs, known as "A" and "B," the former under thirteen years of age, the latter thirteen and over. Each club meets two evenings each week. The members of "Club A" pay dues of 5 cents per month, those of "Club B" 10 cents per month. Any boy without regard to race, creed or color may become a member. The boys may draw books from the circulating library.

A "Penny Provident Fund" teaches the boys to save money. The reading room is well stocked with papers and periodicals and is

freely made use of. The gymnasium is the great center of attraction, in fact, the chief interest in a Boys' Club gathers about athletic exercise.

The game room furnishes its full share of amusement and is a source of great improvement to boys, if they are supervised by older persons, who seek, not only to amuse the boys, but to teach them good manners and "fair play." The personal contact with persons of refinement soon has a marked effect upon most of the boys.

Educational work, or rather "play work," is not forgotten; the larger or "Mass" clubs are divided into "group" clubs, these are named and taught by competent teachers. A few may be mentioned. "The Indians" are weaving baskets, "The Saws and Hammers" are learning the use of carpenters' tools. "The Young Americas" and "The Stars and Stripes" are being told about history, by stories, maps and pictures. "The X Rays" and "The Lightening Bugs" are having fun with electricity. "The Boy Travelers" are skipping about the world at a more rapid pace than even Jules Verne imagined. "The Warblers" test the patience of the singing teacher to "the limit"; they only wish to sing the popular songs of the stage and street, but their voices are sweet and clear and worthy of cultivation.

When all our city churches take up the social betterment of their neighborhoods, always beginning with the children, it will not be long before the "slums" will cease to be known.

It is not enough to be industrious; so are the ants. What are you industrious about?—Thoreau.

Don't worry about your work. Do what you can, let the rest go, and smile all the time.—Anonymous.

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**The New York Settlement Summer Home.**

Ridge Farm, the summer home of the College Settlement at Mt. Ivy, New York, was opened for the season on June 11th, when a party of sixteen kindergarten children with their teachers began a happy week there. Several young married women with their babies and a few working girls completed the party, filling the house to its utmost capacity.

These were by no means the first visitors to the farm this season, for on every Sunday since the middle of April, parties have spent the day there, each of the older clubs enjoying the privilege and inviting friends or combining with other clubs. Sometimes they went upon Saturday night, and Decoration Day coming at the week's end gave a long holiday to a favored few.

At that time two clubs of young men or older boys pitched their tents and began preparations for their summer camp life. They have been saving money all winter, resulting in a very nice equipment for each camp, and they have elaborate plans for the future.

The members spend their Sundays there and every holiday and vacation time, but as they depend entirely on their own resources, their presence is no burden to the house.



After the first of July a camp for a dozen small boys will be opened in charge of the same competent director who looked after them last year. Some improvements will have been made, such as a roof over the dining room and kitchen, and the boys are eagerly anticipating all the joys of camp life.

Indeed, the days at Mt. Ivy are eagerly sought after by all the Settlement's adherents.

### Philadelphia Settlement Notes.

#### THE CHALKLEY HALL COUNTRY CLUB.

The club will open for its second summer July 1. It is in the first place a household made up of "residents" and "visitors." All who stay longer than one month are classified as residents. Board charges range from \$2 to \$3 per week. In some cases of poverty, sickness or large families provision is made for all or part of the club charges by friends of the Settlement or the beneficiaries, or by the Country Week Association. It is a self-evident proposition that no man earning less than \$15 per week can take a wife and five children to the country for \$14 per week, keep up his rent in town, pay car fare to get to his work and meet the incidental expenses that must also be reckoned in.

Mr. and Mrs. Wetherill are doing the great service of lending Chalkley Hall rent free. The work of house and garden and lawn is organized on a co-operative plan. The cooking is paid for, but beyond this all labor is done by the residents and visitors. The cost of domestic service last summer was less than \$30. The household had regularly from 25 to 30 members, while for over Sunday we frequently ran up to 50 for lodging and meals, with 20 to 30 more for irregular eating; if we count the picnickers providing their own food we must record some days as bringing to the club from 150 to 200 people.

We have been frankly asked: "Do you do the work necessary for the decent conduct of such a household, or do you live like pigs?" We reply, "Come and see." Some of our visitors last summer said it seemed like Paradise, others that it wasn't so bad as they expected; some stayed all summer and were as faithful and unselfish as saints, others made short visits, elevated their noses at the idea of dishwashing, refused to pick up what others had thrown down and were so generally lavish in manifestations of their swinish natures that their departure was hailed with joy—even officially hastened in one or two cases—and

their return discouraged. As in so many cases, "them as likes that sort of thing, why that's the sort of thing they likes."

The material side of life at the club is held to very simple lines. The floors are bare, the rooms are furnished in meager camp style, the fare is by no means daintily luxurious. In some spots we should rejoice to spend a considerable sum of money to improve things. We should like, for example, to spend fifty dollars in whitewashing and to quadruple our bathing facilities; we should be glad if the Board of Health would experiment in Frankford in the extermination of mosquitoes—which would be a very expensive job. Take it all in all, however, with all the work, the financial limitations and what not that may wear on some, there are always others, a goodly company of us, who count the Chalkley Hall Country Club a chief blessing and delight.

—Among the Settlement Clubs the interest in the Country Club is great. Two evenings of Minstrel Show in our own rooms netted \$20, and *Lend Me Five Shillings* given at the New Century Drawing Room, \$120, both sums to be applied to the expenses of the summer outfit. Shower baths and tennis courts are first choice among the many objects desired.

—In connection with the Juvenile Court work carried on at the Settlement, two probation officers have been appointed. Miss Jones and Miss McCurdy. Both have had excellent preliminary experience. We place the heavy emphasis in all the probation work on the development of methods for the training and enlightenment of the probationer after he has been placed under the care of the officer by order of the Court. The probation boy usually "knows his world" in a very real and amazing way. Too often he has had no introduction to the world of saner and more wholesome ideals and practices. The term "ideals" in this connection is not ill-advisably used; for the small boy is the idealist *par excellence*, if he be carefully analyzed and understandingly interpreted, and by no means the matter-of-fact little beast apparent on the surface. The problem is to put right standards into forms which will appeal to him and command his loyalty, and to see that contact is maintained. The strongest appeal is made when these new standards are embodied in a person—it is the appeal of the Incarnation. We need the widest co-operation in applying this method to our probation boys—and their unnumbered "friends," like them in all but the evil fortune of getting caught.

## BOOKS AND PICTURES.

Because of the repairs on 429 Christian street, both the book and picture libraries were much delayed in opening this winter. When, however, late in January the new reading and study room was opened, an almost unlimited number of books would have gone into use had they been at hand. Unfortunately our shelves held only 200 volumes, and even these were not a picked 200, but only the well-worn remnants of last winter's library with the addition of a few volumes which had come to us by gift through the summer.

About 30 veteran volumes fell in the first few charges, but the remaining 170 have served gallantly during the short but active campaign of this season. These few books have made more than 700 neighborhood visits in five months, and when we consider that in all probability they were exchanged among the neighbors and friends during their week's visit, perhaps doubling our record of use, we can scarcely wonder that they are a dilapidated company, much in need of recruits.

We are especially in need of juvenile biography and the standard poets. It is scarcely necessary to add that juvenile fiction is always needed.

The total circulation of 414 pictures, a marked increase over last year's record, is due to the more attractive class of pictures we have been able to offer and we hope to further increase the library from time to time by the addition of really good photographs and prints.

A picture library on similar lines has been started at Front street. It promises to give quite as much pleasure to the people of that neighborhood as the older library, though as yet we have only 36 pictures to circulate. Madonnas are eagerly sought by the Polish and Irish children and probably because of their sea-faring brothers and friends, pictures of the sea, of ships or of sailors are the most popular.

## GENERAL ASSOCIATION NOTES.

Some important work is to be carried on in the special committees during the summer. As stated in the general account of the May meeting of the Association, a committee is considering the advisability of increasing appropriations to present settlements; another committee has under consideration the preparation of educational literature to aid in emphasizing the real aim of the settlement movement; still another committee is at work on plans for the provision of more Fellowships in relation

with the colleges, while the committee on Western extension is in charge of tentative plans for forming chapters of the Association as occasion may offer in some of the Western colleges.

It has been deemed advisable to get the Bibliography of Settlements into as wide a circulation as possible while it is up-to-date and valuable. Hence it is advertised for free distribution. A notice to that effect in a recent number of *Charities* has already brought requests for the pamphlets from many and various sources.

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**ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD WORKERS, NEW YORK CITY.**

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY

MARY KINGSBURY SIMKHOVITCH,

26 Jones Street, New York City.

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**Another Independent Settlement in New York City.**

The council of the University Settlement Society has decided that in consequence of its heavy financial responsibilities it will have to discontinue the West Side Branch, whose houses are in King street and McDougal street. Those members of the Council, however, that have been most closely connected with the work of the branch, together with some of the residents, feeling that the work of the lower West Side is extremely important and that the ground gained by three years' work is too valuable to be relinquished, have formed a temporary organization to be perfected shortly which will carry on the Branch as an independent settlement after September 1, 1903. The University Settlement Society is pleased with the possibility of having the work continued and will give to the new settlement, together with its good will, the present equipment and the use of the two houses of the branch until the leases expire next May. The new settlement will thus start its work under the most auspicious circumstances and is already assured of the sympathy and financial assistance of several of the old friends of the "Branch."

The new settlement will, doubtless, have to curtail some of its organized work for economy's sake, as the financial burden will necessarily be heavy until the house is well established in its independence.

The house at 28 McDougal street will be the headquarters of the new settlement which will

probably be named after Aaron Burr's estate of Richmond Hill, which was located there.

The committee on organization will doubtless add other members, but at present it is made up as follows:

Members of the Council of the University Settlement Society—Prof. Franklin H. Giddings, Mr. J. G. Phelps Stokes, Mr. W. Kirkpatrick Brice, Mr. Seymour L. Cromwell.

Residents of the West Side Branch—Mrs. Richard Y. Fitzgerald, Miss Elizabeth R. Bartholow, Miss Mary Kate Starkey, Miss Elizabeth Romer, Mr. Howard H. Nieman.

Mrs. Fitzgerald will serve as head worker.

#### FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NATIONAL CONSUMERS' LEAGUE.

If anyone wants to read an interesting account of what a determined, energetic association can accomplish in four years, let them send to 105 E. 22nd street, New York City, for the fourth annual report of the National Consumers' League.

The credit for the rapid growth of the National League is largely due to the extraordinary personal effectiveness of its general secretary, Mrs. Florence Kelley. But this is not the whole story. Even Mrs. Kelley could hardly leave such a long trail of leagues in her path as she takes her meteoric course across and about the United States if it were not for the fact, that the public is beginning to be anxious everywhere to do its larger duty in demanding that the goods it daily consumes should be produced and distributed under conditions which are fair to the producer and satisfactory to the consumer, who has a right to know what he is buying.

This baby organization, only four years old, now embraces 53 leagues in 18 states. There are also foreign leagues at Paris, The Hague, Rotterdam and Amsterdam.

The main work of late years has been the building up of new leagues, and creating an increased demand for the consumers' label, now being used by 43 manufacturers, controlling 47 factories in 11 states.

It is still true that a majority of the recommended factories are in New England—27 out of 47—while 22 are in Massachusetts. This is due to the excellence of the factory legislation of Massachusetts and the faithfulness with which it is enforced; and of the habit of obedience to the law which distinguishes the manufacturers of that state. There is less change needed to bring an average factory up to the requirements of the Consumers' League in Massachusetts than in any other state.

"The task of the Consumers' League in New York City is the greatest of all its tasks, and is yet scarcely begun. To make the label so valuable commercially that manufacturers will gladly abandon the practice of giving out work is one part thereof. The other part is to promote such legislation and such enforcement of existing legislation as will make tenement house work less desirable for manufacturers than it now is.

"The enforcement of the law is deplorably insufficient and incompetent. There are but 39 inspectors for the whole state of New York; and the work of the corps is pitifully ineffectual when judged by the results embodied in the latest report. The report of the Factory Inspectors in the state of New York is compiled by the statisticians of the State Department of Labor; and there is a startling contrast between the brilliant technical work of the compilers and the deplorable results chronicled by them on behalf of the Inspectors.

"Thus the report says: 'To hold every licensee fully up to the standard of the law would require almost constant surveillance, while under the most favorable circumstances the department cannot, with its present force of inspectors, make more than two inspections annually of the 30,000 licensed places.'

"Of the 62,390 persons licensed to work in the garment trades in tenement houses, 46 persons were fined in a year for violations of the law. This is a trifle more than one person for each of the 39 inspectors, and a trifle less than one in a thousand of the licensed persons. As it is notorious that the law is more honored in the breach than in the observance, particularly in the streets in which the licenses are most abundantly granted—in Mulberry, Mott and Elizabeth streets—this record of incompetence in the enforcement of the law by prosecution indicates an urgent need of radical change either in the methods or the personnel of the Factory Inspection Department.

"In New Jersey, as in previous years, the use of the label is greatly hindered by lax laws and laxer enforcement thereof. The past year has produced no direct improvement in the enforcement of the law of 1892, known as the Fifty-five Hours Law, in the state of New Jersey. When this law was enacted it placed New Jersey in advance of the other states in statutory care of working women and children, by prohibiting for them all work after 6 o'clock at night, before 7 o'clock in the morning and after 1 o'clock on Saturday afternoon. Unfortunately it has never been enforced and young chil-

dren have been required to work all night in the glass works precisely as if there had never been any legal enactment for their protection. All efforts of the Consumers' League to induce the State Factory Inspector, John C. Ward, to test the constitutionality of this law, which has never been decided, although a case has been pending before the Court of Errors and Appeals of the state of New Jersey since October 31st, 1894, have failed.

"The Legislature which has recently adjourned enacted a statute probably unique in the history of factory legislation. This statute authorizes the governor of the state to remove from office the State Factory Inspector. The responsibility for the future enforcement of the labor laws will, therefore, devolve upon Governor Francis Murphy even more explicitly than has been the case hitherto.

"This Legislature has also raised the age at which boys may be employed in manufacture to fourteen years, making the age limit uniform for boys and girls; and abolished the discretion formerly reposed in the Deputy Factory Inspectors to exempt from the provisions of the child labor law children in families so poor that in the opinion of the Deputy Inspectors they needed the earnings of the children.

"These steps in the direction of the better care of the working children, although halting and insufficient, are the most important which have been taken since the death of Factory Inspector Lawrence Fell several years ago. They are largely due to the persistent effort of the Consumers' League of New Jersey, which has kept the subject to the fore undiscouraged in the presence of very great cause for discouragement; and to Mr. Hugh F. Fox, whose article on 'Child Labor in New Jersey,' published in the *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, in July, 1902, marked the beginning of a new era for working children in New Jersey.

"In Pennsylvania the result of the winter's work is most disheartening. A bill regulating the hours of work of children in manufacture and commerce, drafted by the best legal counsel to be had in the state of Pennsylvania, and approved by the State Federation of Women's Clubs, the state and local Consumers' Leagues, and by the New Century and Civic Clubs of Philadelphia, not only failed to become a law, but was allowed to die in the committee of the Legislature to which it was referred, without even a hearing before the committee being secured by its friends. No other effort on behalf of the working children, from New York to

Oregon, failed so ignominiously as this. Indirectly, however, the factory children may profit from a new law secured by the exertions of the miners' union, providing that children are no longer permitted to work underground in any mine, anthracite or bituminous, under the age of sixteen years; or in breakers under the age of fourteen years. This law will not only directly protect the mine working children; it will deprive the Pennsylvania factory inspectors of their long-lived and hard-worked excuse that it was impossible to enforce the age limit for work for boys in factories because, when dismissed from a factory under the legal age of thirteen years, the boys went at once to a mine where they might legally work at the age of twelve years.

"Wretched is the condition, however, of the little girls who, at the age of thirteen years, may be regularly and legally employed twelve hours at night in the textile mills. For the decision of the Superior Court of Pennsylvania in the case of *Beatty vs. the State of Pennsylvania*, legalizes the employment of women and children twelve hours in twenty-four, and does not specify that these twelve hours shall not be at night. This will continue until the next meeting of the Legislature in 1905, by reason of the failure of the factory bills of 1903 to become laws.

"In the Southern States, the Legislatures of Alabama, North and South Carolina, Texas and Virginia have passed child labor laws during the winter of 1902-3; while Kentucky, Maryland and Tennessee had already enacted initial measures in previous years. (See the report of the Consumers' League of Kentucky, elsewhere in this report.) Moreover, the last named three states have the advantage of possessing officials whose duty it is to enforce the provisions of their laws. So far as it has been possible to learn the contents of the new laws, none of them provides for inspectors, and their enforcement seems, therefore, likely to be far from effectual. Viewed as indications of the public sentiment of the states in which they have been enacted, they are, however, valuable and significant.

"Alabama and South Carolina have prohibited the employment of children under the age of ten years. Arkansas and North Carolina prohibit the employment of children under the age of twelve years, but with wide reservations in favor of the employment of children even younger if they have widowed mothers. Texas seems to have made an approach to the statute of Massachusetts, but it is not possible to se-

cure at this time the text of the new laws of Texas and Virginia.

"On the Pacific Coast, Oregon and Washington have made a long stride, having gone from the group of states with no restrictions into the topmost group which prohibit children from working until they are full fourteen years old. The Legislature of Washington has enacted a law forbidding children under the age of fourteen years to work in factories, mills, mines, stores, except when given a permit by a judge of the Superior Court. If in the opinion of the court the support of the family or of an invalid parent depends upon the children, he may grant such children a permit, which is revocable at any time, subject to the discretion of the court. The employment of girls under eighteen as public messengers is forbidden.

"In the Middle West, the longest step of the year seems to have been taken by the adoption of a workable compulsory education law in Wisconsin, largely due to the efforts of the State Consumers' League in co-operation with the Children's Betterment League of Milwaukee and the trade unions throughout the state of Wisconsin. The efforts of the League are elsewhere set forth in this report in the brief and lively report of the present President, Mrs. B. C. Gudden, of Oshkosh, to which the reader is referred.

\*"In Illinois, the sad plight of the Legislature renders it doubtful whether the compulsory education law or the child labor law can be passed. This is the more deplorable because Illinois rivals Pennsylvania in the insufficiency of the laws on both subjects; and as in Pennsylvania, the Legislature meets but once in two years.

"This fragmentary view of the subject indicates with sufficient clearness that the effort to protect the children of all the states according to the standard of Connecticut and Massachusetts will require, to achieve success, effort on a national scale for several years to come."

Write it in your heart that every day is the best day of the year.—Emerson.

The one eternal lesson for us all is how better we can love.—Henry Drummond.

"No men living are more worthy to be trusted than those who toil up from poverty—none less inclined to take or touch aught which they have not honestly earned."—Lincoln.

\*Both of these bills were passed and are now law, placing Illinois in the front rank of States prohibiting child labor and providing compulsory education.—*Editor*.

### THE ONCOMING TIME.

And slow and sure comes up the golden year  
When wealth no more shall rest in mounded  
heaps,

But smit with freer light shall slowly melt  
In many streams to fatten lower lands,  
And light shall spread, and man be liker man  
Thro' all the seasons of the golden year.

Ah! when shall all men's good  
Be each man's rule, and universal Peace  
Lie like a shaft of light across the land,  
And like a lane of beams athwart the sea,  
Thro' all the circle of the golden year?

—ALFRED TENNYSON.

### NOTES FROM THE SETTLEMENTS.

At Toynbee Hall a course of lectures upon "Natural History of Decorative Art" was recently delivered by Dr. Haddon. Upon the success of these lectures and the need for such instruction, the *Toynbee Record* says:

"The numbers in attendance have been fair, and there is no question of the interest they have taken in the lectures. They are just what is wanted to bring out the significance of the everyday things which we pass by as insignificant or commonplace; in other words, they do just what good teaching ought to do—make the common things and events of life mean more to us. And if History, Literature, Art, or other subjects which belong to the "Humanities" were more often treated in this way, there would, perhaps, be less difficulty in persuading people to be learners.

"There is a reason for dwelling on this subject. The Educational arrangements for next winter are being drawn up, and much time has been spent in considering what new classes and lectures should be offered. The old University Extension Society, now become the Local Lectures Branch of the London University, is ready to give its help if a workable scheme is proposed either for East London, or for a wider area. Canon Barnett has written an article in *The Westminster Gazette*, explaining in outline what sort of scheme may be possible. There is a growing feeling that it is high time to make a determined attempt to put the "Humanities" in their proper place, a place at least equal to that held by technical teaching.

### A PARTING AND A WELCOME.

On Friday, May 1st, a meeting was held in the Guildhall, at Cambridge, to take leave of the retiring Head, the Rev. W. Falkner Baily, and welcome his successor, the Rev. W. J.

Conybear. The Provost of King's presided over a large and representative gathering.

The Chairman, in opening the proceedings, referred to the great meeting held in that Hall seven years ago to inaugurate the beginning of Cambridge House. They had on that occasion speakers who were representative of the highest aspirations of Cambridge men in the present Prime Minister, Bishop Westcott, and Bishop Ryle. The Bishop of Rochester brought with him the fullest knowledge of South London's needs, and under such auspices it was impossible for Cambridge House to fail. Today the lines of a great work had been securely laid. Cambridge was no longer a strange name or word to South London, and whatever they in future did to bring help and sympathy and light to the people in that place would be readily and cordially welcomed. The people expected it of them now; they would not, he thought, disappoint these expectations. He hoped that they would all carry away the thought that what was wanted in South London was their personal help, their presence if it might be, from time to time; that some of them at any rate should go there as opportunity offered and prove to the people who had not had the advantages, the privileges and the happiness of life such as had been enjoyed by his hearers, that they were willing to do what in them lay to bring the light, the education, and the other blessings being enjoyed in Cambridge to the people of South London.—*Cambridge House Magazine*.

The recently issued annual of Whittier House contains an instructive report upon tenement conditions in Jersey City, by Miss Mary B. Sayles, College Settlement Association fellowship resident.

Kingsley House, Pittsburg, has lately been presented a beautiful Summer Home for use by the Settlement in its outing work. Probably no more effective contribution to the summer service of that needy district could have been made.

The pioneer work of the Northwestern University Settlement in distributing pasteurized and modified milk at cost in some of the tenement districts of Chicago has resulted in the establishment of a permanent plant to supply the whole city. The work of installation is now in progress at the Hoyne School, from which center of manufacture it will be distributed to all needy portions of the population.

Accompanying the interesting 1902 annual report of the University Settlement Society of New York, which is otherwise noteworthy for containing an address by Miss Jane Addams delivered at the annual meeting, is an important report upon the "fake" installment business as operated on Manhattan Island. After an analysis and classification of installment trading, Mr. Henry R. Mussey concludes his suggestions for remedial legislation as follows:

"What then is to be done? We have about exhausted the list of palliative measures proposed and have dismissed them all as insufficient for the comprehensive reason that where a vicious system exists amid social and economic conditions that give wide opportunity for fraud, the ways and means of its workings are mere matters of detail, and those who work it will invent new methods to meet changed conditions. Only two possible alternatives, then, remain. Either put the business under the strictest possible public regulation and so reduce its evils to the lowest limit, or better, if possible, abolish it altogether. The immediate and practical way to accomplish this last highly-desirable result is to abolish the right to the body execution in installment cases where the amount involved is less than \$50, or possibly \$75, if such action can be constitutionally taken. The first figure would include more than 80 per cent of all the cases in which arrests have been made, while the second would take in more than 90 per cent. I should be inclined to favor the \$75 limit because of the not inconsiderable trade in sixty dollar watches. The lower limit would, however, accomplish the result aimed at, in my opinion, an opinion in which I find myself in substantial agreement with most persons who have studied the matter carefully.

#### NOTICE.

Copies of the fourth edition of the Bibliography of College, Social, University and Church Settlements, compiled by Caroline Williamson Montgomery for the College Settlements' Association, may be had free of cost, postage prepaid, on application to the secretary of the association, Miss S. G. Tomkins, 1904 Walnut street, Philadelphia, Pa.

"I have a woman's element in me. I hate the incessant struggle and toil to cut one another's throat among us men, and I long to be able to meet with some one in whom I can place implicit confidence."—Huxley.

"This country, with its institutions, belongs to the people who inhabit it."—Lincoln.

**WAYMARKS OF SOCIAL PROGRESS.**

Percy Alden is Labor candidate for member of Parliament from Tottenham at the next general election.

Under the general caption of "Religious Influences" the third series of published results from the extraordinary investigation into the life and labor of the people of London, directed by Mr. Charles Booth, is now on sale. (Booth & Co., 88 Gold St., New York City.)

In the annual report of the Chicago Police Department, General Superintendent Francis O'Neill, speaking of the municipal lodging house experiment in that city, says:

"The work accomplished by the Municipal Lodging House during the past year has demonstrated the wisdom of those who originated and established the institution. It has served a double purpose: First, by relieving the Police Department of the necessity of annually caring for the flotsam and jetsam of humanity at the different police stations; and, second, by aiding the needy without pauperizing and robbing them of their self-respect. A gratifying diminution in the number of tramps who infest our city every winter is plainly evident under the new conditions. Employers of labor have also come to recognize that fact, that the people accommodated at the Municipal Lodging House are not entirely of the 'hobo' element, but that many of them are laborers and artisans in temporary difficulties and are worthy of consideration."

**SOCIAL FABLES -- XI.**

A citizen of a republic once went a traveling to improve his mind. He crossed the ocean and visited a certain country, where he saw a boy spending his young years under exceedingly careful tutelage. Wise and well trained teachers looked after his intellectual development; physicians and athletes and scientific experts watched over his food, and sleep, and exercise, and recreation, and saw that he had enough of everything. The citizen of the republic asked "who is this boy, of which such exceptional care is taken?" and they answered, "this is the future sovereign of the country."

Then the citizen of the republic went home to a great industrial city where he lived, and this is what he saw for one week:

Sunday—A future sovereign selling papers in the rain.

Monday—A future sovereign serving a big department store as cash boy at \$2 a week.

Tuesday—A future sovereign testifying that

he worked as a breaker boy in a coal mine, though two years younger than the legal age.

Wednesday—A future sovereign working in a Kensington mill, locally known as the "Kindergarten."

Thursday—A future sovereign, with a message in his pocket addressed to a house of ill repute, holding a gory novel in one hand and a cigarette in the other.

Friday—A future sovereign playing craps on the curbstone because the politicians had not provided school houses enough.

Saturday—A future sovereign coming out of a saloon, carrying a "growler."

And the citizen thought, and thought, and thought. —*The Monthly Leader*.

On the summit of a little knoll in the pleasure garden of the Familistère at Guise, France, is the tomb of Jean Baptiste André Godin. On one face of the monument is a portrait bust of Godin in bronze; to the right is a moulder in his working dress; on the left a young woman is pointing out the portrait of Godin to a little child whom she carries in her arms; above the bust, a figure symbolical of Immortality seems to spring upwards; on the stone are engraved these words, addressed by Godin to his fellow workers and found among his papers after his death:

COME TO THIS TOMB  
WHEN YOU HAVE NEED TO BE REMINDED  
THAT I FOUNDED THE FAMILISTERE  
FOR BROTHERLY ASSOCIATION AND PARTNERSHIP.  
REMAIN UNITED BY THE LOVE OF HUMANITY.  
PARDON THE WRONGS WHICH OTHERS DO TO YOU.  
HATRED IS THE FRUIT OF EVIL HEARTS:  
LET IT NOT ENTER AMONG YOU.  
LET THE REMEMBRANCE OF ME BE FOR YOU A BOND  
OF BROTHERLY UNITY.  
NOTHING IS GOOD OR MERITORIOUS WITHOUT THE  
LOVE OF HUMANITY.  
PROSPERITY WILL ACCOMPANY YOU IN PROPORTION  
AS CONCORD SHALL REIGN AMONG YOU.  
BE JUST TOWARDS ALL AND YOU WILL SERVE AS AN  
EXAMPLE.

A man who dares to waste an hour of time has not learned the value of life.—Charles Darwin.

"Suspicion and jealousy never did help any man in any situation."—Lincoln.

**The Church in Social Reforms**

By Graham Taylor. An Address and Discussion at the International Congregational Council in Boston, 1899. Twenty-five cents.

# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor  
from the Social Settlement Point of View.

**GRAHAM TAYLOR, - - - Editor**

Entered at Chicago Postoffice as Second-Class Matter, and  
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50 Cents



A Year

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## EDITORIAL.

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We wish to call particular attention to a letter sent out by the Committee of Child Labor of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, and published in this issue of THE COMMONS. We heartily endorse the recommendations of this letter, and believe that a faithful prosecution of the plan outlined will yield important humanitarian and scientific results.

### View-Points Afield

ON TAKING FIRST SIGHT OF THE SETTLEMENT  
FROM A DISTANCE.

Taking a leave of absence is an experience to one who has never had one nearly akin to leaving the world. Bringing one's life-work to a full stop for a long while is almost like preparing to end one's life itself. But it is worth all it costs not only in actually insuring life and renewing one's lease upon it, but in the perspective it gives to the work of life. To get away from everything with which one has been in range-less close quarters, far enough to gain the sense of proportion, plays no small part in promoting the sanity and effectiveness of service. To be better able to distinguish the less from the greater, the form from the substance, the transient from the permanent, and the relatively important from the absolutely essential, surely equips any one the better for playing even the most minor parts in every life's great mission. Settlement work suffers more than almost any other from the lack of this sense of perspective. This is necessary in order to give and maintain that high social and spiritual ideal, without which residence loses significance, and the daily routine of department work, so all important to the neighborhood, easily becomes either so trivial as not to seem worth the sacrifice, or so deadly dull as to deal death to the worker's spirit.

On this account each resident should have a month's vacation every year, with change of

scene and point of view. And throughout the remaining months this sense of proportion should be reinforced by private reading, household vespers and enough association with occasions and people outside the settlement house and district to maintain a normal balance and sustain the social ideal. Upon the head-resident must devolve most of the responsibility and effort involved. It is as important a factor as any with which this office is invested. It can be fulfilled only by keeping his or her own personality keyed up, as unconsciously as possible, to the truest and highest tone, and by a real personal influence upon fellow residents, more directly than designedly exerted. For equipment for this delicate duty toward the household and the neighborhood every opportunity consistent with consecutiveness of service should be taken by the head-resident to broaden his or her own point of view and deepen the life by persistent study, ceaseless heart-culture and occasional travel. Such is the first retrospect taken of the hidden heart of the settlement household, disclosed as never before to the writer by the little mail bag full of letters from his fellow residents, opened daily at sea. Their estimate of the value to their work of every such personal touch upon their lives places far mightier emphasis than was ever received before upon the vital relation between the interior life of the students and their service in the community. G. T.

### Enforce Child Labor Laws.

Many important amendments to existing statutes, and some original legislation prohibiting and protecting child workers, have been recently enacted in the several states. Illinois heads the list in substantial progress toward the abolition of this industrial and social curse.

Nevertheless, no one should be deceived into thinking that the siege is over. All effective legislative reform results from three progressive steps. Awakening public opinion is the first. Next is the enactment of adequate legislation. The third and by far the most difficult is the enforcement of such legislation.

To this great task the brave and faithful allies in the battles lately won—the Labor Unions and the Women's Clubs—should now lend with unflinching zeal. The state authorities must be encouraged and supported by public opinion, and to this end a campaign of education must be steadily waged.

The vital provisions of the new statutes should be printed upon cards with full instructions regarding the report of violations of the



law to Factory Inspectors, etc., and distributed through unions, clubs and societies. Publicity can be made as mighty an ally for humanity as it has been for trade.

### Book Reviews.

**The Place of Industries in Elementary Education.**  
By KATHERINE ELIZABETH DOPP. University of Chicago Press, Chicago, Ill. Net, \$1.00; postpaid, \$1.10.

This work will be read with much interest by all who feel the need of reform in our educational methods.

Miss Dopp seems to have absorbed the best that Darwin, Froebel and Professor Dewey have given to the educational world, and after several years' teaching has made an attempt to supply the need which Miss Jane Addams and many others have so keenly felt of giving a historic background to the great mass of workers in an industrial society daily growing more complex. "As the end becomes farther and farther removed," she writes, "the workers no longer being able to perceive the whole process of production, has need of a greater consciousness of collective life" in order to maintain the quality of his life and work.

The main content of the book is devoted to showing the parallel between the industrial activities of society from primitive times to the present and the psychical attitudes of the child. She points out that our industrial development does not differ organically from that of the past, but in its complexity. In simple social groups industry has been the matrix holding the other interests of life, as art and science, until they were strong enough to stand alone, and because industry is the very sub-structure of society conditioning all other activities it should have a place in the education of the young. The psychologists have found that just as society has passed through the different industrial epochs, first, the period of domestic economy, including the hunting, fishing, pastoral and agricultural stages, the ages of metals, travel, trade and transportation, the city, state and the feudal system, second, the period of town economy or the handicraft system, and third, our own period of national economy or the factory system, so the child passes through the same physical attitudes in relation to industry.

It is out of the question to add more to our already overcrowded school curriculum. Instead, a reconciliation must be brought about between the child and the subjects already there. The introduction of industry in an organic way would do this, each new study being

taken up as the content of life is reached which gave rise to it. One chapter in particular, the outgrowth of her endeavor to carry out this method in her teachings is rich in suggestions. This working up through the more fundamental processes of life and finding out how the need for each science, art and industry arose and their consequent development will afford a measurement by means of which the child can interpret the materials of the present which are presented to him in less direct ways. "Practical activity which is an expression of the child's interests and capacities, socialized by racial experience, is not only the best means, but the only means thus far discovered by which the child can organize the subject matters of education. It finds its justification in the race parallel, in the fact that it is the way the child learns before he comes to school, the way he can lay the best basis for the later activities of life and the way he will continue to learn after the walls of the school rooms are left behind.

INIS H. WEED.

Who hath among least things an under-sense  
of greatest;

See the parts as parts, but with a feeling of  
the whole.

—Wordsworth.

## CHICAGO THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

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## The Commons

Is devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor from the Social Settlement point of view. It is published monthly at Chicago Commons, a Social Settlement at Grand Ave. and Morgan St., Chicago, Ill., and is entered at the Chicago Postoffice as mail matter of the second (newspaper) class.

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**CHICAGO COMMONS HAPPENINGS.**

The outing season is on in earnest and park parties and picnics are the order of the day.

Latest news from our travelers in distant lands brings assurance of health and good cheer.

The opening of the playground under the skilled and effective direction of Mr. Clarence W. Haddon has been the great event of the month among our little people. Scores flock daily to this one spot of common ground devoted to the joy of little children in our crowded ward.

June 25th was commencement day for the Pestalozzi Froebel Kindergarten Training School at Chicago Commons. The exercises of the afternoon included an address by Miss Jane Addams and the presentation of diplomas to the graduating class. A dinner to the alumni, graduating class, students and residents of the Commons, with an evening reception and dance concluded a most enjoyable occasion.

Children's Day exercises at the Tabernacle church were marked by one of the prettiest services we have ever witnessed. Some three hundred boys and girls dressed in their "very best" marched in single file up the central aisle of the auditorium and each received a potted plant to take home and care for and bring back for exhibit on next Children's Day. The love of ownership was never more beautifully mingled with the sense of obligation to add to the common fund of joy and beauty in our little world.

Camp Commons in the Penny meadow near Elgin, has begun its fourth season of blessed ministry to the children of the neighborhood. The first group of older boys are now reveling in the sunshine, woods and quiet freedom of that beautiful little valley among the Fox river hills.

Many applications in excess of our present resources have already been made by children that greatly need the country air and this simple wholesome touch with nature. Four dollars will send a child for two weeks to Camp Commons.

The Kitchen Garden class was convened in October, 1902, with the full number of 24 children. There were 30 lessons in all; the class was well attended, the average number being 20 girls. The object of the Kitchen Garden is to teach the children to do housework

properly, and so if possible to make them more helpful in their homes. The girls sing, have an occupation and game, ending the lesson by marching away, bowing good-bye to the teachers. The work is done with toys that are very complete in their likeness to real things, and it would be hard to tell which the children enjoy most, the work or the games, each one of which teaches something. At May commencement, when the lessons ended, there was an exhibition given, that the children called "a party," where the parents were invited to come and see and hear what the girls had learned. There were the regular two tables of twelve girls each. They looked very pretty dressed all alike in white aprons, caps, and kerchiefs, which were made for them to wear at their exhibitions by Mrs. Victor F. Lawson, who has supported the Kitchen Garden for a number of years. They sang, marched, made beds, set the dinner table, and played the game that teaches them to "wait on the door," much to the delight of those who looked on; and then, as "little waiting girls," served their parents and other guests with ice cream and cake. We were very much pleased at the appreciation and gratitude expressed by the fathers as well as the mothers, at the amount the children had learned. And the girls themselves, even the youngest, just eight years old, thanked us so heartily that we felt more than repaid for our winter's work. We start again next October, and hope to have just as good if not a better class than ever before. I. B.

Set your shoulder joyously to the world's wheel.—Havelock Ellis.

Let us never doubt. Everything which ought to happen will happen.—Harriet Beecher Stowe.

**SUMMER COTTAGE FOR RENT.**

**At Macatawa, Mich.**

Seven hours by daily steamer from Chicago. "Near Shore" Cottage on Lake Michigan shore within easy reach of Black Lake. Seven rooms, furnished. Double porch on two sides. Safe, healthful, interesting place for children. Terms \$150 for season from June to October.

Apply early to The Commons, 180 Grand Ave., Chicago.

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**BERTHA HOFER HEGNER,**

Chicago Commons, 180 Grand Ave., Chicago.

# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor from the Settlement Point of View.

Number 85—Vol. VIII

Eighth Year

Chicago, August, 1903

## The Future Church.

Doubtless his Church will be no hospital  
For superannuate forms and mumping slams,  
No parlor where men issue policies  
Of life-assurance on the Eternal Mind,  
Nor his religion but an ambulance  
To fetch life's wounded and malingers in,  
Scorned by the strong; yet he, unconscious heir  
To the influence sweet of Athens and of Rome  
And old Judea's gift of sacred fire,  
Spite of himself shall surely learn to know  
And worship some ideal of himself,  
Some divine thing, large-hearted, brotherly,  
Not nice in trifles, a soft creditor,  
Pleased with his world, and hating only cant.  
And, if his Church be doubtful, it is sure  
That, in a world, made for whatever else,  
Not made for mere enjoyment, in a world  
Of toil but half required, or, at best,  
Paid in some futile currency of breath,  
A world of incompleteness sorrow swift  
And consolation laggard, whatsoever  
The form of building or the creed professed,  
The Cross, hold tye of shame to homage turned,  
Of an unfinished life that sways the world,  
Shall tower as sovereign emblem over all.

—James Russell Lowell.

## WHAT THE SOCIAL MOVEMENT MAY NOT FAIRLY EXPECT FROM HISTORIC CHRISTIANITY.

BY RUSSELL J. WILBUR, HEAD-WORKER NORTH-  
WESTERN UNIVERSITY SETTLEMENT.

Everyone who is interested in social progress would feel it to be a great gain I am sure and a happy omen if a more cordial understanding existed between those who in whatever measure are representatives of the social movement and the clergy of the Roman Catholic, Lutheran, and other more or less conservative and dogmatic churches. The need of such friendly understanding and of the co-operation which would be its inevitable accompaniment is deeply felt surely by very many or nearly all settlement workers.

Every practical matter such as this really involves and finally resolves itself into the consideration of certain fundamental principles, and a treatment of those principles in a

short space is bound to appear somewhat abstract, academic and doctrinaire. If the present short article is faulty in that respect, the writer asks his readers' indulgence, and assures them that he is both restricted in time and space and confident that those who read THE COMMONS are more than able both to illustrate concretely for themselves the principles discussed and to apply them practically if they are theoretically convincing and valid.

It is well to remind ourselves at the outset that we are not trying to find out what the Social Movement may not fairly expect from modern Liberal Christianity from the religion of Harnack and the Ritschlians, or to take more popular and accessible exponents, the religion of Lyman Abbott and President Hyde. By their own professions the Social Movement may expect everything from them, for in their systems the lines of religious duty and privilege are practically coincident with the lines of social expediency and opportunity. Nor all the more are we asking what social workers may not expect from those even less theologically-minded persons whose religion is professedly social "morality touched with emotion" and for whom true theology is simply sociology suffused with sentiment.

We are trying to find out what we may not expect from those who still believe the Bible to be the Word of God in a unique, peculiar and exclusive sense, inspired not only in a supreme degree but with an absolutely unique kind of inspiration. Such a belief has been the one common characteristic of anything which may fairly lay claim to be a form of the religion which nineteen centuries have known.

We are not assuming in this short paper that Historic Christianity is either truer or more false to the mind of Christ than modern Liberal Christianity. It might very well be for the purposes of our modest investigation that the religion of Jesus was corrupted by Peter, Paul, and John and rediscovered by the historical sense and critical method of the nineteenth century. We are simply concerned with the fact that dogmatic Christianity is still an immense force in the world, that very many

excellent people who might be—many of them are—socially very useful, are devoted to their religion above all things, and that it is desirable to secure their sympathy and co-operation as far as possible in the activities of the social movement. The writer is convinced that this very desirable end may be attained most easily if we try to understand dogmatic Christianity and do not expect and demand from it in the name of religion an abandonment of its own principles and surrender of its own position.

In the first place we must not expect consistent adherents of Historic Christianity to abandon their dominant and peremptory "other worldliness." We have only to read our New Testament through—not merely our favorite passages—to see that it everywhere assumes that man's primary and ultimate concern is with an Infinite and Eternal Person who transcends all the manifestations of His immanence in this present world and who calls us to spend an everlasting future with Him—a future which cannot be prepared for merely by ignoring it or taking it for granted and turning our attention away from it to the more obvious demands, however just and valid in their own degree, of this present world.

We may think that this "other worldliness" is anti-social—many opponents of Historic Christianity have thought so from the days of Celsus to the days of Comte—but it is at any rate derived from the New Testament. Surely we have to admit that the New Testament conception of "saving one's soul" or one's "life" transcends the most complete conception of self-culture, however rich and harmonious, combined with the most thoroughgoing altruism. Old-fashioned Christians cannot abandon their "other worldliness" without abandoning their belief in the correctness and finality of the teaching of Scripture.

It is true that Christianity is essentially social, it is the Gospel of a Kingdom. But the Founder of Christianity said that His kingdom was not of this world, nor does Scripture contemplate that it will ever be set up here until after a supernatural cataclysm. In the light of these Bible principles the Church must ever regard her primary business as the gathering of men into a kingdom which can never be realized in the present order, and she must ever regard what we call Christian civilization as a mere by-product and side issue of Christianity, which is bound to grow and progress as far as large numbers of men lead consistent Christian lives, but which cannot be the main concern either of the Church and her ministers or

of individual Christians as such. It may be said that this introduces a certain dualism into thought and life, and that the modern world hates dualism and is enthusiastically monistic. This is true. I am merely concerned to point out that Scripture is dualistic, even to the point of suggesting that the Evil One has a certain claim over the "present world" or at least did have it until the accomplishment of the redemptive work of Christ. There is a certain dualism even in Christ's own words which so sharply distinguish between "the things which are God's" and "the things which are Caesar's." Every reader of the New Testament must have been struck with the sharp antithesis which is everywhere made between the Church and the World. "Be not conformed to this world" says S. Paul; "whosoever will be the friend of this world" says S. James, "is the enemy of God." "Love not the world neither the things that are in the world" says S. John, "if any man love the world the love of the Father is not in him." Such language is not adequately interpreted if it is taken as directed merely against selfishness. It is just as bad from the Bible standpoint to "love the world" for others as to love it for one's self, to love it collectively as individually, to love it altruistically as egoistically.

The truth is that the Bible and Historical Christianity everywhere assume that man is created for two distinct and separate ends, a natural and supernatural end, and also that the attainment of the natural end is always to be subordinated to the attainment of the supernatural end which is of primary and supreme importance. Taking men individually their natural end is self-culture, the harmonious and perfect development of all the natural powers and gifts of the self; taking men collectively their natural end is the perfection of that splendid thing we call civilization, which has been defined as "the perfect humanization of man in society." On the other hand, taking men individually their supernatural end is the salvation of their souls (whatever that may mean) and collectively the consummation of the supernal Kingdom of Heaven. According to the view of historical Christian philosophy be the philosopher Calvin or Aquinas we are placed in the sphere of nature, reason, the State and cosmic law for the attainment of our natural end, and for the attainment of our supernatural end, in the sphere of grace as transcending nature, faith as transcending reason, the Church as transcending the State, and miracle as transcending cosmic law. We are

not saying that such a view is true, we are not saying that it is congenial to the modern mind but we are saying that it has been the view more or less explicitly of organized Christianity for nineteen hundred years, and that it is the view implied in the New Testament taken as a whole. It is the view which underlies the distinction between sacred and secular so distasteful to most of the best men and women engaged in the social movement, but so indispensable to the consistent adherent of old-fashioned Christianity. It is the ground of that incorrigible "other worldliness" often apparently at least so anti-social.

In view then of what we have just considered we cannot ask the Church to make the advancement of civilization her first work, her chief anxiety. It is not fair to expect her to stultify herself. All we can fairly ask is that she be true to her own principle that "every good and perfect gift is from above and cometh down from the Father of Lights," the gifts of civilization included, and that she teach her children to use and develop the gifts of civilization for all they are worth, though we must not be impatient if she take the tone of S. Paul, saying, "Covet earnestly the best gifts; and yet show I unto you a more excellent way." We have no right to be irritated if she keeps repeating "The things which are seen are temporal, the things which are unseen are eternal" and we have no right to be angry if at certain times and seasons when the world clamors for works of physical or political healing the Church like her Founder in like circumstances is withdrawn upon the mountain top conversing with Moses and Elias, spending a season in vigil or meditation, or quietly training in retirement her elect disciples.

For instance many persons regard the greatest evil of the day as wage-slavery, and they think the Church inconsistent with her own principles because she does not directly attack it. Do they remember that literal slavery was incomparably the most crying evil of the Graeco-Roman civilization into which the Church was born, and yet that the New Testament contains not one word either explicitly or by unmistakable implication against it. Nay more S. Paul sends back Onesimus a slave to Philemon his owner, bidding Philemon cherish him as a brother, but not so much as hinting that the whole relationship of master to chattel was wrong in itself.

Quite as striking as Historic Christianity's "other worldliness" is its scale of value for estimating the difference between good external

works and the internal condition of the individual soul.

"The Church regards this world, and all that is in it, as a mere shadow, as dust and ashes; compared with the value of one single soul. She holds that unless she can, in her own way, do good to souls it is no use her doing anything; she holds that it were better for sun and moon to drop from heaven, for the earth to fail, and for all the many millions who are upon it to die of starvation in extremest agony, so far as temporal affliction goes, than that one soul, I will not say, should be lost, but should commit one single venial sin, should tell one wilful untruth, though it harmed no one, or steal one poor farthing without excuse. She considers the action of this world and the action of the soul as simply incommensurate, viewed in their respective spheres; she would rather save the soul of one single wild bandit of Calabria, or whining beggar of Palermo, than draw a hundred lines of railroad through the length and breadth of Italy, or carry out a sanitary reform, in its fullest details, in every city of Sicily, except so far as these great national works tended to some spiritual good beyond them."

So spoke Cardinal Newman for the Roman Catholic Church, nor would Moody or Spurgeon differ in principle or in general substance from him, and the three may surely be allowed to speak for Historic Christianity.

It is plain then to us who are interested so deeply in the social movement that we may hope for the co-operation of religious people such as these only so far as we can unmistakably prove to them that our activities tend to some spiritual good beyond their own immediate ends, some good that perchance may last when the earth has melted with fervent heat and the heavens rolled up like a scroll.

At least we may be sure that we may not fairly expect the present day representatives of the Christianity of history, if they remain true to their own principles, to regard the social movement as of supreme importance for religion. Some of us may think that this conclusion amounts to a demonstration that those principles are wrong, but it at least relieves us of the painful necessity of regarding our old-fashioned Christian brethren as men who are false to the religion they profess.

"The way for a young man to rise is to improve himself every way he can, never suspecting that anybody wishes to hinder him."—Lincoln.

## THE SOCIAL ASPECTS OF PRATT INSTITUTE WORK.

BY CAROLINE B. WEEKS,  
Registrar Pratt Institute.

As an educational institution, Pratt Institute differs radically from the type of school which went before it and differs, also, from its contemporaries in that it is the product of an individual and personal experience, rather than the development of any generally accepted theory of education.

Charles Pratt, its founder, was a self-made man, and the work was well done. The circumstances of his life were such that, with the exception of one year of study at Wilbraham Academy, he had no opportunity for definite school work, after he was fourteen years old. He was industrious, thrifty, observing, and ambitious. His earnings,—over and above the amount needed to meet his own living expenses and to contribute to the family needs,—were either saved or expended for good books. He was not an omnivorous reader, but he read thoroughly the best literature that came his way, and made it his own. The books in the library which he began to collect as a boy and to which he added constantly, during his lifetime, were his toils; and he used them with marked skill.

His life was the rich reward of a long series of right choices. When there was the opportunity to waste or to use time: he chose to use it. When there was the temptation to disregard a chance for self-improvement, he chose to regard it. By industry, fidelity to his work and to his employer, and by thrift he advanced himself rapidly. He was the man to understand and grasp the opportune moment, and, at a time when in the business history of the United States it was especially true that wealth was easily made and easily lost, it was not to be wondered at that he accumulated a large fortune.

His altered circumstances never made any change in his attitude toward life or toward people. He met with his ready sympathy all young men and women and especially those who were struggling to get an education as he had struggled; and, when his financial position warranted it, he determined to endow a school which should meet their needs. He realized that it would be impossible to give assistance along all lines of work, and, as his keenest interest was in the world's hand-workers, he confined his scheme to technical and industrial education in its broadest interpretation.

### PLANNED FOR THE AVERAGE MAN.

He planned to organized courses of study which could be entered upon by men who had not had the opportunities for much formal preparation; and he intended to have these courses so taught that such men could get something out of them.

His was a very simple pedagogical theory, which, briefly stated, was this:—

Show men *how* to do something, and insist that they do it as well, as honestly, as economically, and as beautifully as it can be done. This rule covers the conduct of all shop work.

Show men *why* certain definite combinations of effort and material always secure certain definite results; and insist that they grasp these simple fundamental principles and apply them for themselves. This rule covers the conduct of all the scientific and theoretical work that underlies the practical work.

He put into his original plan his enthusiasm, his sound judgment, his common sense, and the results of his practical experience as a mechanic and as a business man.

In the year 1887, ground was broken for the buildings which were to contain the school. They were constructed substantially, but plainly, with the thought that, if the enterprise did not succeed, they could be used for factory purposes.

When the work was completed, Mr. Pratt opened an office on the first floor of the main building and let the public come in and register for such work as it wanted. After which, he formed classes, so far as it was possible to do so, according to this registration.

### FROM 14 TO 3485 STUDENTS.

Only fourteen students made their appearance on the first day, and it was with a feeling of disappointment and anxiety that the head instructor reported the small attendance to Mr. Pratt. "Excellent, excellent," he is reported to have exclaimed. "Do the *absolutely square thing* by them, and we shall have twenty-eight by the end of next week."

On such a basis and out of such an experience Pratt Institute began life sixteen years ago. Since then, it has carried out the policy of its founder and has never started work which did not meet some real demand; and it has never undertaken work which it did not do thoroughly and well.

The result has been an increase in apprecia-

tion on the part of the public, as is shown by the growth in the enrollment, during the sixteen years of its existence, from 14 to 3485 students.

#### SEVEN DEPARTMENTS.

After various experiments,—Mr. Pratt was never afraid to “try” things and never unwilling to own himself in the wrong:—the Institute work has settled down to the activities of seven departments:—

- A High School, offering manual training in addition to the usual subjects of an academic course.
- A Department of Fine Arts, offering a normal course in art and manual training, as well as instruction in architecture, design, clay-modeling, wood carving, art metal work, drawing, painting, and composition.
- A Department of Domestic Art, offering a normal course; professional training in dressmaking, millinery, sewing, art needlework, and costume design; and supplementary work for home use in dressmaking, millinery, sewing, and art needlework.
- A Department of Domestic Science, offering a normal course; professional training for housekeepers and dietitians; and supplementary work for home use in cookery, serving, and laundry work.
- A Department of Science and Technology, offering full-time day courses in steam and machine design and applied electricity; evening technical courses in physics, chemistry, mechanism, steam and the steam engine, applied electricity, mechanical drawing, and strength of materials; and evening trade courses in carpentry, plumbing, machine-shop practice, fresco painting, and sign painting.
- A Department of Libraries, offering a course in library economy, and conducting a free circulating and reference library.
- A Department of Kindergartens, offering a normal course and conducting a model kindergarten.

The school hours are long and work is conducted continuously during five days a week and on Saturday morning, with evening classes from October to April.

The courses offered appeal to everyone. The

Institute is the most cosmopolitan place in the world, since no questions are asked of an applicant, save whether his character be good and his ability and training equal to the work in hand.

#### INDUSTRIAL AND SOCIAL IDEAL.

Recognizing the position of machinery in the industrial world, Mr. Pratt still emphasized the value of the workman. He believed that in his development and increased skill was to be found the hope of the future. He was confident that the drudgery of most tasks could be turned to enjoyment by an efficient worker, and he had the work of the Institute conducted in such a way as to reveal to the students the possibilities for development, service, and real culture which lie in the most commonplace tasks. He believed that much of the thoughtlessness of the employer came from ignorance of conditions, and he thought that the same shop and laboratory which opened a new world to the workman would reveal to his employer the possibilities and the limitations of labor; and that, working thus together, some real advance toward social and industrial betterment would be made.

He opened a school where such conditions for work could prevail and waited for results. He never forced a situation, he never attempted to solve a specific social or industrial problem, he simply gave a chance to men who were willing to work out their own salvation and to help toward the working out of the salvation of the community.

#### DEMOCRACY IN EDUCATION.

From time to time, there are signs that the heaven is working. An attractive young girl in one of the day classes in laundry work stopped in the office on her way out of the building to declare that she was going home to rip all the double ruffles off her petticoats. “I never knew until to day,” she said, putting her hand on her back to cover the “area of pain,” “what it meant to iron one of them, and never, as long as I live, will I ask a woman to do such a piece of work for me!”

Complaint was made, one fall, by an art student who was rather proud of her claims to social distinction, that the easel of a young colored woman had been placed next to hers in the studio. No attention was paid to the complaint, other than to give the girl a little friendly advice. Later in the spring, the person to whom the complaint was made was showing the building to some guests and came with them into the room where the two women were

working. Stopping beside the chair of the one who had made the objection, she commented upon her noticeable improvement in color work. "Yes, it is better," was the response, "but it isn't half as good as Miss S.'s." indicating the colored girl by her side. "Do you suppose I shall ever do such work as that?" All differences between them had been forgotten in their wholesome competition in work which they both loved and understood.

She was a very little lady with scarce ten summers to her credit, and she and her mother joined the same afternoon class in basketry. "I think Pratt is the best school," she is reported to have said, "because you can be in the same class with your mother, and sometimes the teacher likes your work better than she does hers."

#### RESISTS ARISTOCRATIC TENDENCIES.

When it came to the development of the technical work for men, Mr. Pratt remained true to his convictions. Great as was the temptation to invade the realm of advanced technological training, he resisted and the Institute Trustees have continued to resist. The entrance requirements for the admirable courses in architecture, steam and machine design, and applied electricity have been kept simple. An applicant must be at least seventeen years of age and must be able to pass an examination in arithmetic,—proving that he has an *available* knowledge of the subject; and an examination in English grammar. Such conditions are essential to the conduct of the course, but are not so difficult but that they can be met by any boy who is forced to leave school early to go to work, provided he has sufficient ambition to study by himself or to enter one of the city night schools. Then, too, the length of these courses is not prohibitory. They cover but two years of work, and many a man, who could not stop work for the four years required to take an engineering course in one of the colleges, can take two years out of a busy life in consideration of the bettered condition in which he will find himself, after he has completed his course.

#### WORKING MEN STUDENTS.

Some men have been able to do the work, even while carrying on some regular occupation. A student in one of the evening classes in architectural drawing, who showed especial ability in his work, was advised to enter the day course in architecture, since it offered more opportunities than could be offered by evening work. After a day or two of deliberation, he accepted the advice, and the transfer was made. The man was a good student and

his improvement was rapid. One night, during the latter part of the second-year of his course, one of the Institute teachers, returning to Brooklyn on a late bridge train, recognized the motor-man on the train as the student referred to. In the talk which they had together, the instructor discovered that the man had been employed on the bridge and had taken up evening work in architectural drawing with the hope of working himself into some better position. The recognition of his ability on the part of his instructors pleased and encouraged him; and, because he could not afford to give up work, on account of his family, he arranged to be transferred to night service, in order to get the advantages of the day course. For almost two years he had been doing the work of two men without mention of the fact, and grateful only to find that his health was holding out and that he was able to do good work under such a strain. A well-paying position of responsibility with a New York firm is now his adequate reward.

During the last week, a man has applied for entrance to the electrical course, who has night work on a New York paper. His school work will last from nine o'clock in the morning until half-past four in the afternoon. His work on the paper lasts from six o'clock, in the evening, until two o'clock the next morning.

#### A PRACTICAL UNION OF HEAD AND HAND.

The three technical courses for men, above referred to, are eminently practical and have a direct bearing on the work which they are fitting students to do. The practical work is done directly in well-equipped shops, and the supplementary work in science and mathematics is presented from the standpoint of its connection with the practical work, and is taught in such a way as to be immediately available. No text books in either mathematics or science thoroughly meet the needs of these students, and several series of lesson sheets have been prepared by the instructors for these classes to use in connection with reference books.

The wonderfully definite, simple, and brief presentation of these various fields of work has made the courses attractive to another class of men from that for which they were primarily intended. One or two men with college training have already been enrolled in these classes with the idea that such a course would take the place of a number of years of practical experience and would make their college work in the sciences more valuable by making it more available. And it looks as though these courses, too, would become a common



meeting ground for men of different conditions, different view-points, and different aims, who, nevertheless, can find in the work as given a great deal to meet their different needs.

The attitude of the Institute toward the community has always been that of a helper. If a person has in mind the building of an industrial school, he comes to Pratt Institute for help in planning his courses of study and in designing and equipping his buildings; and the assistance is always gladly and freely given. If a school wants technical teachers, Pratt Institute is called upon to furnish them. In fact, there are very few wants which the Institute may not be called upon to supply, as the following letter would indicate:—

July 8, 1903.

Pratt Institute:

Gentlemen—Please send me immediately a good Chinese cook. If you cannot supply one, tell me where one can be found.

Very truly yours,

Though the Institute was inadequate to meet the demand for the cook, it was equal to supplying the address of a place where such a person "could be found."

Pratt Institute is not especially remarkable or wonderful as an educational institution. It fails often to meet the ideas of many of the great educational thinkers. It hastens too slowly to suit the more radical reformers. It is simply a place where everyone is given a "chance"; and those who know it best and believe in it most have faith that its cordial, honest, helping hand is doing more than any one school's share in helping to bring about the world's redemption.

To make Cities—that is what we are here for. To make good Cities—that is for the present hour the main work of Christianity. For the City is strategic. It makes the towns; the towns make the villages; the villages make the Country. He who makes the City makes the world.—*Henry Drummond.*

If anyone wishes to know what he can do to help on the work of God in the world, let him make a City, or a street, or a house of a City. Men complain of the indefiniteness of religion. There are thousands ready in their humble measure to offer some personal service for the good of men, but they do not know where to begin. Let me tell you where to begin—where Christ told His disciples to begin, at the nearest City.—*Henry Drummond.*

## COLLEGE SETTLEMENTS ASSOCIATION.

### STANDING COMMITTEE.

*President:* KATHARINE COMAN, Wellesley, Mass.

*Vice President:* HELEN CHADWICK RAND THAYER (Mrs. Lucius H. Thayer), Portsmouth, N. H.

*Secretary:* SARAH GRAHAM TOMKINS, 1904 Walnut St., Philadelphia.

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*Fifth Member:* SUSAN E. FOOTE, Port Henry, New York.

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*Chairman:* LOUISE B. LOCKWOOD, 441 Park Ave., New York.

### LOCAL COMMITTEES.

Boston—Bertha Scripture, Chairman, Lincoln, Mass.

Philadelphia—Isabel L. Vauderslice, Chairman, 436 Stafford Street, Germantown, Pa.

### SETTLEMENTS.

New York City—95 Rivington Street.

Philadelphia—433 Christian Street.

Boston—93 Tyler Street (Denison House).

## THE SOUTH PARK SETTLEMENT, SAN FRANCISCO.

BY KATHERINE COMAN.

The material equipment of the San Francisco Settlement seems all that could be desired. Two four-story brick houses thrown together afford commodious residents' quarters. The space of the back-gardens is filled in by the Shaw gymnasium. The basement of the whole establishment has been converted into child's and classrooms and work-shops, well-lighted and airy. The houses were remodeled and furnished and given to the Settlement by Mrs. Phoebe A. Hearst, a woman whose wise philanthropies are known from the Pacific to the Atlantic.

The Settlement neighborhood is surprisingly pleasant. South Park is a tree shaded square, flanked by substantial-looking houses. A few blocks away there are foul alleys and rear tenements where dirt and disease run riot, but less than twenty-five years ago this sunny square was a fashionable residence quarter, and though most of the old mansions are now occupied as lodging houses, there is little to suggest the need of settlement work. The ruddy-cheeked boys who preempt street and sidewalk as a playground give evidence of full chest development, and the old man who brings his tidy

grandchildren to play on the lawn seems placidly content. The climate makes out-of-doors a pleasure the year round and relieves city life of much of its sordid discomfort. There is no severe cold, no coal smoke, and but little rain.

#### THE CITY SETTING.

San Francisco is in the heyday of prosperity. The Golden State is the principal American port on "the world sea of the future." Business enterprises multiply with unexampled ease. Work is abundant and wages good. The metropolis of the Pacific Coast is the paradise of the workingman. The men in blouses who board the street-cars night and morning are hale and hearty. The clerks and cashboys one encounters on the street have far more physical energy than can be found in the shops of eastern cities. There is little need of relief work except for the ne'er-do-well and the incapacitated. The function of the San Francisco Settlement differs in consequence from that forced upon social workers in the slums of older cities.

#### LEADERSHIP AND FUNCTIONS.

The head-worker, Miss Lucile Eaves, is well-equipped for her task. A graduate of Stanford University and post-graduate student and university extension lecturer of Chicago University, she spent two years as instructor in American history at Stanford University. Leaving at the time of the Ross embroglio, she entered upon this more direct form of social service. The work of the house includes the usual clubs and classes for boys and girls, men and women. The characteristic feature of these San Francisco clubs is that they are actually self-governing and to a considerable extent self-supporting. The training in self-respect and in regard for law is thought to be more important than any other element of success. Loyalty to the Settlement and its aims is another significant trait. Several of the clubs have contributed to the working equipment. A club of young women gave \$70 toward fittings for the cooking school, while a club of young men provided stage curtains and scenery for the gymnasium platform.

The Settlement further serves as a center for the social life of the neighborhood. A distinct effort is made to bring young men and young women together on terms of wholesome intimacy. The special feature of these neighborhood entertainments is the illustrated lecture. The house possesses two good stereopticons and hundreds of slides, most of them prepared by Miss Eaves and her residents. These women have a breezy western way of accom-

plishing the impossible. The day before my lecture on the labor problems in Hawaii, I happened to mention that I had with me interesting photographs of the cane-fields, etc. "We must have some slides," said Miss Eaves, and within twenty-four hours fifty were ready for the lantern. The residents have given careful attention to the art of story telling.

#### STORY TELLING AND LECTURES.

Every Sunday afternoon finds from one to two hundred eager little listeners seated in the gymnasium. The interest of the story is enhanced and its lessons emphasized by appropriate pictures. All the masters who have told stories with pencil and brush are brought into requisition. Animal stories are illustrated from Landseer and Seton Thompson. The joys and sorrows of childhood are bodied forth in Murillo's beggar-boys, Sir Joshua Reynolds' aristocratic maidens and Brown's street gamins. Madonnas and holy families and Dutch interiors picture to childish minds the spiritual meanings of family life. The stories are not merely entertaining. They follow a well-developed plan and purpose to train these young thinkers in the ethics of the home, the school, the playground and the larger community life. Biographical lectures are used with the older clubs as incentive to intelligent patriotism. Of equal significance is the course of historical lectures designed for adults. They aim to familiarize these raw citizens with the evolution of the new West. The following subjects indicate the plan of the course: "California Before the Coming of the Americans," "The Rush to the Gold Fields," "Life in the Forty-niner Mining Camps," "The Fur Trader in the History of the West," "The Cowboy in the History of the West," "The Buffalo in the History of the West." It is quite evident that Miss Eaves must have utilized her historical training in the preparation of subject-matter and illustrations.

#### TRADE UNION AND SETTLEMENT COOPERATION.

San Francisco is the stronghold of trade-unionism. Every skilled trade is fully organized and "collective bargaining" has reached a stage not elsewhere realized East or West. Politically as well as industrially, the working man has waxed exceeding strong. From the days of Dennis Kearney the labor vote has been of prime importance in the city and in the state. The need of the hour is for disinterested men and women with scientific training and sympathetic comprehension of the labor movement who will put their brains at the service

of the leaders. This Miss Eaves has undertaken to do. She is a regular contributor to the *Labor Clarion*, the official organ of the San Francisco Labor Council and State Federation of Labor. Her articles on the history of the typographical union, the pioneer labor organization of San Francisco, and on the legislative basis of the writ of injunction, are the fruit of much careful research. She met with the legislative committee of the Labor Council while they were preparing the measures for the last meeting of the State Legislature, and represented that body at Sacramento in the hearings on the Child Labor Bill, and assisted in preparing the arguments for other measures. Once a month the gymnasium, converted into a lecture room, is at the disposal of the labor unions. Last year's program shows an interesting series of addresses from labor leaders, lawyers, business men, etc., on various phases of the labor problem. Each address is followed by discussions, when diverse opinions are freely aired.

#### NEED FOR SOCIOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS.

The crying need of San Francisco is not higher wages or shorter hours, but intelligent public opinion. The Settlement should be a source of accurate and unsensational information as to child-labor, sweat-shops, tenement-house conditions, etc., that may serve as basis for wise legislation, and, more important still, for the effective enforcement of existing laws. Miss Eaves has appealed for fellowship foundations sufficient to attract trained investigators to this interesting field. The value of such inquiries is so evident that the appeal cannot fail of response.

Thou art descending, O city of God; I see thee coming nearer and nearer. Tongues are dead; prophecies are dying; but clarity is born. Our castles rise into the air and vanish; but love is bending lower every day. Man says, "Let us make a tower on earth which shall reach unto heaven"; but God says, "Let us make a tower in heaven which shall reach unto the earth." O descending city, O humanitarian city, O city for the outcast and forlorn, we hail thee, we greet thee, we meet thee! All the isles wait for thee—the lives riven from the main-land—the isolated, shunted, stranded lives. They sing a new song at thy coming, and the burden of its music is this, "He hath prepared for me a city."—*Matheson*.

"Revolutionize through the ballot-box."—Lincoln.

## ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD WORKERS, NEW YORK CITY.

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY

MARY KINGSBURY SIMKHOVITCH,

26 Jones Street, New York City.

A TENANT'S MANUAL.

"The Tenant's Manual," the first of a series of publications to be issued by Greenwich House, New York, is now in preparation.

The purpose of the pamphlet is to give in convenient form the substance of the laws and regulations of especial importance to those who live in tenement and apartment-houses. Information will be given as to the practical application of these laws and the organization of the departments and officers which enforce them, together with simple household directions as to sanitation and the care of sickness. A directory of savings and educational agencies, and of resources for recreation, will be added.

The table of contents as mapped out is suggestive:

#### I.—HEALTH.

- Preventing the spread of infectious disease.
- Care of children.
- Pure food.
- Sanitary conditions of houses.
- Cleanliness of streets and public places.

#### II.—SAVINGS.

- Penny provident stamp stations.
- Savings banks.

#### III.—WHAT THE LAW IS,

- In regard to
  - Dispossess.
  - Desertion and non-support.
  - Usury.
  - Instalment sales.
  - Child labor.
  - Hours and conditions of work for older persons.
  - Sweatshops.

#### MR. STRAUS'S ADDRESS BEFORE THE SUMMER SCHOOL.

The sixth session of the Summer School in Philanthropic Work is now in the second week of its course. Judging by the large registration, which has enabled group work to be attempted in certain fields (organized charity, child saving, etc.), judging by the representative coterie of lecturers and the brief but well-knit summary of the field which they are putting before the class, and judging by the spir-

ited discussions which, under the leadership of Dr. Brackett, have brought out such a deal of sound suggestion and graphic personal narrative of experience from a score of different sources—judging by these things, this year's session is to prove an excellent successor to those which have gone before.

#### HARTLEY HOUSE INCORPORATED.

Hartley House, which was founded in January of 1897, and has since been maintained by the New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor as one of its activities, is now entering upon an independent existence. It will be remembered that Hartley House is named for Robert M. Hartley, first general agent of the A. I. C. P. The association first rented the residence at 413 West Forty-fifth street in which the settlement was started, and afterward the late Marcellus Hartley acquired it and the two residences adjoining, building a gymnasium above the three houses and providing in all a very adequate equipment for a neighborhood center. Two of the buildings were deeded to the association by Mr. Hartley, the deeds of gift containing permission to sell with the restriction that the proceeds of the properties should constitute two funds to be known as the Robert M. Hartley fund and the Grace Hartley Stokes fund, the income of these two funds to be expended as the board of managers of the association should determine. Mr. Hartley's heirs, Mrs. George W. Jenkins and Marcellus Hartley Dodge, have now purchased the two buildings from the A. I. C. P., and Hartley House has been incorporated as a separate organization with the following board of trustees: Helen Hartley Jenkins, J. G. Phelps-Stokes, John Seeley Ward, Jr., Lilian D. Wald, Elizabeth S. Williams, Marcellus Hartley Dodge, Robert Hunter and Helen F. Greene, the latter, head-worker at Hartley House. Mrs. Jenkins and Mr. Dodge will continue the largest financial contributors. It will be noticed that the board, who are likewise the incorporators, are half of them practical settlement workers.

To be honest, to be kind, to earn a little and spend a little less, to make upon the whole a family happier for his presence, to renounce when that shall be necessary and not to be embittered, to keep a few friends, but these without capitulation, above all, on the same grim condition, to keep friends with himself—here is a task for all that a man has of fortitude and delicacy.—Robert Louis Stevenson.

#### THE STORY OF A WOMAN'S CLUB.

BY M. EMERETT COLEMAN.

A woman who had given much thought and study to social conditions once said, "I know of no existence outside prison walls which may so fittingly be described by the adjective 'colorless' as that of the wives and mothers in a crowded city center." Chicago Commons had celebrated its first anniversary before work for wives and mothers was successfully inaugurated. The neighborhood was cosmopolitan, the women burdened with home cares, there was a diversity of religious faiths and there was that wide chasm which divides the interests of the cultured and college-bred woman from those of her sister who literally was trained in nothing but the use of the implements of household industry.

In the face of such obstacles to unity and harmony of action, a meeting of the neighborhood women was called, and on December 5th thirteen met in the parlor of the old Commons, to consider the organizing of a club. Miss Mary McDowell told how helpful such an organization had been to the women meeting at the University of Chicago Settlement, and how it had grown from small beginnings. After several preliminary meetings the Chicago Commons Woman's Club was organized January 13, 1896. Ten nationalities were represented by the charter members. There were Catholics, Liberals and three denominations of Protestants. The first president was a woman of wide reputation as a public speaker, trained in college and theological seminary, a national officer of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. The first vice-president, to use her own words, was "a graduate of nothing unless it be the dish pan and wash tub"

#### SOCIAL POWER IN NATIONAL TRAITS.

The work began in a most informal way. The very conditions which would naturally divide the interest of the group were seized upon to contribute to sisterhood. Scotch songs and Scotch "scones" emphasized a member's own recollections of Scotland. A talk on the Land of the Midnight Sun, given by several Norwegian women, created an interest in that country, and samples of the sewing done in school by one in her girlhood gave an idea of educational methods. Personal reminiscences of Germany made the Fatherland a reality to all. A talk on Iceland by the sister from that little isle was illustrated by pictures she had herself secured. The customs of the Isle of Man were told by one who had spent her girlhood

there, and the little woman from Paris gave glimpses of life in France. Stories of the homeland, real experiences, served to bring the members together in a sisterhood which has developed beautifully with the growth of the club. A noted club woman when addressing the women once said that one of the great benefits of women's organizations was they taught women to differ *gracefully*, and this has been exemplified in the Commons Club. One member says it has taught her how to get along with other women.

#### GOING TO CLUB FOR VACATION.

When the first summer drew near and vacations were being taken by more favored clubs, many of the women said, "we have nowhere else to go," so the meetings which had been held every two weeks became weekly during that first hot period. There still linger in the minds of early members recollections of the pleasant talks on the front porch of the old Commons, when each used a club fan while there and carried a bouquet home at the close of the meeting.

The stories one member tells of her experience when first called to preside are most amusing. She says she knew absolutely nothing of motions or of parliamentary phraseology and usage. But she persevered, bravely repeating aloud in a tremulous voice what the secretary whispered in her ear. From the first the members, though timid, took an active part in the discussion of practical questions, such as "How to Please our Neighbors," "What Books and Periodicals Shall we Read?" and "What Can we Women do to Improve the Ward?" From the first, one social meeting has been held each month. Besides there were frequent opportunities to hear men and women of wide reputation.

The Club outgrew room after room in the old building and it now often uses to their full capacity the four beautiful rooms in the new building. The Club has done much toward furnishing these rooms.

#### SOCIAL SERVICE AND STUDIES.

Interest is taken in philanthropy. Among the objects to which contributions have been made are the Playground, the Chicago Vacation Schools and the Day Nursery. Thus have the members been made more thoughtful of others' needs.

The Study Class, led by Mrs. Sheridan, of Oak Park, is wonderfully helpful. Women whose hair was white when they entered have learned to prepare and read essays. One mem-

ber says she has learned "that a college education is not *necessary* to prepare a paper."

There is a Musical Chorus led by one of the members. A calling committee looks after the sick and absent sisters. The club has a library of its own which takes the place of the traveling library formerly used.

The first president was Mrs. Katharine Lente Stevenson, then Corresponding Secretary of the National W. C. T. U. She was followed by Miss M. Emerett Colman, a resident of the Commons. Mrs. Emily Conant, of Oak Park, a prominent member of the Chicago Woman's Club, has given five years of her best efforts. Under her leadership the members have increased to 130. Many helpful features have been introduced, and the Club passes into the hands of Mrs. Arnold, of Winnetka, full of enthusiasm and in good working order.

The women say they have been helped by this sisterhood to become better wives, mothers and home-makers. Some say that but for the Club they would not know there was anything but toil and trouble. They look at life with different eyes; they have learned things they had never even thought of till they came together in the Club. One writes, "Some of us had left homes in small country villages where we knew everybody and everybody knew us. We came to this large city and found ourselves shut up in our homes as if they were jails. We were afraid to speak to our neighbors and our neighbors were afraid of us." But by these friendly associations heaven, with its eternal harmony, is brought near, to bless, brighten and give hope to "colorless" lives.

#### Life and Light.

Our lives absorb the freely given light,  
Yet prism-like disperse its rays;  
For few there are we call the purple born,  
Whose days are ever cloudless days.

Some rest content in pastures that are green,  
While others scenes far distant view.  
Around them, close, the dull black shadows fall  
And keep from sight the good and true.

Yet find we lives among the favored few  
Not white nor free from all that is vile;  
While often from some nook quite in the shade  
Come deeds without a trace of guile.

A life is good or ill despite its station—  
Foul thoughts, wrong acts, or motives dire,  
Of darkness are the true expression,  
Come they from lowly rank or higher.

—Cornelia Shipman.

# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor  
from the Social Settlement Point of View.

GRAHAM TAYLOR, - - - Editor

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A Year

## EDITORIAL.

### Collective vs. Individual Ethics.

There can be little doubt but that we are now in the midst of a great moral conflict in the practical administration of the industrial world. This conflict is not between higher and lower ethics judged by the same standard but a battle for supremacy between two ethical standards—the collective and the individual.

Our industrial system is daily becoming more socialized and its growing sanctions are those of a collective ethic. It is making new demands in the name of whole classes in industry and its logic leads to the obliteration of all race and national lines, ultimately embracing the whole social order within the sanctions of an international standard of social morality.

Our political order and heritage of law coming down from an individualist age knows nothing of this collective ethic and mistrusting its purpose, cries out for the suppression of its demands by blood and iron in the name of law and order, the rights of property, free contract and the sanctions of civilization for a thousand years.

The extraordinary spectacle is now being presented on every hand of honest and earnest purposed men clashing to the point of bitter denunciation and sometimes violent assault, in obedience to the sanctions of these opposing codes.

The storm center for the hour is the problem of the "open shop." For the average citizen of the professional and employing classes there is no problem admitted in this controversy. It is for such men a clear case in which one party is wholly right and the other wholly wrong. The mere suggestion that there may be any doubt as to the right of a man to hire who he pleases, or to work for whom he will, angers many usually quiet and generous men to the point of heated denunciation. What honest

man can doubt the right of an employer to hire any honest and healthy laborer he chooses? What citizen of a free Republic can question the right of a working man—union or non-union—to labor without molestation for his daily bread? The right of the individual to do what he will with his own—the ancient heritage of free contract—who will dare question? Judged by the individual standard of both law and morals the case is plain.

Listen for a moment to the other side. Free contract in the individualist sense has not existed in the industrial world for a generation. Free contract is impossible between the individual laborer and the superintendent of a corporation. The superintendent makes the terms, the laborer accepts or starves. The freedom of the individual laborer resembles that of a cat in a tub on a lake. The cat does not have to stay in the tub, it is free to jump into the lake. All that the laborers have gained for a hundred years has been won by the trades unions. That workmen in many trades now enjoy a fair wage and more reasonable hours of service is due to the struggle and suffering of countless men, women and children loyal to the principle of unionism. Shall we now permit men who refuse the social obligations of their age—industrial freebooters who would enjoy the fruits won by their fellow craftsmen, without obedience to the protective demands of the union—to take the bread from the mouths of our wives and children? Shall we let these selfish social and industrial traitors disorganize our trade and render possible at the first breath of an industrial panic, a return to the miserable wage and long hours of a generation ago? Slowly have we won an advance in the standard of wages that makes possible better food, better clothes, and more schooling for ourselves and our families. Shall this personal and communal gain be lost for the sake of maintaining ancient individual rights which the world has outgrown, and the unrestrained exercise of which would pauperize our families and injure the whole commonwealth, including the industrial freebooter himself? Judged by the collective ethic this position seems equally self-evident.

It is not our purpose here to take sides in this conflict of ethical standards. What is sought is to call attention to moral sanctions behind the points of view of the opposing parties. That equally honest men are bitterly divided in opinion here is the important fact. To know and to acknowledge this, to honestly meet the just demands of each and to fearless-

ly resist the excesses of both, is the duty of the hour.

R. R.

### Improvement Needed in the Health Department.

The report of the Civil Service Commission on the health department investigation shows that the community is under deep obligations to Hull House for bringing and prosecuting the charges against the department. If any reform is to take place it will be because the people who are interested with Miss ADAMS in her work are exceptionally gifted with the civic spirit and well equipped for organized effort. There was little or no help from any other source, and this was natural, since property owners are not prone to seek for the enforcement of regulations that may pinch them, while the tenants of the congested districts are trained by custom to accept their environment hopelessly or carelessly. It is clear that nothing could have been accomplished without the interposition of the disinterested third party.

Through that interposition it was proved, however, not only that there were revolting and flagrant violations of the health ordinances which were tolerated by the department, but that the loose methods of the department continually invited a disobedience of the law. The best-kept records were fragmentary many cases never reached the records; stay orders procured by the property owner were equivalent to a final judgment in his favor, the individual inspector acted according to his own sweet will without supervision. Hence, owing to their general lack of discipline and order, the commission arrived at the conclusion that "there is either an unintelligent direction of the important work of the department or else there is an intentional effort to leave the records in such an incomplete condition that it may be impossible to place the responsibility where it belongs."

The fact is, apparently, that the business of the department has been conducted with more than the usual slovenliness of the political office, and without any adequate appreciation of the superiority of public to private interests. It is probable, however, that the very suggestive hints contained in the report will lead to an improvement of methods even if there is no change of men.—*Editorial, Chicago Record Herald.*

"I authorize no bargains [for the presidency], and will be bound by none."—Lincoln.

### SETTLEMENT COOPERATION IN EDUCATION.

An interesting and important venture toward popular technical education is the establishment of classes in engineering known as Armour Technical Clubs in the various Social Settlements throughout Chicago. Over 500 students are now enrolled in these clubs.

Courses have been started at Hull House, Gad's Hill, Chicago Commons, Eli Bates House, Forward Movement, Association House and the Chicago University Settlement. Other settlements also are arranging for similar classes. This line of work as outlined has never before been attempted, not because of lack of interest in technical subjects so much as the want of teachers to take hold of the work and make it a success.

Mr. A. E. Yerex, a settlement worker, conceived the idea and realizing that much good would result from the introduction of helpful studies of this kind into the settlements, interested Dr. F. W. Gunsaulus, president of Armour Institute of Technology, and Mr. R. T. Miller, Jr., president of the American School of Correspondence. Through these means courses in a large number of engineering subjects have been offered to the young people at the settlements by these educational institutions, the instruction being directed by the members of the faculty of Armour Institute of Technology.

The work is in keeping with the broad policy conceived by Mr. Armour in founding Armour Institute and is happily carried out by the "University Extension" work of the Institute.

A number of large universities, notably the University of Chicago, have made this experiment with respect to other subjects along the lines of "university extension" work through correspondence and have found it successful, but Armour Institute is the first in this country to enlist members of its faculty in providing correspondence education in engineering branches which is accepted at the Institute when the student takes up his resident work.

This particular method of teaching was taken up about the beginning of the present college year, when through an arrangement between the management of Armour Institute and that of the American School of Correspondence, instruction could be given advantageously under the guidance of the Armour instructors. The real value of such an arrangement comes to be appreciated more and more when one stops

to realize that instruction from Armour Institute through the medium of the American School, thus goes to every needy and deserving person seeking an engineering education. By this arrangement the professors and instructors of engineering of Armour Institute constitute a board of instruction, revision and examination of the American School and it is aimed to make this work co-ordinate with the work of the resident school.

It might be well to explain something of the manner and method of conducting correspondence work. Unlike the student who enters a resident course the man taking up correspondence work has to pass no entrance examination, nor is there any limit in regard to age or ability, except that each applicant must be able to write and read English and ought to be able to devote at least three hours per week to his studies. Nothing beyond this is taken for granted. Upon being enrolled the student receives the first instruction and examination papers, together with full directions how to begin work, etc. Immediately upon receiving his books (not the ordinary college text books, often difficult and technical, but lessons carefully written by skilled teachers with a knowledge of the student's needs), he carefully studies the work allotted, and, upon mastering it, answers the questions and solves the problems of the accompanying examination paper, and mails his work to the school. If, however, any question arises which he cannot answer he has recourse to the teacher, whom he meets at the various social settlement houses on certain evenings, who give him every possible aid. The examination is corrected, criticised and credited by the members of the faculty of Armour Institute and is then returned to the student. The resident instructor corrects all papers not only in regard to facts and figures, but in punctuation, capitalization and grammar, when the student does not happen to be well equipped with a knowledge of these subjects.

Added to this are many helpful explanations and suggestions which the instructor gives the student in the same manner as if he were a member of his class in the Institute. Indeed, the correspondence student actually receives more personal attention than in the average college; and undoubtedly he makes quite as rapid progress in proportion to the number of hours spent in study. As an illustration of this, a student in a class room will oftentimes allow a point to go unexplained owing to reticence in asking further explanation of a ques-

tion which has been under discussion. The case is different, however, with the correspondence student; in order that there may be no misunderstanding each point is gone over thoroughly and pains are taken to remove every possible chance of difficulty in making the explanation clear. This is done by the school's unique blackboard method, by drawings and by little side talks showing how the principles may be applied to practical work. In this way each lesson is a combined text book, lecture and blackboard exercise, and thus the student is in constant touch with his teacher and receives the benefit of personal aid.

One of the benefits of home study is in creating and constantly encouraging the habit of careful reading and thinking. It is necessary that the student understand every point in his text book before he can pass the examination, and it has been the experience of those connected with correspondence work that the students engaged in this line of study are diligent and earnest workers, and form habits of study which prove invaluable to them when engaged in practical work or in residence study.

#### SETTLEMENT NOTES.

##### Settlements Association Conference.

The newly-formed Settlements Association recently held its first conference in London, at the Passmore Edwards Settlement, Tavistock Place. Professor Graham Taylor, introduced by Mrs. Humphrey Ward and Mr. Percy Alden, spoke on "The Relation of the Settlement to the City," with special reference to American settlements, Hull House and Chicago Commons. A reception preceded the lecture, and the fraternal relations which quickly unite social workers throughout the world were in evidence. Professor Graham Taylor, with a great deal of humor as well as power and earnestness, gave a vivid account of the share the Municipal Voters' League has had in the raising of the standard of municipal and civic morality. Hearty applause interrupted his speech and his references to different forms of work done at Hull House. One of the speakers who followed spoke of the inspiration and enthusiasm that had been given them by Jane Addams on her last visit to England. Both Mr. Percy Alden and Mrs. Humphrey Ward referred to the help that has come so often from the other side of the Atlantic, and Mr. Taylor began his speech by tracing the settlement movement in America to the initiation of Arnold Toynbee of



sainted memory, and other originators of settlement work.

#### A CONFERENCE OF SOCIAL WORKERS.

In connection with the newly-formed Settlements Association, a conference of social workers from university settlement, college missions, etc., is to be held in London in the month of June. Professor Graham Taylor of Chicago will read a paper on "The Relation of the Settlements to the City," Mrs. Humphrey Ward being in the chair. The Settlements Association, which has been formed by Mr. Percy Alden, is an unobtrusive step in the direction of federation long desired by him.

#### THE LEAVEN IN NEWARK.

Preliminary steps have been taken toward the establishment of a social settlement in Newark. It is understood that funds for its establishment and partial maintenance have been promised, and efforts are being made to secure a head-worker with the right sort of equipment. "With a broad, capable man in charge of such work, the Newark public can be educated up to a good many reforms," writes Secretary A. W. McDougall, of the Newark Bureau of Charities. The bureau itself has many philanthropic problems on its hands, and the need seems to be for a center about which movements for civic and social betterment may center.—*Charities*.

#### NOTICE.

Wanted—An experienced settlement worker to take charge of a settlement in a small city.  
N. H. W., Care THE COMMONS.

#### The River of Dreams.

The river of dreams runs silently down  
By a secret way that no one knows;  
But the soul lives on while the dreamtide flows  
Through the gardens bright, or the forests brown;  
And I think sometimes that our whole life seems  
To be more than half made up of dreams.  
For its changing sights, and its passing shows,  
And its changing hopes, and its midnight fears,  
Are left behind with vanished years.  
Onward, with ceaseless motion,  
The life stream flows to the ocean,  
And we follow the tide, awake or asleep,  
Till we see the dawn on love's great deep,  
Then the bar at the harbor mouth is crossed,  
And the river of dreams in the sea is lost.  
—Henry Van Dyke.

#### Provisional Program of the Seventh Congress About Boys.

To be held in the Auditorium of the Central Department Young Men's Christian Association, Chicago, Nov. 4 & 5, 1903. Under the auspices of the General Alliance of Workers for Boys.

TOPIC: THE GROUP INSTINCT OF BOYS.  
WEDNESDAY EVENING, NOV. 4.

President's Address. "A study of Boys Together," W. B. Forbush.

THURSDAY MORNING, NOV. 5.

Sub-Topic: The Group Instinct and Its Significance.

I. Origin and Development of the Gang Instinct.

II. The Street Gang.

III. Boys' Voluntary Clubs and Societies.

One hour will be given to each of the above topics. Papers will be limited to 20 minutes. Discussion will be opened by two speakers, each limited to five minutes.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

The Relation of the Group Instinct to Work with Boys in:

I. Correctional Institutions.

II. Schools.

III. Camps and Summer Outings.

IV. Street Boys' Club and News Boys' Homes.

V. Associations and Settlements.

VI. The Home and Church.

Twenty minutes will be allotted for a paper on each of the above topics, which will follow each other in close succession. An hour for discussion will be given after the reading of the last paper. The discussion will be opened by four speakers, each limited to five minutes.

THURSDAY EVENING.

Address: The Gang and Juvenile Crime.  
The Religious Life of Boys.

"Let none falter who thinks he is right."—Lincoln.

#### SUMMER COTTAGE FOR RENT.

##### At Macatawa, Mich.

Seven hours by daily steamer from Chicago. "Near shore" Cottage on Lake Michigan shore within easy reach of Black Lake. Seven rooms, furnished. Double porch on two sides. Safe, healthful, interesting place for children. Terms \$150 for season from June to October.

Apply early to The Commons, 189 Grand Ave., Chicago.

#### The Church in Social Reforms

By Graham Taylor. An Address and Discussion at the International Congregational Council in Boston, 1899. Twenty-five cents.

### THE MONTH AT CHICAGO COMMONS.

For the fifth summer the Noyes Street Mothers' Club with the help of their friends and Mr. and Mrs. Frank H. McCulloch, entertained most hospitably a large group from our neighborhood at the lake-side in North Evanston. Over three hundred mothers and children went by special cars on the Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad. Their arrival on the ground found swings and hammocks hung, and the preparations for the mid-day meal almost completed. After romping in the grass and ranging up and down the lake shore, all enjoyed an ample meal and a good rest. A new feature this year that added a great deal of enjoyment was the furnishing by the Evanston ladies of suits that enabled a large number to go in bathing. The large group made the excursion without mishap of any kind, and many expressions of the good time enjoyed were heard. One mother remarked at the lake side: "I have been up here once before. It must have been five years ago. I was carrying him in my arms," pointing to her sturdy boy. She spoke with feeling of the good time she had had then, the memory of which lasted through four years.

Friends at Milton, Wis., who have other seasons entertained a group from our locality, are entertaining through the last week of July and the month of August, twenty-five children from off the crowded streets. Milton is a long ride from out of the city and five weeks is a long vacation. Those who went last year enjoyed this outing thoroughly all the time they were away; and the children who go this year are counting themselves most fortunate. An attendant goes with them and remains through the five weeks, the guest of the Milton ladies.

R. E. T.

#### CAMP ITEMS.

July 24th the last of three groups of boys returned from a two weeks outing at Camp Commons. One hundred and two boys have spent their vacation at the camp this season varying in ages from 9 to 17 years. Next week the girls will take possession for the remainder of the Summer.

A little boy trying to dive into the swimming pool in the creek cried out, "My did ye see that belly whopper." Then suddenly the little fellow came to the bank saying between sobs, "It feels like I got hit wid a brick—something in-

side has broke loose—feel an see what is de matter."

An Italian lad on being asked what part of Italy he came from quickly replied, "Chicago."

H. F. B.

#### A NEED.

The boy's work at Chicago Commons is becoming hampered for lack of room. Until the Men's Club House is built the boy's work will suffer if we do not secure larger winter quarters outside of the present buildings. Adjoining the Commons on Grand Ave. is a very suitable store room which can be rented for \$17 per month. All last winter a cheap pool room was run in this building and some of our own boys for lack of room elsewhere have begun to spend their evenings there. If some person would guarantee the rental of these quarters for the winter season, the boy's club could raise the money to fit up the building and we could provide its superintendence and care.

HENRY F. BURT,

DIRECTOR OF BOY'S WORK.

"This government must be preserved in spite of the acts of any man, or set of men."—Lincoln.

### PESTALOZZI-FROEBEL

Kindergarten Training School at Chicago Commons

Opens Oct. 1, '93.

Two years' course in Kindergarten Theory and Practice. A course in home making, Industrial and Social Development emphasized. Includes opportunity to become familiar with Social Settlement Work. For circulars and particulars address

BERIHA HOFFER HEGNER,

Chicago Commons, 180 Grand Ave., Chicago.

## The Commons

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# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor from the Settlement Point of View.

Number 86—Vol. VIII

Eighth Year

Chicago, September, 1903

## MY COUNTRY.

ROBT. WHITTAKER, SAN FRANCISCO "STAR"

My country is the world; I count  
No son of man my foe,  
Whether the warm life-currents mount  
And mantle brows like snow,  
Or red or yellow, brown or black  
The face that into mine looks back.

My native land is Mother Earth,  
And all men are my kin,  
Whether of rude or gentle birth,  
However steeped in sin;  
Or rich or poor, or great or small,  
I count them brothers, one and all.

My flag is the star-spangled sky,  
Woven without a seam,  
Where dawn and sunset colors lie,  
Fair as an angel's dream,  
The flag that still, unstained, untorn,  
Floats over all of mortal born.

My party is all human-kind,  
My platform, brotherhood;  
I count all men of honest mind  
Who work for human good,  
And for the hope that gleams afar,  
My comrades in this holy war.

My heroes are the great and good  
Of every age and clime,  
Too often mocked, misunderstood,  
And murdered in their time,  
But spite of ignorance and hate  
Known and exalted soon or late.

My country is the world; I scorn  
No lesser love than mine,  
But calmly wait that happy morn  
When all shall own this sign,  
And love of country, as of clan,  
Shall yield to world-wide love of man.

## THE MEN OF THE LODGING HOUSES.

To a fortunate few in the world of work comes the opportunity to choose the kind of work they would do, or for which they are best fitted. As against these few there are thousands who must take not the work of their choice but what they are fortunate enough to find and are able to do.

For the common laborer, so-called, the unskilled workman, proving his right to existence by toiling with his hands, the world of-

fers but a precarious, uncertain living. In the great industrial centers, even in summer time, the supply of unskilled labor is in excess of the demand. During the winter months the cities harbor a great floating population that breaks up and melts away with the coming of spring. Where they all disappear with the coming of the warmer months is an open question. A certain per cent are absorbed in the awakened activities of spring work in the city; these as a rule are the most active physically and the least inclined to beg or continue to exist on charity, and as a class the most enamored of city life and the attractions it offers. They take the first job that comes to hand, whether for a day or a week, or a month, living in the hope of striking it "steady." Another, and probably a larger per cent, take to the road as soon as the weather permits of traveling in comfort. Some of the men of this class are the true Hobo of the road, possessed of the wanderlust, who scorn work of all kinds, and travel for the sake of seeing the country and the excitement of constant change of environment. From this class comes the back door, food begging, freight train riding tramp and social parasite. Others of those who leave the city with the coming of spring are the ones who go honestly forth in search of employment on the farms of Illinois, Iowa and the middle west. The work of getting the crops in the ground may be over before he finds steady employment for the summer, but he usually has no difficulty about this, for the farmer is anxious to secure his help before the rush of the work begins. The "hurry" season is marked usually from the time of the coming up of the corn, the last of May, varying somewhat with the different sections of the country. After the preliminary harrowing the corn must be plowed through two, three and if possible four times before it gets too big and has to be "laid by" for the summer; as a rule this is soon after the "Fourth." Hay-making and the harvesting of the early grains, rye, barley and winter wheat, come almost simultaneously; oats fortunately ripen later, but the farmer is kept busy with all these until well into August,

when farm work as a rule "lets up," and the farmer has leisure to attend to the repairing of fences and the making of a little late hay. He can then dispense with his "extra hands," who not infrequently go to the wheat fields of the Dakotas, by this time ready for harvest, and from there, if he is industrious, he will, not infrequently, go to the lumber camps of Michigan, Wisconsin or even Canada, returning in the late fall to Illinois or Iowa for the husking of corn, and back to the city again by the holidays, whither has come already his prodigal brother from his tour of the smaller towns. Few of these men who have toiled hard all summer are able to save enough to keep them through the winter; their earnings are filched from them in drinking, gambling and carousing, and long before the winter is over they are either objects of charity, or else entirely dependent upon chance jobs.

#### THE UNDERTOW.

Throughout the long winter they live as it were from hand to mouth, able perhaps to find work one or two days out of each week, earning barely enough to pay for the cheap 10-cent or 15-cent bed in a lodging house, and the even cheaper food which, while it fills the stomach, fails to nourish the body, and they welcome the coming of spring that heralds the return to work and the healing influence of the country. Hard work, with clean air and wholesome food, brings renewed health and strength, but another winter leaves them in worse condition than the preceding spring, and at last comes a springtime that finds them disinclined to leave the city for the work of the country; they stay to take their chance with other worn-out veterans of the road, at the occasional jobs of house and yard cleaning; this point marks the beginning of the end. The cheap food and vile liquor continue their work of destruction. Drunken sprees are more frequent, the recovery slower, until sooner or later the end comes while on one of the periodical drunks, or else more slowly, a wasting disease completing its course at the County Hospital.

Added to the demoralizations of the life they lead, during each winter, is the growing fascination that becomes fixed upon their minds for the attractions of the city. The stimulus of the crowd, the companionship found on the street corners and in the saloons, the sensuous music of the low vaudeville and music halls, with their coarse jokes and ribald songs—these have become a part of their life—the country has lost its charm, and they are content hence-

forth to drag out an existence amid the human offal of the great city.

#### THE LAST RALLY.

The last legitimate work that many of these men seek, as the downward path grows steeper, is that of deck hand on the lines of lake freighters; the loading and unloading of these carriers of the great inter-lake commerce. They will complain bitterly of its hardships, but driven by want they return to it again and again, until it is in the main their only means of support. During the winter just passed, these shipping companies were constantly telephoning to the Chicago Municipal Lodging House for laborers, leaving a standing order, that any men who would take the work should be sent to the warehouses and they would be employed at once. Many of the lodgers who sought the accommodations offered at the Municipal Lodging House, had worked on the boats, and when told of this call for men would have none of it, stating very briefly and emphatically their objections. Driven to it some would accept the job, but they were back again in a few days, with tales of poor food, vermin infested, comfortless bunks, and long hours. Their stories seemed exaggerated to me, and I determined at the earliest opportunity to investigate and satisfy myself as to their truth.

#### THE STORY OF A DECKHAND.

One morning early in May, with a letter of introduction from the Superintendent of the Chicago Municipal Lodging House, I applied at the warehouse of one of the freight lines running between Chicago, Racine and Milwaukee. The foreman merely glanced at the note I bore, then said, "Get a truck and go to hauling out that freight." My rough clothing, unshaven beard and general seedy appearance were sufficient disguise; he scarcely looked at me when I proffered my request, though I was fearful of recognition, having talked with him a number of times when I had brought gangs of men down from the lodging house during the winter. The boat was to be unloaded that day, reloaded and return that night to Milwaukee, stopping to discharge and take on freight at Racine. The freight deck of that boat held a cargo perfectly inconceivable to me. Sixteen men beside myself were engaged in getting out that freight, most of us using great trucks, weighing from 150 to 200 pounds. Just out of curiosity I weighed mine, and when there was added to that, big boxes and barrels, weighing anywhere from 300 to 800 pounds, it made a

very good load for men with muscles much stronger than were mine. It was 7 in the morning when we started to work; we stopped at 12 for dinner, work being resumed again at 1 o'clock. The dinner was an episode. From the little cubbyhole of a kitchen the cook's helper brought out a great pan containing a beef stew and gravy, a pan of potatoes boiled in the jackets, and a second stew of cabbage, carrots and parsnips; loaves of bread, already sliced, were arranged on a shelf. We took tin plates, iron knives and forks and tin cups from racks, and then ate where we saw fit. There was no dining room nor table. The men sat on the freight still piled around. I was fortunate enough to confiscate a soap box that answered every purpose of chair and table. The food itself, sufficient in quantity, was poorly cooked; the meat of unmitigated toughness, and inclined much to gristle; the vegetables had evidently seen better days; then there was coffee, or tea, I am not sure which; possibly they made coffee in that pot for breakfast and had forgotten to throw out the grounds; it tasted too much like either one for me to differentiate, and for dessert there was a badly scorched, underdone pan of sago pudding, to which had been added, whether for flavoring, or to disguise the burnt taste, a gelatin-like substance called, for courtesy's sake, "jelly." I ate because I was half-famished, but I did not eat the pudding.

The work of the morning had given me no opportunity for conversation with my mates, but, full fed, they turned to the comfort of tobacco and were inclined to be social, and conversation once started all joined in. Some had evidently worked together before on the boats; only one man, beside myself, was a stranger to the work. No one told the tragedy that brought him to that kind of a life, some subtle understanding seemed to say what words would have failed to do, that they had all traveled over the same road. They said what they thought of the boat and its officers, of the bunks, of which I was to know more later, in which they were expected to sleep, of the food they were forced to eat, the long hours, broken sleep and miserly pay. The talk shifted to town and the familiar scenes of the city. The saloon and its victims; they spoke almost feelingly of companions who had gone down into the dark valley. Not the drinking was to blame, but the awful whiskey, liquid fire, they called it, that had been the direct cause of their "finish." "They get you heastly drunk and then kick you out," was one of the comments; brutal beatings were told

about at the hands of bartenders and saloon thugs. It was a vivid picture of their life ashore; I no longer wondered at the scars of knife and club that nearly all wore on head or face or neck. One young fellow sitting next to me said his old man (referring to his father) had died the previous year, and that he got \$850, and while it lasted he lived high. The cheerful optimist of the crowd was a big, brawny Irishman, over six feet tall and broad in proportion. At dinner he had eaten but little, but drank several cups of the tea-coffee mixture. He told me he was just getting over a three weeks' spree and couldn't eat; his stomach had "gin out," and he was going to stick to the lakes until he got over it. He was reminiscent with song. One that seemed fixed most firmly in his mind dwelt on some future era, when "Hinky Dink is Mayor," when the "rich would all have to walk, and the bums all get free rides." There were also free drinks in this miscellany, for "de bums."

All the afternoon we hurried the great piles of freight from the warehouse into the boat, stopping for a half hour at 6 to eat supper, and then on again until after 8 o'clock before the last piece was stored away and the boat cast off her lines and started on her trip across the lake. Long before night every muscle in my body was aching and the starting of the boat brought to me welcome relief. I asked one of the men, who was moving some sacks to afford him a comfortable bed, where the bunks were; he looked at me for an instant as he replied, "In the Focs'le, but I reckon you won't want to sleep with THEM." I had heard of "them" before, but I wanted to see for myself. I crawled down a damp and slimy ladder into the "Focs'le," below the freight deck, a triangular-shaped room, in the immediate bow of the boat; around its three sides were arranged two tiers of shelf-like bunks, fitted with what might have been once the semblance of mattresses; no quilts, blankets or pillows, only the indescribably filthy mattress in each bunk. I touched its greasy, dirt-sodden covering; it was damp, with the gathered moisture of a room that never receives sunlight, and is entered only by a trap door overhead. I held a match to the interior of a bunk—the vermin crawled everywhere. I climbed back to the deck again to find such comfort as I might on top of the piled-up freight, sick at heart that human beings should compel other human beings to seek such a foul place in which to find rest.

At midnight we were awakened. The lights

of Racine were in view. A lunch of hot coffee, bread and butter and cold meat awaited us, and then for nearly three hours we hauled freight in and out of the warehouse before we were ready to continue on our way to Milwaukee. Once more under way the men were too wide awake to sleep the remaining hours of the trip, and sat or reclined on the piled-up freight and talked until called to breakfast. The talk turned on the cities, Chicago, St. Louis, and some had been as far as New York; one or two to San Francisco. But "Chi" was the favorite theme. Halsted street, South State and West Madison were the familiar sections. The saloon of a well-known alderman, on Van Buren street, was frequently referred to, and the quality of the liquor served to the "bum" was condemned in a way that left little doubt as to the sincerity with which they spoke. "The rottenest booze in town" was the mildest epithet it received; the rest is unprintable.

They talked of the Municipal Lodging House, and the views expressed were exceedingly interesting. They conceded its cleanliness, condemned the compulsory baths, the meager fare, the red tape and the strict questioning of the Registrar as to their life and habits. Their brief comment that the Superintendent was a "wise guy," was their concession to the fact that the place could not be worked for an easy "graft."

At Milwaukee there is a heavy up-grade from the boat to the floor of the warehouse, and I soon found that the work of the day before would be play as compared with what this was to be; unused muscles sent up an indignant protest against the demands made upon them, and it took all the nerve I could muster to keep at the work. Dinner was a repetition of the day before, without the scorched pudding. Our boat was loaded and ready to start on the return trip at 8. We were at Racine by 11, and away from there by 1 o'clock, Saturday night the freight for Chicago being light. I found a huge gunny sack filled with wool hair, which, in spite of its dirt and the possibility of its being vermin infested, I chose for my bed, and the finest pillow that ever my head rested on brought not one-half the balm to a weary body as did this old sack. I slept until we were within the outer breakwater, then ate a hurried breakfast and as soon as the boat made fast, told the first mate I was through and ready to quit. He directed me to the purser and two of my companions joined me as I sought his office. We passed off the boat

together. For the two days', and for that matter, two nights' work, I drew \$1.20. My companions, having made the trip twice, were entitled to twice that amount. One of them, a fine-looking fellow, about thirty years old, accompanied me across the river to the city proper, telling his story as we walked. Drink. The one word told the tale. He was a cabinet-maker, a finisher of mahogany and the finest hard woods. A few social glasses had sent him on a spree lasting for several weeks; sober, but his money all spent, he had gone on the boat to steady his nerves, and, perhaps by hard work win back his self-respect. It was the last time, henceforth he was going to "stick to the water cart." Did he? I have often wondered. He told me his name as we parted, and I have thought of him many times, and looked for his face in the hurrying crowds of the city streets, but we have never met since parting that Sunday morning.

I had gained the information I sought as to the truth of the things they had told me across the desk at the Chicago Municipal Lodging House. I had found for myself that the food was unfit to eat, poor in quality and but half cooked; that the place provided for the men to sleep in was unhygienic, and filthy beyond description with dirt and vermin; not unlike conditions told in tales of medieval dungeons, or, more aptly, Dickens' description of the Fleet prisons. The hours of sleep were broken into in the dead of night, when after the hard work of the day the men should be sleeping soundest; and even at the best they could not get over three or four hours of actual sleep, a life that no man can stand for more than a few weeks and continue in health and bodily strength. The men who follow this life more or less continuously are practically at the bottom of the scale in the world of work. They are the played-out engines on the great road of life. No longer capable of running on the main line they are shoved to one side to push and haul where men command. They are "all in," their life work done; for them there awaits only the scrap pile of life's wrecks, and then what? Who knows?

#### SOME SUGGESTIONS.

The pity of it is that this condition is remedial, but no attempt is made to improve it. The food could be better at a cost almost minimal. The hours so changed that sleep sufficient could be had by each one. And above all else, clean comfortable beds, and a place to wash and be self respecting provided. But dividend

hunting boat owners are looking not for men, but machines. The principle is that it is cheaper to hire wrecks and work them to death than to pay for a man and have to treat him as such.

As our civilization grows with years, we will arrive at different standards for farming. There is much wasted land on the farms of this great middle west, that conservative farming will some day utilize. Large crops that now spread over many acres will give way to better crops on a much smaller acreage. The lax, open-handed methods of farming will yield before scientific methods, and methods that will require men not two and three, or at best four and five months a year, but the year round.

In the city there are things that demand not evolution, but revolution; not reforming, but weeding out, evils that have grown worse not better with the years. One of the worst of these evils is the saloon-restaurant, that offers free food with the price of a drink. Either the food or the liquor or both are unfit for consumption, or else they would not be offered for the price of one.

The music hall attached to the saloons charge no admission for the entertainment; it is provided by girls, who, their part in the cheap vaudeville through with, join the men seated at the tables and induce them to buy the drinks at exorbitant prices, for from the proceeds of every drink bought in their company they receive 10 per cent. Hardly could a worse condition be conceived either for the victim who pays for the drinks or for the one who makes a human sewer of herself for the sake of the percentage she wins.

The cheap lodging house is a fitting counterpart to the noisome fore-castle of the boat. Ill ventilated, if at all; the beds in many of the places supplied with blankets that go unchanged through a whole season, reeking with vermin year in and year out. Here for ten and fifteen cents the homeless men of the street find shelter, breathing over and over the poison-laden air; too often sodden with drink and unmindful of the attacks of vermin that swarm the bed. Sanitary regulations that will either clean these places, or clean them out, should be enforced.

The saloon and the lodging house do not stand alone in their deteriorating effect upon the morals and health of the great floating population of the city each winter. The cheap restaurants provide food, attractive in name, and generous in quantity, but wholly unfit for use as nourishment. A proper inspection and

due regulation of the sale of meats and vegetables would mean much to the health of those dependent upon the cheaper restaurants for their daily meals.

If a carefully-organized and thoroughly-systematized labor agency could be developed that would be in touch with both those seeking employment and those desiring to employ manual laborers, it would be a worthy undertaking, and help in a great measure the solution of the problem of those who wander up and down the streets of Chicago through the bitter winter days in a vain search for work. The failure of the State Employment Bureau to meet this demand is an evidence of the need of an effective agency. The report of the Chicago Municipal Lodging House for the past year is convincing proof of what can be done. Out of a total of 11,097 lodgers accommodated, of whom 7,509 were unskilled laborers, 2,397 were sent to paid employment. If this recently organized department of the police service was enabled to find employment for over 20 per cent of those it accommodated, surely an organization that had for its work this one thing, could accomplish much more.

The active enforcement of the vagrancy law, prohibiting begging and mendicacy on the streets of Chicago, would bring about a marked change in the personnel of the floating population, and at the same time relieve the citizens from the importunity of beggar and pauper.

O. D. WESCOTT.

HULL HOUSE, CHICAGO.

To-day is your day and mine, the only day we have, the day in which we play our part. What our part may signify in the great whole we may not understand, but we are here to play it, and now is our time. This we know; it is a part of action, not of whining. It is a part of love, not cynicism. It is for us to express love in terms of human helpfulness. This we know, for we have learned from sad experience that any other course of life leads toward decay and waste.

—DAVID STARR JORDAN.

Why should a man care about things? About all sorts of houses and furniture and pictures and clothes and jewels? I can understand a man caring about love and joy and aspiration. But things! I can understand a child's caring about things, or a fool's caring; I see millions of such! But an artist? A thinker? A Man? —From "The Journal of Arthur Stirling."

## THE SOCIAL PRICE.

BY ETHELBERT STEWART.

If the price paid by the individual consumer of a commodity was the full and only price attaching to it, society could strike a balance-sheet each night like a bank. Unfortunately, too much of our production and commerce adds to the output an intangible social expense not carried to the price-lists nor paid by the consumer. Years, and sometimes generations, may pass before this running account against the Social Whole is presented for payment in a tangible form. Even then it comes through a collection agency so remote from the source of the original expense that society is likely to forget all about it, grudgingly pay the bill it does not believe it owes, and charge it up to incidentals.

Most of our taxes go to pay the social price of commodities individually consumed long since by those who may or may not now be taxpayers. This was palpable when, under the Poor Laws of England, the wages of laborers were deliberately reduced by manufacturers and farmers alike, so that general taxation might be compelled to pay in poor-rates a part of the cost of production of all commodities. Social price is very apparent when Congress pays the sugar-producers two cents a pound bounty out of the Federal treasury, leaving the individual consumer to pay a first installment and take the goods. It is just as real though not so apparent when child-labor and old-age limits to employment throw upon society droves of morally and physically mal-developed adults, and still greater droves of practically blacklisted persons charged with the new crime of having gray hairs.

"Squeeze the lemon and throw away the skin" was said to be the motto of the railroad wreckers of the Erie school. When the famous engine 999 of the Empire State Express was made a switch-engine after six years of record-breaking service, the general surprise called out an interview with an American railroad manager. He said that while English and German roads coddled and repaired their engines, keeping them in service sometimes for forty years, and as "switchers" for twenty more, the American plan is to "hammer the road life out of an engine in five or six years, use it as a switcher for five or ten more, and then scrap-iron the whole engine at once. We believe it pays better."

At a recent milk-dairymen's convention the policy of milking cows to death in the shortest

possible time was discussed from a purely business point of view. It was claimed that by means of milk-producing foods the quantity could be trebled. To the objection that such milk-forcing shortened the life of the cow, it was replied: "It does not pay to look to long life for a milker. If the life energies of a cow represent one hundred units of milk, and these can be marketed in five years under high-pressure feeding, why should the cow be kept ten years? If the milking possibilities of a cow can be gotten out of her in three years, it does not pay to keep her five."

With lemon-peels and engines society need not concern itself, nor will we sentimentalize over the application of humane ideas to milch cows; but when the economic doctrine embodied in these three illustrations is applied to men, society has much to do with human engines sent to an early scrap-pile. The "age-limit to employment" is now practically universal, and ranges from twenty-five to thirty-five years. Most concerns prefer to employ youths of twenty years when taking on new help. "Old men cannot stand the pace," says the employer, but neglects to add that a pace in any industry which a man of forty is too old to stand is one that puts a large element of social price in the product. Where the "premium plan" of increasing the pace has been adopted, it too frequently, though happily not always, happens that workmen who do not earn premiums are discharged. In reducing the number of employees, those who do not earn premiums or bonuses are always the first to go. A convention of bankers, ministers and university presidents is called for Chicago to discuss the opposition to piece-work in the Machinists' International Union. Piece-work is the lemon squeezer of most approved pattern. It is believed to be the quickest way to "hammer the life out of a human engine and scrap-pile it all at once." It is the foundation of sweatshopism.

Taking the ages of gangs of men employed at street-cleaning and park labor in various cities recently, it was found that only three per cent were young enough or physically strong enough to obtain employment in private establishments. Most of these men would have to be supported out of the public funds directly if they were not employed by the public on public work. If half their wages represents charity disguised, it is in reality the social price of commodities produced by them years ago "at a pace old men cannot stand." After all, is it charity to the old men that we are giving in our street departments and old people's homes,



or is it subsidies to the "cheap commodities and high profits" mania with which we are fooling ourselves? The shoplifting which as "bargain-hunting" "lifts" only the social price, proudly paying the "marked down" one, is unconsciously perhaps, second cousin to the shoplifting which takes all. Public or private contracts let to the "lowest bidder" merely postpone to a future day to be paid as social price the difference between the lowest and the fairest bidder. Especially is it disastrous when articles of export are endowed with a large element of social price.

The glass bottle manufacturers appeared before the Illinois Legislature in opposition to a child labor bill with the statement that "glass bottles cannot be manufactured and sold on the market without child labor." Possibly the social price of glass bottles exceeds the net price to consumers. Silk from silk-mills "utilizing the labor" of children in the anthracite fields, and sold by child clerks in department stores where "cash girls" run for change and bundles, may accumulate a social price on the way that might render boycotts moral. Reform schools, houses of rescue, penitentiaries, are some of the large ways in which we pay the social price; night schools, social settlements, fresh-air funds, indicate some of the smaller ways. As intimated above, the circumlocution of the collection agency frequently obscures the origin of the debt. Half of our drunkenness, most of our social vice, much of the insanity, and all the general letting down of social status in mining and manufacturing centers will be charged to social price when the tangles in our bookkeeping are straightened out. The Federal pension-roll convinces even political economists that we are still paying for the war of generations ago; but their blindness to pension-rolls, growing out of their pet economic fetich of competitive industry and commerce, is hopeless. If profit and price could be net and actual in each transaction, society could afford to wait until these Kilkenny cats were gone and the last echo of their expiring yells had died away. But what profit cannot unload upon price, or price snatch away from profit, is by both dumped upon society and forms the Social Price. Before the days of political economy the Hanseatic League was obliged to include the cost of its navy in the selling price of its goods.

Old-age workingmen's pensions, a plan to which every commercial country must come in some form, are, in any form, a subsidy to non-self-supporting industries and the commerce growing out of such. In countries where old-

age pension laws have been boldly and openly passed as such, they serve to show in bold relief the element of social price attaching to our system. But we in America will probably keep on doing things by indirection, put our old men on street-cleaning gangs, and growl at the cost of public work. It serves to disguise the real cause of the trouble, and as a Chinaman would say, it "saves our face."—*From The Chicago Socialist.*

### ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD WORKERS, NEW YORK CITY.

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY  
MARY KINGSBURY SIMKHOVITCH,  
26 Jones Street, New York City.

#### A CITY GARDEN FOR CITY CHILDREN.

At the foot of 53d street, in one of the most neglected tenement house districts in the city, there is being carried on a most interesting experiment in social improvement. Near the water's edge are several acres condemned some time ago for a park, but occupied in part now by a farm garden. This land is divided into about two hundred plots, which are farmed by the children of the neighborhood. Here, while the fresh breezes from the river blow over the open, boys and girls dig, weed, rake and talk over crops. It is a delightful set of little workers and a free, clean occupation that is almost strange in this particular community. But this is not all. Close by the garden is a little cottage of one room, a kitchen with dishes and utensils for the little housewives. Here they learn cooking and serving, and often prepare lunches and teas to be served to the mothers in the adjoining pavilion. Two girls are taken each day from the list of housekeeper pupils and this experience in the cunning little house is enough to take any little girl's fancy.

Of course there is a mover and a motive behind all this, and the mover is Mrs. Parsons. She is always about the place, her voice carrying directions and encouragement to the little farmers, and withal supplying the spirit without which there can be neither institution nor home. Mrs. Parsons began this with the partial co-operation of the city departments, but the work is hers from beginning to end. The transportation of the soil, the building of pavilion and kitchen and the regulation of the farmers and housewives are all Mrs. Parsons' own ideas. The whole scheme represents a

return to nature, a reaction from the evil sophistication of tenement house life and the opportunity for play of the most healthful and exhilarating sort.

In a recent issue of *Charities*, Mrs. Florence Kelly, secretary of the National Consumers' League, presents an informing analysis of child illiteracy as revealed by the census of 1900. There are 579,947 such children in the United States between the ages of ten and fourteen, and of these 20,775 are in the six great "progressive" and industrial States referred to, as follows: Massachusetts, 1,547; Ohio, 2,049; New Jersey, 2,069; Illinois, 5,044; New York, 4,740; Pennsylvania, 6,326; total, 20,775.

The largest contributions to the total come from the cotton manufacturing States of the South, as follows: Alabama, 66,072; Georgia, 63,329; Louisiana, 55,691; South Carolina, 51,536; North Carolina, 51,190; Mississippi, 44,334; Tennessee, 36,375; Texas, 35,491; Virginia, 34,612; Arkansas, 26,972; Kentucky, 21,247, and Missouri, 11,660. Indian Territory surpasses Missouri, with 12,172.

You will hear every day the maxims of a low prudence. You will hear that the first duty is to get land and money, place and name. "What is this Truth you seek? What is this Beauty?" men will, ask, with derision. If, nevertheless, God have called any of you to explore truth and beauty, be bold, be firm, be true. When you shall say, "As others do, so will I; I renounce. I am sorry for it, my early visions; I must eat the good of the land and let learning and romantic expectations go, until a more convenient season"—then dies the man in you; then once more perish the buds of art, and poetry, and science, as they have died already in a thousand thousand men. The hour of that choice is the crisis of your history, and see that you hold yourself fast by the intellect. . . . Why should you renounce your right to traverse the starlit deserts of truth, for the premature comforts of an acre house, and barn? Truth also has its roof, and bed, and board. Make yourself necessary to the world, and mankind will give you bread, and if not store of it, yet such as shall not take away your property in all men's possessions, in art, in nature, and in hope.

—EMERSON.

It is difficult to be emphatic when no one is emphatic on the other side.

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## THE MARYLAND CAMP FOR BOYS.

"Boy nature is full of crooks, and you never know when you're coming up against one unless you've been there yourself," said John Mann, "but they're easy enough to manage when you know them through and through." John Mann is a striking exponent of his own theory. When twelve years of age, he ran away from home because he could not get on with his school teacher. He had the reputation of being a bad boy, but cherished moral standards of his own none the less. He was willing to take a whipping when he had done wrong, but nagging and undue chastisement he resolved not to endure. When these things were impending, he played truant. When threatened with the reform school he ran away from home. He trudged all the way to Newport, went down to the wharf and watched his chance to jump aboard a steamer bound for New York. The little stowaway was roughly handled by the ship's officers, and once on shore ran plumb into a policeman, who cudgelled him "on general principles;" but some one had tossed him a nickel, and he fell in with a gang of friendly newshoys, who gave him sound advice as to his first business venture. Selling the *Daily News* proved to be a

profitable employment, and the boy was in a fair way to earn his living when he inadvertently trespassed on the territory pre-empted by a hostile gang. He was driven from the field, and barely escaped bodily hurt by jumping onto a moving freight car. It was a Delaware and Hudson train, and it carried him to Albany. The brakemen bought his papers and gave him food.

Greatly encouraged by his success in coping with the great world, he set out for California. Walking sometimes, sometimes stealing a ride on a west-bound train, selling papers, peddling fruit, begging food when he had no money, this twelve-year-old made his way to Buffalo, where he saw Niagara Falls more thoroughly than most tourists, and to St. Louis, where he was temporarily adopted by some private detectives, who used the child as a blind. Then to Denver, where he served as water boy for parties of prospectors and got a taste of camp life. Finally he set out to cross the mountains. On the train from Ogden to Corinne was a party of Cherokee braves returning from an embassy to Washington. The old Chief Lone Knife saw that the boy had no ticket and heard the conductor order him to get off at the next stop. Through the interpreter in charge of the party he questioned him and finally offered to adopt him as a son. The proposition was eagerly accepted. No better luck could have offered itself to the adventurous boy. Lone Knife tucked his charge away under his blanket, and the conductor was never the wiser. Arrived at Corinne, the Indians overruled the interpreter's objections, refusing to return to the reservation without their protege.

So John Mann spent some years among the Cherokees as the adopted son of Long Knife. He learned their language, lived their life and came to understand their attitude toward the whites. As interpreter and go-between, he was able to render valuable services to both parties, averting many a bloody feud by tactful negotiations. Finally word was brought him that his mother was on her deathbed. He returned to Boston in time to comfort her last days. Once in touch to civilization, the wild life grew distasteful to him. He fell in love with a former schoolmate, married, and settled down to the business of junk-dealer.

An anti-climax this? Not in John Mann's case; for he has a larger business—the care of rough, venturesome, tempted city boys. He is responsible for several of the Denison House

Clubs and is full of ingenious devices for directing youthful energies into wholesome channels. His great opportunity, however, is the summer outing.

At Wayland, on the Sudbury River, an ideal camping ground has been placed at the disposition of the boys' clubs of Boston. Denison House sent fifty boys this summer in charge of Mr. Mann. Life in camp is as informal as may be. The big boys get into sneakers and sweaters, the little fellows content themselves with jumpers and bare feet. What with bathing in Baldwin's pond and fishing in the river, there is plenty to do. There is not much to catch but turtles and pond lilies, but a whiting may turn up any day. Walking back into the country is usually discouraged. "Boys and apples don't agree," according to John Mann. "I don't blame a boy for taking apples. They don't seem like private property, being made up of air and sunshine and juices drawn from the soil. A boy knows it's wrong to steal a penny, but it would be hard to convince him that apples are not treasure trove. However, the farmers can't see it that way, and we want to avoid trouble, so we keep the boys busy in camp. When I see they are spoiling for something to do, I take an ax and go off to fell a tree. They follow to see how its done, and before long they all want a try at it. Each boy has his turn. We are cleaning up the grove, getting in wood for the cook-stove and the bonfire, amusing the boys, and teaching them something worth knowing all at once."

The boys elect a captain from their number, who is responsible for the discipline of the camp, and who appoints the squads for the various chores. There is a waiters' squad to set the tables and serve the food, a breakfast, dinner and supper squad to wash dishes after their several meals, a dining-room squad to keep the pavilion tidy, a blanket squad to sun and shake out the bedding, a wood squad and a water squad who must keep the cook supplied with these necessities. Systematic co-operation calls out the spirit of helpfulness in every boy. There is little bickering. Shirking is not allowed. "I'll stand any amount of mischief, but I won't stand meanness," said John Mann. "Every boy must do his part or there's an end to all comfort in the camp."

It is Mr. Mann's darling ambition to throw the boys entirely on their own resources and make them shift for themselves—pioneer fashion. This is hardly feasible in New England, where game is scarce and timber has a market

price. But the journey to and from camp might be made in primitive caravans. A wagon would be necessary to carry tents and provisions, but all the able-bodied boys would go on foot. The stages should be short and halts frequent, for city boys are not equal to forced marches. All the work of the expedition, setting up of tents, cooking, foraging, etc., should be done by the boys.

No one who has not experienced this method of travel can realize how much of pleasure and profit can be got out of such a journey. There is an amount of satisfaction to be derived from coping with and mastering difficulties beyond all that civilized existence, fully equipped with ready-made comforts, has to offer. Our forefathers whetted their wits on such difficulties as these. The energy and resourcefulness characteristic of the Yankee is not so much a matter of inheritance as of training. The city boy has little opportunity to develop these highly prized American traits. Reversion to the conditions of pioneer life would do far more toward fitting him to make his way in the world than the most luxurious of summer outings.

KATHARINE COMAN.

#### ITALIAN LABOR IN AMERICA.

The New York *Evening Post* of July 29 strikes a more truthfully appreciative keynote regarding the immigration of Italian laborers than is heard almost anywhere else—except in Social Settlements.

Of the half million Italians who emigrated from Italy in 1901, over half registered themselves as seeking temporary employment, meaning to return to Italy. But the bulk of these went to European countries, while the Americans, North and South, received almost all of those who declared their intention to establish new homes and citizenship. The prosperity of those settling in the South American republics is shown to be extraordinary. With reference to Italian labor in the United States, the *Evening Post* has these significant comments to make:

"What is much more remarkable is the extraordinary penetration of the life of this northern nation by the Italian, and the general prosperity of a class of immigrants which it has been the custom to regard as detrimental. If you wish to have your door yard tidied up within the suburban radius of any of our great cities, you must appeal to a member of this 'backward' race. Ride or drive among the truck gardens to the north of this city, and the

language and costume of Italy are everywhere in evidence; not only the smaller shops in this region, but even the saloons, bear Italian names and the mandolin is commoner than the concertina or other indigenous instrument. Meanwhile you may find your friend building his summer home on a Massachusetts hillside almost exclusively with Italian labor; and the forest camp in Maine, twenty miles from the nearest railroad, is not forgotten by the banana man.

"It is remarkable indeed that the Italians have shown but little disposition to settle in restricted localities. They are as pervasive today as the Irish were a generation ago, and they are certainly destined to have an equal material success.

"It is too early to see the assimilation of this largely new element far advanced, but one can hardly forecast anything but good, both for the Italians and for ourselves, from this contact. They bring great physical vigor, industrious habits and naturally alert intelligence—besides a remarkable amiability and adaptability—to their new conditions. In civilization, so far as that means the graceful and kindly conduct of all human relations, they are generally the superiors of the people among whom they find their homes. In orderliness and civic sense they have something to learn here, and they are learning it. In the composite which the American of the future is sure to be they will have undoubtedly an important part.

"One must expect Italian immigration to this country to slacken almost as suddenly as it has grown. Italy should be an enormously rich and prosperous country, and this she will be whenever her lawmakers reform her tax system and the agrarian syndicates bring some kind of order out of the abuses of the general system of farming on shares. When real prosperity comes to the kingdom, emigration to the United States will become unimportant, and the United States will then have as much reason to thank the hard times in the Peninsula which contributed a valuable element to its nationality as Italy will have to regret a dispensation that cost her millions of her sturdiest children."

Most significant are the facts that Italian emigration to America has become important enough to have its own review, *Revista Italo-Americano*; and that in Italy lovers of their fellow-countrymen have organized the Dante Alighieri Society to safeguard the material and moral interests of Italians in foreign lands.

Settlements can do no better service than to cultivate acquaintance with their Italian neighbors and their language and customs, in order to interpret them to other nationalities and the American ideal and spirit to them.

### BOOK REVIEWS.

**Father Dolling: A Memoir.** JOSEPH CLAYTON.  
London: Wells Gardner, Darton & Co.

In the years 1897-1898 an English clergyman, known as "Father Dolling," traveled through the United States preaching and lecturing, delivering, in fact, over 600 sermons and conducting several missions and conferences, drawing large audiences wherever he went. All who heard him could not fail to be struck by his remarkable personality and the story of his work; and not only these but all who labor for social betterment would be deeply interested in the short biography of him which has recently appeared.

He seems to have been a very "candid friend" of settlements, criticising them to the point of saying that he did not believe in them at all. We are told that he saw in the standpoint of the University Settlement the tacit assumption that it was a place of residence in a strange, uncivilized, unenlightened land. This may be true in some cases but the instances are not few of men going down into the slums with this view of their superiority and coming to feel that the poor had much more to teach them than they could ever hope to teach the poor. Dolling's methods were, at any rate, almost those of the settlement at its highest pitch; his open house with the common meal table at which rich and poor met together on terms of perfect equality offers much for the encouragement and emulation of the settlement worker.

Over and over again the biography speaks of the fallen clerics who came to Dolling as the only one who would receive them, the only one to whom they felt they could go in their degradation. It is a terrible commentary on the prevalence of the drink habit in England.

Though Dolling was a ritualist of a rather extreme type, holding the Church of England to be a divine society and the validity of its sacraments to depend on its Apostolic Succession, he seems to have had much more use for the Baptist minister who labored alongside him among the poor of Portsmouth than for the high functionaries of his own church who criticised from a distance because he invited

a Christian Socialist to preach in his pulpit. "It makes me oftentimes sick at heart," he writes, "to hear the way in which the newly-ordained, strong in the orthodoxy of his High Church collar and of his grasp of doctrine, speaks of these Nonconformist class leaders, at whose feet he is unworthy to sit."

No one could love the people as he did and live among them, working for the fuller development of man, and be silent upon vital political questions. We are not surprised, therefore, to find him an ardent radical from the beginning, taking advanced ground on the questions of national education, Poor Law administration and Temperance. One incident related is too good to be passed by. He was a member of the Board of Guardians at Portsmouth and in pursuance of his duties visited the Workhouse. "Once he found the children at tea, and taking this liquid in the same mugs that had done duty at dinner-time for soup. At the Board meeting Dolling complained indignantly of this neglect, but the Board refused to order any washing up after dinner. At the next meeting of the Board Dolling arranged for a child's mug with the tea and fat to be placed before each member. The Board was taken by surprise; but it had to confess that the liquid looked loathsome, and from that day the children had clean mugs for tea."

Some quotations from Canon Scott Holland's preface shall end this sketch. "Dolling had glimpses into the secret of the soul, which disclosed the amazing heart of goodness and of sacrifice and of pity that can be found behind all the sinful disguises of Publican and Harlot. It is in this that he taught us most and gave us his best." "He shocked us out of our nervous proprieties, and taught us to plunge and hazard and dare on behalf of those of whom we despair." "He proved to us how much could be done if only we committed ourselves heart and soul to that which we profess." "He demanded first place for the poor; he bent his ministerial charge to their primal needs; he strongly claimed for them their right to social and civic amelioration."

A. K. MAYNARD.

This is the best day the world has ever seen.  
Tomorrow will be better.—R. A. Campbell.

A laugh is worth a hundred groans in any market.—Charles Lamb.

Seen in their true relations, there is no experience of life over which we have a right to worry.—Anna Robertson Brown.

# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor  
from the Social Settlement Point of View.

GRAHAM TAYLOR, - - - Editor

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## EDITORIAL.

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### Monotonous Industrial Service.

There is a great deal of humdrum work to be done in the world. All of us have some of it and some of us have too much of it to do. Our philosophies of life, or our theories of social or industrial order cannot save us from, however they may account for, the exactions of the humdrum. Probably no range of life entirely escapes its imperious demands. But it is especially in industrial life that its thralldom is felt and endured. Machinery that promised so much by way of liberty from the tyranny of the monotonous has only increased the drudgery of the commonplace. The workman has sometimes become a mere cog—not infrequently a very small one—in the mighty machinery of production. Such sameness and littleness attach to his portion of the product that he comes to have no interest in the operation or the outcome.

It is difficult to conceive, for instance, how a burr-filer in a machine shop, or a young girl who pastes labels on boxes or bottles, or a glue-dauber in a piano factory can be enthusiastically interested in the work of their hands for eight or ten hours a day the year 'round, and as long as the job lasts, and they live.

Now these all render genuine service. They render necessary, unavoidable service to the whole community, but that service is for them almost as unavoidably stale and monotonous. There appears to be small prospect that uninteresting elements can be very much lessened, much less to say excluded, from the process of production. From the facts of human nature and our present social and industrial organization, there must be considerable service rendered which offers slight opportunity for skill and continuous expertness, and thus draws out little or no mechanical and artistic interest either in the process or the product.

None of us may regard this feature of our industrial existence without interest in and sympathy for those who thus stand and serve in multitudinous, monotonous ways. Moreover, whether we share in the toil or not, we accept the benefits. In a certain sense, every one is a beneficiary of humdrum service, and is or should be interested in the conditions of that service.

Now, though our sympathy may be aroused and is certainly not misplaced when directed toward this phase of our common life, yet it is much more to the point that our sympathy be an intelligent one, regarding and understanding more than the superficial aspects of the subject, in order that where we can we may mitigate or even overcome the tyranny of monotony in our own lives and in those of others about us.

Some relief is given to the situation when we remember that promotions on one hand, and change of occupation to more satisfactory or less simple and mechanical employment on the other, produce a certain shifting in the personnel engaged in monotonous industrial service, so that the same persons are not always doing the same work. This, however, is only a minor consideration, for many have to continue at the same job year out and year in without change or cessation.

The crux of the matter lies, as it seems to me from observation and experience, in the following facts: We are to remember that the mastery of routine means the formation of a habit, and with the formation of habit there always comes liberty. "Habit," says Prof. James, "simplifies our movements, makes them accurate, and diminishes fatigue." All of which means freedom. Our filer of the shop does his work and knows not that he does it. Training has begotten in him a mechanical autonomy. He thinks no more of his filing than he does of the beating of his heart. For all practical purposes he pays as little attention to one as to the other. Not to have to pay attention is in so far to be free. He may attend to something else. His mind is at liberty to roam from the fly on the window sill, to the stars in their courses. Nor will his work suffer. It will be done quite as efficiently without his conscious attention.

Now it is just this capacity of our nature to master routine and obtain new liberty that the way of escape is opened from dull and dread monotony in industry or elsewhere. Everything depends on whether the new liberty is used and how it is used. If the one

concerned lives a meagre or trivial life outside the shop then the hours spent inside of it are apt to be irksome, because the new liberty finds no worthy or steadfast object for its employment. Time hangs heavy. If, however, one lives a large enough life outside the shop, with wide, varied or worthy interests, the tedious tyranny of mechanical routine will be broken, if not destroyed. Indeed, one single, noble interest outside the work-a-day life will fill the latter full of meaning. Doubtless many of my Italian neighbors, most of them young men lately arrived, work all day cheerfully with a tamping bar on the railroad section, upborne by the fine prospect of earning and saving enough money to bring the rest of their "folks" to America. Any worthy interest in life, whether it centers in the home, the church, politics, the public library, the labor union, or baseball and a score of others that might be mentioned, provided it is a living interest, will prevent the sacrifice of personality as threatened by the mechanical routine of much of the work in the modern shop, store and factory.

To the creation of fresh and helpful interests and impulses in life for those who feel the wearing pressure of daily monotonous toil, the social settlement and social worker with all who recognize their social obligations in view of present conditions contribute or can contribute in three ways. (1) The settlement can furnish an opportunity for contact with all wholesome elements of the community life, which is indeed one of the ostensible objects of the settlement. (2) By the general influence of the settlement on the collective life of the neighborhood in the family, social, recreative features, e. g., moving toward better housing and hence better homes, and toward more wide-reaching, democratic education. (3) Best of all, by intelligent personal touch between the resident and the one who needs inspiration, a new view of and a fresh contact with life other than as he finds it merely in his work.

It were a splendid thing and shall doubtless come to pass one day upon the earth, that each one shall do his work however tedious, trifling or monotonous as unto God and the people, but that day is not yet come, though we look to it as the fulfillment of our ideal of human life and service. Meanwhile we have the facts of our social and industrial existence to meet. Not that in meeting the facts we are to deny our ideal. Could that ultimate pur-

pose be put into every life, it would glorify the commonplace. No one may be excused from the rightful claim of that purpose upon his life, however onerous the conditions of his daily existence; no one may be excluded from the privilege of that purpose, however severe present demands upon his patience and fortitude may be. But the appeal of the obligation and privilege of common service must be followed up and sanctioned by personal human interest in the one to whom the appeal is made, endeavoring to help him into as rich and full a life as possible. J. M.

### The "Spent Man."

"Spent man." There is aching pathos in that phrase. How did sociology ever manage to wander so far from arid intellect and come so near to damp emotion?

"Spent man" is the classification they employ at the municipal lodging house for the man whose vital spark has sunk so low that there is little hope of its ever being revived. This does not mean that the man will die. He may live many years. But he will live as the ship lives that, with no coal and no steam, drifts to meet its last storm.

What makes "spent men"? "The chief assigned cause," says Mr. Robins, superintendent of the municipal lodging house, "is child labor."

Read two of the entries in the lodging house record:

"———, 21 years old. Began work when 13 for the Queen City Cotton Company; worked steadily for five years. Seemed discouraged. Low vitality. Worked as common laborer two days. Gave up. Passed on.

"———, 22 years old, Pennsylvania. Began work at 9, dog in glass works; steady four years; gave out; restaurant work three years; tramping since; power gone; passed on."

There are many more records like these. They confirm what Jane Addams said long ago about the connection between a certain kind of child labor and a certain kind of vagrancy. Exhaust the child. You may have to feed the adult. Exploit the boy laborer. The man tramp may exploit you. "Be sure your sins will find you out" is an admonition which includes social sins as well as personal ones.

Is there any more piteous figure in the world than that of the "spent man," who can never enjoy even the personal satisfaction of cursing some individual human being for his ruin, who can only feel in a blind, hunted way,

that society, human beings in general, has been against him; and who is last caught sight of when the lodging house record says: "Passed on."

Reflect on this "spent man" and reflect on child labor.—*Editorial Chicago Record-Herald.*

### New Points Afield.

#### ENGLISH SETTLEMENTS FEDERATING.

BY GRAHAM TAYLOR.

The spontaneity of the Settlement movement is well illustrated by the fact that here in London, where it first found expression, the residents of the several houses are only beginning to federate, after twenty years of service in longer or shorter terms. Had it been the concerted action of some "school" of theorists or some cult of mere idealists it could scarcely have avoided taking on a more compact form of organization. Being the spontaneous movement of life, to life that it has proved itself to be, the settlement went to work first, and with remarkable faith and self-forgetfulness left in indefinite abeyance all form, or even thought of organizing to aggrandize or perpetuate itself. As we have long since felt in America, the settlement residents in London and vicinity are beginning to realize that the effectiveness of their kindred, yet often very distinct work, requires some central point of contact both for personal fellowship and the comparison of view, as well as for occasional concert of action. Two years ago the provincial settlements at Liverpool, Sheffield, Manchester, Bradford and elsewhere began to meet annually and with great profit. Their third session has just been held at the Women's Settlement in Birmingham.

Its house is well located in one of the neediest districts of the city, the appearance of which is not indicated by the name given the street, "Summer Lane." It was once a friary, the high brick garden wall of which, with its porter's lodge, still stands. The building, which had been divided into three dwelling houses, is still connected by subterranean passage ways. Here a little group of cultivated and practically capable college women live and effectively labor. Eight or nine of the twelve or more affiliated settlements responded to the call for the conference. The attendance of delegates and others numbered perhaps 50 persons, and included representatives of interests as widely separated as the Church of England clergy and the Friends First Day Societies, the

working people of Birmingham and the university.

#### THE PROVINCIAL SETTLEMENTS AT BIRMINGHAM.

In convening the conference Mrs. Beal, who represents one of the principal families and the most influential social circles of the city, said the settlement had come to be "an educational agency, without which the equipment of no large town is to be considered complete." In discussing the religious influences of the settlement it was agreed that whatever else might be included in religion, from the social point of view it must embrace the ideal of personal, national and social life and be the sum of individual influence. Realizing the wholeness of life, we are to make our religious convictions apparent in the affairs of common life, but must avoid giving decisive ecclesiastical expression to our religious predilections. As the fundamental motive of settlement life and service was recognized to be religious, the discussion turned on the cultivation of the spirit of religion among the workers and in the neighborhood. Among the endeavors to this end the Manchester Settlement's late Sunday evening conference of resident and non-resident workers was mentioned and the daily vesper half-hour at Chicago Commons. The co-operation of the settlements with one or more churches of their districts was reported to be both general, cordial and reciprocally helpful.

#### THE TRAINING OF SOCIAL WORKERS.

The afternoon session of the conference was devoted to a very responsive and helpful interview on the training of residents for service. It ranged all the way from the thoroughly elaborated two years' course laid out by the Women's Settlement of London to the suggestively practical and incidental policy of that at Liverpool, which is adapted to the smaller settlements. The head-resident emphasized the valuable courses of training open to us, which did not require conscious effort to attain it. The more self-resourceful neighbors, for instance, who do not need us so much, can best train us to help those in trouble or special need. Hopefulness, too, is borne in upon us by the success of those who are actually solving the difficult problem of their own lives.

The training offered by the settlements, it was urged, should reach the non-resident workers far more effectively, as well as those whose philanthropic inclination leads them to enlist for social service. The efforts of the charity organization societies in New York, London and elsewhere were highly appreciated and are



to be used and aided by settlements as centers for effective popular training in social service. Professor Ashley, recently of Harvard and now dean of the School of Commerce in the University of Birmingham, confessed with shame the little help given and received by economists to and from social workers. For they can supply facts on the commercial side and the settlements on the labor side of the complex economic problem, both of which are necessary to its solution. Between them a system of under-studies could be arranged which would invaluablely supplement the work of each. The university connections of some of the Chicago settlements were referred to, and the plans for systematizing inter-academic studies in social observation and research at Chicago Commons were alluded to.

Professor Muirhead of Birmingham University, who was in the chair, tersely summed up the results of the session thus: "The question whether training can come before the trainers is the same old puzzle as to which comes first, the egg or the hen? Both must come together. It is better to have women and men at work in the same settlement as in America, than in separate groups as in England. Candidates for residence from the neighborhood should be enlisted and trained. To get in touch with oneself is one of the first, as it is one of the highest, qualifications for service. Professor Ashley could easily relate the department of commerce to the settlement, if he would offer himself as a resident in this settlement! Seriously, why not, when schools of mining, engineering and metallurgy are being located at the mines? Definite investigations should be undertaken with scientific spirit and method and for practical purposes. To succeed we must dare to fail, for they who make no mistakes make nothing else."

The fellowship of the occasion was as charmingly free and cordial as the spirit was high and earnest.

#### LONDON'S FIRST SETTLEMENTS ASSOCIATION.

The twenty or more settlements in or within easy reach of London, having been in correspondence regarding a proposed federation, met for the first time as the "London Settlements Association" in June. Passmore Edwards House offered its hospitality, and Mrs. Humphrey Ward was hostess. Nearly all the settlement houses were represented, and the head-residents of South End House, Boston, the University Settlement, New York, and Chi-

cago Commons were also guests of the occasion.

"The Settlement and the City" was the subject of the discussion, and by previous request was illustrated by the experience of the Chicago settlements, especially with regard to their relation to municipal administration and to their political influence and activities. Mrs. Humphrey Ward, who was in the chair, suggested, in conclusion, that the settlements unite to secure larger provision for the education of crippled children by the London school authorities. The efforts of Passmore Edwards House in this direction had demonstrated both the need and encouragement of greatly enlarged help to bring to self-help this otherwise most helpless class in the community.

The invariable English "afternoon tea" proved to be a pleasant introduction to the company, the most of whom were strangers to each other.

Mr. Percy Alden is the secretary of the new Settlements' Association, and its headquarters are at his office, Fitzalan House, Arundel street, Strand.

#### A LONDON SETTLEMENT'S INDEPENDENCE DAY.

Robert Browning Hall, in Walworth, well exemplifies the democratic spirit, attention to the commonest neighborhood needs and the broad outlook of its founder and resident-warden, Rev. F. Herbert Stead, M. A. The work centering at the old Non-Conformist Church, where Robert Browning was baptized, and to which his parents were devoted, is a very real incarnation of the unity between soul and sense, flesh and spirit in the great poet's verse. The restaurant is not above the means or manners of the poorest laborer, and the Dale Memorial Library is not sealed below the student of social and religious evolution. The Men's Club has sufficient local influence to have one of its members elected Mayor of Southwark on the labor ticket, and yet is broad enough in its outlook to hold, on our American Independence Day, an annual rally of those "who seek the unity of the English speaking race." At this meeting on the Fourth of July an English army officer did not hesitate to affirm that the scepter of the world's greatest influence is passing from the nations of the old world, who sought to rule by conquest, to the people of the new world, whose sway is to be wielded by colonization, until its "paramountcy" on the Pacific and over China will

soon be recognized by every nation. To the writer's appeal for an inter-dependence which will lift labor and all life to a higher level even than independence the audience of working people gave hearty assent, which voiced itself in impassioned protest against an imperial war-spirit, and in manly appeals for international peace by two labor men, one of them Tom Bryan, Mayor of Southwark.

LONDON.

### The Month at the Chicago Commons.

New swings for the little people, and a merry-go-round for everybody have added greatly to the joy of the many children whose only vacation during the long summer are the hours spent in the Commons play ground.

August is the girls' month at Camp Commons. The Penny meadow and the Fox River hills have never been more beautiful, and the "little mothers" of our neighborhood report a glorious outing. Bathing in the creek, long walks over the hills, wholesome, simple food, and over all that indescribable zest of tent life in the country, makes the two weeks spent at the Camp the great event of the year in the lives of many children. It may be added that the simplicity and directness of contact there possible between settlement residents and the children, make this service at once the most fruitful and bewitching in the settlement calendar.

The distribution of pasteurized milk to the babies and sick of the neighborhood has reached high water mark this summer. The milk commission of the Children's Hospital Society has made commendable progress in supplying this great need of the tenement districts.

From distant California in response to the need for another permanent Boys' Club room, as explained in the August issue of THE COMMONS, came a check for \$100.

This generous gift justifies another adventure of faith and we have rented the quarters described in our last issue, which will be ready for the boys by October 1st.

There ain't no hole so deep can't somebody pull you out.—Alice Hegan Rice in "Lovey Mary."

It is something new, it is a phenomenon possessing its own interest and demanding its own study, when beyond Christian Souls you have a Christian City—a whole community inspired with the feelings and acting under the motives of Christianity. It may not embody itself in laws or institutions; it may or may not be recognized in terms of the constitution or charter;—that is of little consequence. But a city as well as an individual is capable of a Christian experience and character. It is more than an aggregate of the experience of the souls within it, as a chemical compound has qualities which did not appear in either of its constituents; it is a real, new being, with qualities and powers of its own.—*Phillips Brooks.*

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### The Church in Social Reforms

By Graham Taylor. An Address and Discussion by the International Congregational Council in Boston, 1899. Twenty-five cents.

## The Commons

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# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor from the Settlement Point of View.

Number 87—Vol. VIII

Eighth Year

Chicago, October, 1903

## Questionings.

Have ye heard, unstirred,  
The sobbing of the night,  
When moon-forsaken;  
When stars refuse their light  
Joy to awaken?  
When Earth, from hill and daie,  
Peers through a misty veil—  
Dark, cold, and dimly pale,  
And spirit-shaken;  
Have ye heard?

Have ye heard, unstirred,  
The sobbing of the sea,  
When winds are lashing;  
When ships in misery  
Are shoreward dashing;  
The shrieking in the gloom;  
The wailing o'er their doom,  
When to their ocean-tomb  
The ships go crashing:  
Have ye heard?

Have ye heard, unstirred,  
The sobbing of the soul  
When frenzy-driven;  
When faith—the Master's dole—  
Has vainly striven?  
When love's extinguished fires  
Leave naught but cold desires,  
When every Hope expires  
That man was given:  
Have ye heard?  
*Have ye heard?*

—VAL ORMOND.

## THE FREE PLATFORM.

BY ALLEN B. POND, TRUSTEE OF HULL HOUSE.

The very corner stone of the American theory of government is that the people may be trusted to rule, and that for practical purposes the will of the majority of the voters shall be held to be the will of the people. In the application of this theory not only may the people through their representatives make and unmake laws within the limits set by the constitution, but may at will by an orderly process amend the constitution itself, and in pursuance of this process may eventually substitute for the constitution that we now have a totally different document. The sole prerequisite to

this result is a consistent purpose of an adequate majority. Such a total remodeling of our political organism, if it should some time take place, might come by way of changes so gradual as to amount to an evolution whose drift was hardly seen by the careless citizen; equally well, so far as its legality is concerned, it might come by way of changes so sweeping and so swift as to amount to a veritable revolution. The forefathers, differing widely among themselves on almost every point touched on by the constitution, made no effort to prevent such a recasting of the fundamental law, but united in providing an orderly method of effecting changes, merely hedging about the process in such a way as to prevent hasty and ill-considered action by a majority, swept along by some sudden emotional spasm, before the issue had been thoroughly thrashed out in the forum of unhampered public discussion.

## THE METHOD OF DEMOCRACY.

The very essence of this conception of government is that every proposition affecting the political organism shall be brought out into the open; that the full glare of publicity shall be turned on it; that it shall be met squarely and criticised freely. If it can make headway in the face of this free discussion, it is entitled to make headway. If it can win to itself a majority of the voters, it is entitled to be made effective as legislation; or, if it be of an essentially radical and fundamental nature, to be incorporated in the constitution as organic law. Freedom of criticism carries with it freedom of affirmation.

## THE METHOD OF DESPOTISM.

If honest men assert their belief in a radical economic or governmental proposition repugnant to organic law, the Russian way, the Turkish way, the way of despotism everywhere,—whether it be the despotism of majorities or of autocrats,—is to overwhelm the advocate of the unwelcome proposition by force, to whisk him away to Siberia or to ostracize him socially,—to forbid to discuss the proposition publicly and to hustle it out of sight,—leaving it to burrow its way silently and secretly, uncom-

bated because unseen and unheard. The American way, on the contrary, is to invite the advocate to bring his unwelcome proposition out into the open arena where it can and must fight for its life, but where likewise we can get at it. The Russian way,—the despotic way,—adds bitterness to discontent, converts constructive criticism into destructive enmity, and makes nihilists of those who best love their fellow men. The American way laughs the proposition out of court, if it be empty; kills it by ridicule, if it be absurd; or, having given it a well-lighted hall and a free platform, goes off and leaves it to talk to empty benches, if it be inopportune. But if, however, the unwelcome proposition wins its case in the open forum and proves to be the thing for which the majority of people are ready, the American way says: Some of us have our doubts; time will tell; anyhow we must trust the people with the right to try it on.

#### THE LAW OF PROGRESS.

There never has been a form of organized society under which great injustice was not habitually done to large numbers of individuals and to groups of individuals. There is no such society to-day. The patient moujik and the hardy Finn in Russia, the stunted peasant in Italy, the ignorant villagers of Spain, the sulphur miners of Sicily, the bedeviled inhabitants of the Balkan peninsula, the working girl in the great cities of western Europe, the Jew in many lands, all bear witness to the truth of this charge. In so far as America is an exception, it is an exception only in degree, not in fact. Howsoever righteous and just may be the warp and woof of our political and economic society, every close and thoughtful observer knows that the fabric is interwoven with threads of greed, of injustice, of iniquity. Some of this injustice and iniquity seems to inhere in the very nature of man and to admit of no rectification except through the regeneration of the race. Put this to one side. There remain wide areas of injustice frankly admitted or strongly claimed to be within the scope of the action of organized society. Between us and the bringing of society to apply a remedy, stand: the contented ignorance of those unintentionally selfish ones who are fenced about by walls of privilege and prosperity; the indifference of those whose strength and skill enable them to protect themselves; the hostility of those who, consciously or unconsciously, fatten on the injustice; the inertia that commonly circum-

scribes the feeble efforts of the well meaning. The first and indispensable step toward the remedying of a social wrong is to shatter the content of the ignorant, to pierce the indifference of the strong and to conquer the inertia of the well-meaning. On each man who feels the burden of some specific social wrong and who has a firm conviction that he sees the remedy that will meet the case, rests an obligation to urge his belief vigorously and to proselyte industriously. Free speech, instead of being a privilege to be grudgingly accorded, is a duty resting on the citizen of the free state; and only as he conscientiously exercises this duty is social progress possible. There is no room in the body politic for doctrinary preserves. No laws, no institutions of one age can be allowed to be erected to the position of *res adjudicatæ* conclusive on all times to come. There will never be any set of men in America to whom we can safely entrust the power to fix the limits of free speech, and to decide what are and what are not "dangerous" doctrines. Any attempt in America by affrighted political and economic orthodoxy to forestall by the cloture the free public discussion of laws and institutions will be futile. If it could conceivably succeed, its success would sound the death-blow of organic social evolution. Those who cry for such a cloture would better purge their minds of rubbish and hysteria or emigrate to the interior of China, where a petrified society is said to guarantee unbroken calm to contented conservatism.

#### THE ANARCHIST AND HIS GENESIS.

There are in America a few people,—coming mainly from under the tyranny of Russia or the militarism of Germany,—who, stung by the oppression under the forms of law that they have undergone or have witnessed, have convinced themselves that, if the brute force of coercive law were removed, man's better nature would assert itself and that each and all would voluntarily submit themselves to the law of love and the golden rule in a state of society without formal organized governments. Full of this belief they preach the doctrine of anarchy. To forbid them public utterance of their belief and thus to drive them to clandestine meetings for the profession of their political faith, is, in the first place, to confirm them in their belief that the tyranny of the law exists in America not otherwise than in Russia. In the next place it is to lend to their creed the fascination and the power that have attended a persecuted doctrine from the beginning of history. If

every anarchist in the United States were to be given the use of a well-lighted public hall and encouraged to talk eight hours a day, it is a safe prediction that at the end of ten years of agitation, the number of anarchists in the United States would be a negligible quantity. Per contra, to drive such men to clandestine meetings in the rear of some saloon, where the discussion is all on one side and the bitterness of ostracism adds fuel to the already inflamed mind, is to put a weight on the safety valve and to tempt a repetition of the Haymarket massacre. Bring our friend the anarchist into the open, and let him have it out with our other friend the socialist,—his antipode on every proposition.

#### THE COLLECTIVE ELEMENT IN SOCIAL EVOLUTION.

As for socialism, it is of every possible variety and degree from the faint tinge in the *laissez faire* democrat, who nevertheless admits that the government would better run the postoffice and the public school, through the republican who hungers for protective tariffs, to the man who believes that government should control sources of monopolizable raw materials, and on to the out-and-outer who wishes government to own all land, conduct all industries and be the initiative force in human society. At what point in the process the "danger" point shall be fixed and further discussion be tabooed, who shall decide? Frequent thoroughgoing public discussion of socialism, so far from being a menace, is quite as likely to prove a preventive or an anti-toxin. The coal famine of last year, coupled with the overbearing attitude of the mine owners and the coal-railroad presidents, caused a great wave of indignation to sweep over the country. On every side men who had given no thought to the subject of socialism loudly proclaimed their belief that the government ought to oust the mine owners and conduct the coal mines for the people. Such waves of anger are a menace to the orderly growth and to the stability of a body politic only in proportion as the people are ignorant or have given no thought to the matters involved. Does anyone suppose that frequent, vigorous, public, pro and con discussion of socialism would not have inoculated against extreme socialism hundreds of people who were swept from their moorings by this tidal wave of resentment and who loudly proclaimed their conversion to a main socialistic tenet? They would, on the contrary, have known, had they given heed to the discussions of socialism, that there was no easy stopping

with coal mines; and that government ownership and government operation of sources of supply involve their own problems by no means simple to solve or to see through to the end.

#### A FACTOR IN SOCIAL PROGRESS.

The social settlements, in so far as they furnish open forums for the full discussion of all sides of economic, social, and governmental questions, are doing a service of incalculable value to the community. One of the most regrettable tendencies of the present time is the growing tendency to speak of workers and employers as being arrayed against one another in inevitable class hostility. Against this untrue conception the social settlements take a firm stand; their drawing rooms are places where all sorts and conditions of men meet on a footing of social equality and in friendly comparison of notes on economic and social topics; their lecture halls and auditoriums offer a forum where both sides have their say and where question and answer bring home to the speakers and to the auditors the sincerity and the good will that on both sides are deeper than dogmas and isms. The social settlements are mediatory forces; they are, if one may so put it, educative forces in the conservative camp and conservative forces in the camp. I know whereof I speak, for I have watched closely the working of the leading Chicago settlements ever since their foundation.

#### HYSTERICAL CRITICISM.

A certain Chicago newspaper, the responsibility resting on which should be a guarantee of the sobriety and stability of character of its editors, has been having hysteria for a fortnight past because the Hull House (neighborhood) Woman's Club recently invited Eugene V. Debs to deliver before it his lecture entitled, "Emancipation." Debs will be remembered as the man who some ten years ago was the leader in a sympathetic railway strike that failed because it ought to have failed. Latterly he has been lecturing to anyone who wished to listen, his itinerary recently including, for example, the Chautauqua at Aurora, Ill., the State Normal School at Normal, Ill., and the Young Men's Christian Association at Jacksonville, Ill. So far from this being ground for a panic it should seem that one could hardly imagine the redoubtable Debs employed in a less dangerous business than lecturing to Chautauqua circles and addressing Woman's Clubs. So far from taking this reassuring view of the matter, the hysterical editor perceives in Hull House a hotbed of those most impossible bedfellows,

anarchism and socialism. Whether or no there was ever a "philosophical anarchist" in residence at Hull House, I do not now recall; had there been it would not have mattered. From time to time there have been socialists of various shades in residence. If the editor had cared to find out the present status, he could have spared himself a few paroxysms by learning that there is not at the present time a single socialist among the thirty residents of Hull House, each one of whom, however, undoubtedly knows more about socialism, past and present, than the horrified editor will ever learn.

#### THE REAL DANGER.

The plain fact of the matter is, whatever blunders she may make, America has comparatively little to fear from any propagandism in the open; and that such danger as there is lies in two quite other directions—namely, rash or ill-considered action from the lack of thoroughgoing public discussion, and argument by threat or persuasion by force. In view of the first danger, that man is a public enemy who advocates the suppression of free speech or who seeks to discredit full discussion of public questions in the public forum. He should be overwhelmed with ridicule and shamed into silence. In view of the second danger, that man is a public enemy who, despairing of gaining a working majority to his doctrine by argument and persuasion, uses threats or directly incites to violence in order to bring about a change in usages, in legislation, or in the organic law. Every such man should be summarily and rigorously dealt with—no matter what his occupation or standing, or under what auspices he makes the utterance.

Free speech is the corner stone of liberty and carries with it the right openly to agitate for the making or unmaking of any law or even for the complete peaceable reconstruction of our institutions. To make of free speech a cloak for provocation to violence transcends the limits of freedom and is the subversion of liberty.

Our day of dependence, our long apprenticeship to the learning of other lands, draws to a close. . . . We will walk on our own feet; we will work with our own hands; we will speak our own minds. . . . A nation of men will for the first time exist because each believes himself inspired by the Divine Soul which also inspires all souls.

—EMERSON.

## HULL HOUSE AND FREE SPEECH.

BY WILLIAM HARD.

EDITORIAL STAFF, CHICAGO TRIBUNE.

Nothing in the sentient universe shall remain inarticulate! This is the demand of the society of to-day, with its catholic literature and its catholic sociology, with its novels and poems written to voice the sentiments of all conceivable persons and its reports and articles written to lay bare the living conditions of all conceivable social groups. If there is any principle which our age has adopted as a working hypothesis it is the principle that every atom of the universe shall find utterance and that not until every atom has expressed itself can a synthesis be established.

In literature this change shows itself in the shift from the standpoint of the writer to the standpoint of the person written about. Browning did not discuss Bishop Blongram and Sludge the Medium. He made Bishop Blongram and Sludge the Medium speak for themselves. Kipling does not, like that poet of a former time, Goldsmith, tell the public what he thinks that lovely woman should do when she has stooped to folly. He lets lovely woman express her own feelings in "Mary, pity women."

Sociology follows the same path. It has resolved to bring to the surface every submerged fact of life. It investigates everything. It records everything. Those facts of daily existence,—wages, hours, dimensions of rooms, sex of workers, height and weight of child laborers, etc.,—which former ages considered insignificant and negligible this age considers weighty and invaluable.

The consequence is that society at the present time is intensely conscious of itself and intensely curious about itself. It is examining its parts, its bone, its blood and its tissue with circumstantial particularity. Sometimes, as in the case of most slumbering parties, it conducts this examination with the naiveté of a child picking its toes. Usually, however, it rises to a higher spiritual level and seems to the observer to be diligently searching its heart and penitently confessing its faults to the end that it may know itself and escape from the wrath to come.

This position of modern society has been outlined because people need to have it explained to them that in the fight between Hull House and its newspaper critics Hull House is not the under dog. The newspaper critic is the under dog. All the forces of the age are with Hull

House. The stars in their courses are fighting for Hull House. In the whelming tide of free speech the attack on Hull House is a pitiful little back eddy. The men who object to free speech may be philosophically right but they are chronologically wrong.

They would also be negligibly wrong were it not for the literary interest that attaches to the practical joke which history has played on them. The newspaper which began the attack on Hull House stands for the principles which made the French Revolution. These principles are personal liberty and individual political equality. Bear this point in mind for a moment while considering the immediate cause of the Hull House episode.

"Eugene V. Debs was invited to speak at Hull House. Eugene V. Debs is a follower of Karl Marx. The opinions of Karl Marx are subversive of society. Therefore such opinions should not be disseminated. Therefore Hull House should not have invited Eugene V. Debs to speak." This was the course of argument followed by the most enthusiastically Jeffersonian paper in Chicago.

Would that this paper could be transported to London and that the year 1903 could be changed to the year 1820! The argument followed by the enthusiastically Metternichian authorities of that time would then run something like this: "The morning Jeffersonian is disseminating the principles of the French Revolution. The principles of the French Revolution are subversive of society. Therefore the morning Jeffersonian must be suppressed and the editors of the morning Jeffersonian must accompany Leigh Hunt to the Surrey jail."

What would the Jeffersonian political democrats of a hundred years ago have thought if they could have foreseen that their successors would be attempting to scourge the Marxian social democrats with the same rod with which their own backs were then bloody? Are the opinions of Karl Marx subversive of society? Certainly. Were the opinions of Thomas Jefferson subversive of society? Certainly. And the word subversive will have to be used in exactly the same sense in both cases.

This does not mean that Karl Marx is right. It does not mean that Thomas Jefferson was right. Perhaps both Thomas Jefferson and Karl Marx will finally be seen to have been wrong. It means simply that if opinions which were called subversive of society were always guaranteed by the authorities the newspaper which began the attack on Hull House would never have come into existence.

The fact is that the impetus which Jeffersonianism gave to free speech has not yet expended itself. On the contrary, it has gathered force as it proceeded. Society is more than ever determined to study all its parts and to give every cell of its whole structure a tongue. Therefore it protects not only principles but opinions, not only philosophies but vagaries, not only argumentations but maunderings. Nothing shall remain submerged. Nothing shall remain unexpressed. Everything shall reveal itself. Nowhere shall there be concealment. Nowhere shall there be silence. Everywhere shall there be light and sound. This is modern society's working hypothesis. People who do not like it are to be commiserated. In their next incarnation may they light upon a more congenial era! This incarnation cannot but be very unpleasant for them.

### SIMPLICITY IN SETTLEMENT CAMPS.

BY HENRY F. BURT, DIRECTOR BOYS' WORK, CHICAGO COMMONS.

Much discussion is being carried on by people interested in Summer Outing Work, regarding the type of camp equipment and daily programme best suited for settlement service.

There can be no doubt but that the Family Outing as a type is the ideal. It is equally clear that at present this ideal is not possible for the average settlement. Camp Commons, which we have directed for the past four seasons, has divided its service between the boys and girls, giving six groups of forty children each a two weeks' outing.

There is one element which is fundamental to Camp Commons and which we believe should be the first element considered in all settlement outings. This element is simplicity—simplicity in equipment, daily programme and service. To take a child into a luxurious home, cottage or camp is to be unfair to both the child and the home from which the child came. A mother once said to us: "I won't let Helen (a girl of four years) go away from me again. Last year she didn't want to come back home." This child had been won by luxury from her own mother, who, to be sure, could provide but meagerly for her family of five girls, but who had a true mother's heart. Luxury is not in keeping with the outing spirit, even did it work no ill feeling. The tent life offers a complete change from the home. There is no ground for comparison. In tent life the child is brought into the closest contact with na-

ture and in a manner that is impossible in a cottage.

#### A SIMPLE CAMP.

Camp Commons has nine tents, an office, a kitchen, a dining and six sleeping tents. Were it possible to make a change we would build a pavilion with an office, store room, kitchen and a large dining hall, which could be used as a play hall on rainy days. We prefer to sleep in the tents. For table equipment all that is needed are knives, forks, spoons, plates, saucers and bowls. The kitchen equipment is composed of a gasoline stove and a minimum of utensils. For dining tables we use three twelve-inch, sixteen-foot boards nailed together, placed on wooden horses and covered with white oilcloth. The sleeping arrangements are very simple. A large canvas mattress filled with oat straw is spread on the tongue and grooved floor of each sleeping tent covering about half of the floor space. Long pillows similarly constructed and a plentiful supply of blankets complete this equipment.

Some camps attempt to provide a bill of fare equal to good boarding houses in variety. This is both expensive and unnecessary. Out door life demands an abundance of good food, well cooked. It does not demand great variety. Our bill of fare may seem meager, but we point to the results of four summers as proof of its sufficiency.

*Breakfast*—Oatmeal, bread, sugar, milk.

*Supper*—Bread, milk.

*Dinner*—(1) Pork and beans, bread and butter, cold slaw, apple pie.

(2) Tomato soup, bread or crackers, prunes.

(3) Potatoes, bread, salt pork, gravy, radishes or beets, apple sauce.

We have extras, such as fruit, cake, watermelon and ice cream, at different times. Our boys gain in weight an average of 2 pounds in two weeks, while the girls gain 3 pounds. The greatest gain this year among the boys was 4-1-2 pounds and among the girls 6-1-2 pounds. Very little meat is used in the camp. Milk is our largest expense. This we get fresh from the cows.

#### CAMP DISCIPLINE AND STUDY.

The question of the Daily Programme is commanding much attention. We plead for simplicity in the programme. If a camp stands for anything it stands for freedom. And freedom does not mean that boys should "run wild." Every camp must have a recognized head, who has the executive force to be-

come a czar if the occasion demands. But we do not consider the camp the place for set rules, book study, class work, or anything of the kind.

When we ask a boy to go to camp he does not think of going to school. He thinks of a free, romping life. If we portion out the day and expect a boy to spend two hours or more each day in work of the class-room sort, we are false to the spirit of the camp life. Our city children have all too little to do with nature to spend their time in class work while in camp. We have carried on our study in the following manner: The children are divided into two groups. The groups thus formed, with their leaders, leave the camp at the same time, going in different directions for a six-mile walk through the woods. Each group gathers as many species of wild flowers as the children can find. On one such walk one group gathered forty-two varieties, while the other group secured forty-one. On comparison we found, much to our surprise, that we had about sixty different flowers. The interest in counting, comparing and naming the flowers was intense.

We believe that the religious and moral teaching in a camp should be conducted as freely as the lessons in botany. We have only one time in the day when the camp gets together in quiet. Each evening after supper we gather on Vesper Hill for our camp service. The stillness, unbroken except by the cows cropping the grass as they return from the dairy barn, the last glow from the setting sun, the solemnity of the young oak trees as they stand in silence, in fact all nature seems to be in deep meditation doing reverence to a mighty Power. In this environment, every member of the camp, seated on the carpet of grass, with uncovered head, listens in silence to an appropriate story, sings with inspiration, "Abide With Me," or "Nearer My God to Thee," and bows in real reverence when a prayer is offered. This vesper service is appreciated, and is as much in keeping with the spirit of camp as the rousing time which follows around the camp fire. The greatest thing we can do for the city child in camp is to teach him the beauty and sweetness in nature and help him to adapt himself to his surroundings.

#### SIMPLICITY VERSUS EXPENSE

The simplicity in camp is exceeding important from the standpoint of the camp's service. Our simple bill of fare does not necessitate an experienced cook. It is difficult to secure paid help around a camp which is in keeping with the spirit of things. There should be no men



in the camp who are not men of sterling worth and character. With a plain bill of fare a young man can be secured, who is not simply a cook but is first of all a man and a companion for the children. The children should do all the work of the camp. Around the cook tent and dish washing table the chef must reign. There is no place in camp where greater opportunity for studying and helping the child is given than when he is at his work. When all the work is divided between the camp members there is little confusion and no need for what might be called "paid help." Three men have been able to conduct our camp of forty boys. When the girls are in camp two men remain (director and cook) and four ladies care for the girls.

We do not claim that Camp Commons is an ideal camp. We do believe that the element of simplicity underlying our whole work should be fundamental in all camps and outings, and especially in settlement work.

### ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD WORKERS, NEW YORK CITY.

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY  
MARY KINGSBURY SIMKHOVITCH,  
26 Jones Street, New York City.

### The Summer Outings of the New York Settlements.

The summer outings of the New York Settlements may be divided into two classes: those given by the Settlements that have their own houses in the country, and others which are made possible only by co-operation with outside agencies, such as the Charity Organization Society, the Association for Improving the Conditions of the Poor, the Children's Aid Society, etc.

To the former class belongs the Union Settlement, which has a house at Shrub Oak, New York. This house was open from July 4th to September 12th, and 355 people were entertained there during that time. Of these 220 stayed from one to three weeks, 25 went up for over Sunday, and 110 for one day. Children under twelve paid \$1.00 a week, those from twelve to seventeen \$2.00, and adults \$3.00. This included the railroad fare. Two miles from the house, on Lake Mohegan, was a boys' camp where 150 boys and young men were received during the summer at the same rates. Through the Tribune Fresh Air Fund the Settlement was able to send 475 people

away for outings of a week or longer and 1,300 on one day excursions.

The Hudson Guild had, through the Young Men's Union of the Ethical Culture Society, the use of a house at Mountainville, New York, for a month. This house accommodated 150, and several different parties were sent there, without any charge for board. The car fare was partly paid by the Settlement in cases where it was necessary.

Hartley House has the use of a farm at Pawling, New York, where 175 children have been entertained during the summer. Thirty children at a time went for two weeks. They paid only their car fare. In addition to these there were some Sunday parties of older boys and girls. The boys' clubs of Hartley House have a camp at Greenwood Lake which is independent. The boys own the outfit and pay dues to support the camp. The house has sent about 200 children on picnics, usually to Midland Beach or Staten Island.

The West Side Settlement of the Y. W. C. A. has had the use of a place at Claverack, New York, through the Tribune. Four parties of twenty-five were sent there for two weeks each without any charge. Also through the Tribune, parties were sent to Shokane and to Ashford Hills, making in all about 300 who were given outings of two weeks. The Settlement had, during the summer, the use of the grounds of the Ely school on 85th street, with their tennis courts and basket ball field. Thirty children were taken up there each day, and an excursion was given by the school to 900 mothers and their children. Altogether, outings of one day were given to over 3,000 people during the summer.

The Warren Goddard House, on 34th street, has a place at Spring Farm, Connecticut, where it sent parties of about 50 children for two weeks each from June 5th to September 7th. The children under sixteen paid for the two weeks \$3.50, which included the railroad fare. Those over sixteen paid \$7.00 for the same time, but there was also a free list. Besides this the Warren Goddard House, through the Children's Aid Society, sent 50 boys to a farm at Kensico for over Sunday and gave one-day excursions to over 500 other children.

Christodora House has two summer cottages, one at Woodmont, Connecticut, on Long Island Sound, and the other at Dalton, Massachusetts. Parties of fifteen children were sent to Woodmont for two weeks, and parties of ten to Dalton for the same length of time. The

children paid \$3.00 a week and their car fare. Through the Tribune, Christodora House gave one-day outings to 600 mothers and sent 200 children to Branchville for two weeks. The house also found places for a number of its club children in private families for outings of two or three weeks.

The University Settlement had a house at Leonardo, New Jersey, from July 6th to September 7th, where 103 girls were entertained over Saturday and Sunday, and 86 for a longer time. Members of the Settlement clubs were charged \$3.50 a week, other girls \$5.00. During July and August three parties were sent to the parks each week. Some of the children paid their own car fares, but more often these were paid by the Settlement. Six hundred and forty children were taken out in this way in parties of about 20.

The College Settlement owns a house and farm at Mt. Ivy, New York, about forty miles from the city. Every club member connected with the Settlement is given an opportunity to go to Mt. Ivy at some time during the summer, and this year over 1,000 tickets were sold. The car fare is fifty cents and there is a charge of from twenty-five cents to a dollar and a quarter a week for board, varying with the age of the child. Not far from the house at Mt. Ivy there are three boys' camps, two of which are run independently by two of the older boys' clubs. The boys go up for their vacations and for over Sunday, taking their own provisions. The third camp is used for younger boys and is under the supervision of one of the residents. The College Settlement has also sent a few children away through the outside agencies and has had many one-day excursions, the chief of which was the annual picnic at Vassar College.

The Nurses' Settlement has two places at Grandview on the Hudson. One of these is a convalescent home and is open through the entire year. There are ten beds for the use of patients who are guests of the house. The other place is called "River House," and over 250 people have been sent there during the summer, most of them for one week, although a few have stayed for a longer time. The price of board varies, as at Mt. Ivy, with the age of the child, but never exceeds \$1.50 a week, and the youngest children pay only their car fare. Besides these houses the Settlement has a farm at Huguenot, on Staten Island, where mothers and their children are sent. It is also used for one-day parties. About 2,000 people have been there during the summer. There are three boys' camps besides the farm house. Two

of these are managed by older boys' clubs and are self-supporting. The third is for younger boys who go in parties of 14 for one week each and pay from \$1.00 to \$1.50. There have also been many picnics from the Settlement at Seabright and at the city parks.

Greenwich House, Richmond Hill House and the West Side Neighborhood House have no country places of their own, but they have sent out children through the other fresh air agencies. Six hundred children went from Greenwich House, 500 from the Richmond Hill House, and about 250 from the West Side Neighborhood House.

It may be interesting to summarize the outings given by these twelve Settlements. The result is as follows: Nearly 4,000 people have been sent to the country for one week or more, the great majority for two weeks; 9,000 for one day or for over Sunday, and 450 boys have had outings at the camps.

These camps are a comparatively new feature in the summer outings of the New York Settlements, and they are becoming more and more popular as the people realize the value of the training involved in their management.

MARION B. DOOLITTLE.

The College Settlement, New York.

#### 'Tis Plodding Wins.

Many a song would be unsung,  
 Many a sermon unprepared,  
 Many a harp would be unstrung,  
 Many a loving act unshared,  
 If "feeling like it" was the key  
 That waked the heart to minstrelsy.  
 And if in thy life on earth,  
 In the chamber or by the hearth,  
 'Mid the crowded city's tide,  
 Or high on the lone hillside,  
 Thou canst cause a thought of peace,  
 Or an aching thought to cease,  
 Or a gleam of joy to burst  
 On a soul in sadness nursed;  
 Spare not thy hand, my child;  
 Though the gladdened should never know  
 The wellspring amid the wild  
 Whence the waters of blessing flow.

—FORWARD.

"A man is simple, when his chief care is to be what he ought to be; that is, honestly and naturally human. We may compare existence to raw material. What it is, matters less than what is made of it."—From Charles Wagner's "Simple Life."

"I am full of faults, but I am real and true, and the whole devotion of an earnest soul cannot be overprized."—Huxley.

**COLLEGE SETTLEMENTS ASSOCIATION.**

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## SETTLEMENTS.

New York City—95 Rivington Street.

Philadelphia—433 Christian Street.

Boston—93 Tyler Street (Denison House).

\*EDITED BY SARAH GRAHAM TOMKINS.

**The Summer at the New York Settlement.**

The summer has been a busy one for the College Settlement, both in town and country. The house and camps at Mt. Ivy have been filled to their utmost capacity and when the happiness of the guests in the simple country life, be they children or young people or mothers with their babes, is seen, one is almost tempted to be content with this one phase of summer work. But when it is realized that this week or two in the country is only a small portion of the summer, and that the rest must be spent in the close, crowded streets of the east side, and that most of its inhabitants never get even that breath of fresh air, one feels that it is only a beginning, and that the life in the city itself must be made more endurable.

The yard at 95 Rivington street has always been open to the children as much as possible. Last summer a kindergarten was held at the Ludlow street house, and this year, in addition to these, the gymnasium, the Settlement's most

recent acquisition, was open for two hours every morning and afternoon as a playground for the younger children. Frequent picnic parties were sent out, for of course the most desirable thing after all is to get the children out of the city even for a short time. The library and bank went on at their appointed times. In the evening the gymnasium was given over to the younger boys for ping-pong, which is still the fashion with them, crokinole and other games, with a chance at the one very popular shower-bath, while the residents at the main house were "at home" to any of the older ones who might wander in, and sometimes there was a quiet, cosy evening and at others a merry dance. So the summer has indeed been a busy one for the unusually large number of residents, some of whom came to stay and others to make but fleeting visits, but all of whom found much to interest and occupy them.

Larger forces than the small efforts of an occasional Settlement are touching the lives of the people of the more crowded districts in New York at many points and one of the most interesting to watch is the development of the work of the Vacation Schools and Playgrounds, and the increase of playgrounds in the public parks. In addition to the attractions offered the children in the schools in the morning and afternoon, band concerts were given in three schools in the immediate vicinity of the Settlement every evening. In the case of two the roofs were used, while in the third, where the roof was not available, the concert was given in the indoors playground, and the proximity to the street attracted great crowds, but five flights of stairs did not prevent the attendance at the others from mounting to a thousand or fifteen hundred. The large numbers were handled very well; a few seats were provided for the mothers, and many older men strayed in to watch their children dancing.

The East side has been much interested in the equipment of Seward Park, and rejoices to see the thousands of people enjoying its benefits—children on the swings or in the sand piles; boys and men on the splendid gymnastic apparatus, running races or playing basket ball. Once a week, in the evening, a band concert is given in the park.

As one goes about from one of these centers to another, one feels that the entire population must be at one or the other of them, until one walks back through the streets and finds them as crowded as ever and stumbles over the babies and children as one goes.

ELIZABETH S. WILLIAMS.

\*Wayland Camp, not "Maryland," was described in this department in the September issue.—EDITOR.

## VIEW POINTS OF LABOR ABROAD.

BY GRAHAM TAYLOR.

The educational value of a reasonable law effectively enforced is well exemplified in Naples. A society for the protection of animals was instituted by an Italian princess and is supported largely by tourists, principally to protect horses from the shocking cruelty of the drivers. Within only three or four years the law, enacted at the suggestion and urgency of this society, has wrought a very great change for the better at the cost of very few prosecutions. To the cheery chirp of the drivers, emphasized by the harmless crack of the whip, both horses and men give readier and happier response.

But a society for the protection of children is needed sadly in southern Italy to do the same work of mercy. Boys of light frame and fourteen years of age or less were found carrying large baskets full of stone or mortar as masons' helpers, and working under the heavy tasks of the mountain quarries. In other places growing girls were seen bent low under the huge burdens of transporting material or of carrying the hay and grain from the harvest fields. The astonishing number of dwarfs one meets on the streets and highways of Italy may thus be partly accounted for.

Out-of-door work for women in the gardens and harvest fields when properly regulated does not appear so objectionable in practice as the statement of it may sound to those not accustomed to it. It may be far better for a man and his wife, or the grown brothers and sisters of the family, to work side by side, dividing the burdens according to their strength as they almost always do, than to suffer the loss of this common bond and constant companionship by dividing the interests and separating the sexes in the workaday life. Some of the large country houses of England are opening fine opportunities to "lady gardeners" trained in floriculture and landscape gardening, which are being eagerly improved by cultivated women. To find women street-sweepers and scavengers at work in Bern, Switzerland, was hardly as agreeable as to see the shepherdesses with their flocks on the mountain slopes and lovely valleys. But they handled the brooms better than the men, who did the shovelling and carting all the better for the good example and self-respecting bearing of the women.

The Swiss Women's "Economic Society" has firmly established in the towns strict compulsory education and an absolute prohibition of the labor of all children under sixteen years of age. Their enlightened public policy needs to be made effective in country districts, and in other less advanced or humane lands.

The peaceful regulation of competition which the Venetian gondoliers have arranged among themselves through their union, far more cheaply and effectively controls the difficult situation on the canals of Venice than the city could command it by the most expensive police force. The severest test of this self-imposed restriction and discipline was imposed by the Municipal Serenade. Then the suspension of the legal tariff put a premium upon cupidity and extortion. A host of foreign tourists sharpened competition to the keenest edge. But with all the rivalry between the hundreds of gondolas on this biennial harvest-day and their deft steering for the places nearest the illuminated concert kiosk as it floated down the whole length of the Grand Canal, there was no violent or even rough action and scarcely more than momentary outbursts of impatient speech. Every approach to disorder was quickly silenced by the sharp warning cry to each other which accompanied the first notes of every part of the evening's musical program. While police-gondolas were in the flotilla they were very inconspicuous both in number and show of authority. It seems incredible that this picturesque but slow and cumbrous method of the "street" transportation of passengers and freight can long fail to be superseded by the power launches which have begun to make their appearance among the gondolas. But the gondoliers will be sure of tourists' patronage for many a year. For Venice would lose much of its unique charm without them.

The pace of labor everywhere established in America is far more rapid and intense than in Europe or England. Our hours are sometimes shorter and our wages often higher, but the production of output is always faster and greater. And yet one hears in England far less complaint of the limitation of output than is charged up in America to the account of the declining English competition, for which there are many other causes.

With the far lower wages paid in the old world more of the necessities but less of the luxuries and privileges of family life can be

procured than in America. Summer fruits, for instance, and ice in hot weather, are so expensive as to be out of the reach of the average wage-earning family. The majority of the people travel less than with us. But more of the better paid workmen take a two or three weeks holiday every year with their families at some inexpensive seashore or hillside resort. Parties of workmen frequently go, or are sent by their employers, abroad, for the observation of industrial methods and conditions. Labor unions occasionally arrange large excursions to pay visits of fellowship not only to neighboring cities but across the border. Nearly a thousand Dutch trades unionists from The Hague in Holland thus spent a day or two in Brussels, Belgium, this summer as guests of the Socialists of this city.

"La Maison de Peuple," or the House of the People, at Brussels is probably the best and most effective social enterprise initiated, supported and conducted by workmen to supply their own needs. Built up from a capital so small as a sack of potatoes by the Socialists of the city, the plant now includes a great building occupying half of a central block and costing \$250,000; co-operative bakery, department store, cafe, clothing manufactory, coal yard, doing the large business demanded by 19,000 co-operating families and giving the profits of these agencies to their patrons, reserving only the profits of the cafe as the sinking fund for the payment of the building debt which is rapidly being cancelled. A large hall seating 2,500 people and smaller assembly rooms provide for the regular meetings of all the trades unions and the occasional mass meetings held there. This greater house of the people supplements the equipment and "rainy-day" precautions of the family home life. Not only are educational, musical and social clubs of many kinds organized and centered here, but a medical dispensary and pharmacy furnishes the services of thirteen physicians and a well equipped and capably served drug-store free of cost to all co-operators of one year's standing. A sick and death benefit society with 8,000 members provides them a fair amount of insurance. The employment bureau has become the greatest exchange in the city to adjust the supply to the demand for labor. The National Socialist party, which has its headquarters here also, has had such growth, leadership and discipline that it has elected thirty-three members of parliament, and held its own against the reaction from the great country-wide strike two or three years

ago which threatened its power and checked its progress.

This kind of constructive and progressive organization of the radical workmen in Belgium is in commendable and suggestive contrast to the spasmodic and destructive movements of the French Communards in those fearful tempests of passion which have time and again devastated Paris. From the insurrection of 1792 to that of 1871 these appalling explosions are to be accounted for by the abnormal conditions prevalent long before each crisis. Unjust repression, and a suicidal separation of the classes which left no human tie between them, settled despair, crazed by the starvation and strain of the long German siege of the city, distorted the vision and perverted the judgment of thousands of sincere men so that they followed the desperate leadership of a few fanatics or desperados to the very death. With the more normal conditions now prevalent under the French Republic this destructive type of communism is said to have disappeared even from Belleville. The still dangerous separation of classes and sections in Paris is beginning to be bridged practically by such movements as the "Universite Populaire" and by the scientific study of conditions at the well equipped, ably manned and well endowed "Musee Social."

#### Do Thy Part.

Here in the living day, as did the great  
Who made the old days immortal! So shall  
men,  
Gazing long back to this far-looming hour,  
Say: Then the time when men were truly men.  
Though wars grew less, their spirits met the  
test  
Of new conditions; conquering civic wrong;  
Saving the state anew by virtuous lives;  
Guarding the country's honor as their own,  
And their own as their country's and their  
sons';  
Defying leagued fraud with single truth;  
Not fearing loss, and daring to be pure.

—RICHARD WATSON GILDER.

"If any man thinks that I am capable of forwarding the great cause in ever so small a way, let him just give me a helping hand and I will thank him, but if not, he is doing both himself and me harm in offering it, and if it should be necessary for me to find public expression to my thoughts on any matter, I have clearly made up my mind to do so, without allowing myself to be influenced by hope of gain or weight of authority."—Huxley.

# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor  
from the Social Settlement Point of View.

GRAHAM TAYLOR, - - - Editor

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EDITORIAL.

## Free Speech.

An apology may be due our earlier readers for re-opening a discussion of the free speech policy which has been one of the most serviceable and long established relationships between the settlements and their communities.

A belated Chicago daily paper has seen fit to attempt a censorship over the free platform of the most ably conducted and most highly esteemed American settlement. The well understood animus of the *Chicago Chronicle* renders unnecessary a consideration of its utterances in these columns.

Nevertheless a restatement of the principles of settlement policy in dealing with radicals and radicalism may not be out of place. We commend to the thoughtful consideration of our readers the able contributions upon this subject appearing in this issue.

## Prejudice Which Must Go.

Separation and deportation as a solution of the race problem are presented in a graphic manner to a Chicago audience by John Temple Graves, the Atlanta editor. This address from a southerner at least has the merit of dealing with the negro as a man entitled to the political and other rights which the white man demands for himself. The argument rests upon the presumption that these rights and the equal opportunity for development can never be the negro's in the midst of a white population. If they are to be his at all he must flock by himself in a state or nation of his own; and this he should do, in Mr. Graves's opinion, and the government of the United States should be ready to help him to any extent needed.

This was Thomas Jefferson's answer for the race question, and in his day it presented comparatively small obstacles. To-day it has to deal with 10,000,000 of people and a third of the population of the southern states. Where

is the negro state to be established? Mr. Graves suggests various places—Africa as more sentimental than practical, the Philippines as possibly providential, and a great tract of land in the far southwest of the United States, to be acquired by the government and turned over to the younger colored people, as perhaps the most practicable or economical scheme of all.

It may be said as to these suggestions that the Philippine plan is wilder than the African. That land is already much more thickly populated than our own, it is far more remote than Africa, and its people have race prejudices of their own as well as the southern whites. No one but a dreamer would ever think of it. As a practical matter, the separationists are brought to consider one suggestion alone—that of creating a negro state, or states, of the American Union, on land somewhere in the southwest, which the government, at a cost of hundreds of millions of dollars, must acquire and turn over to the colored people at a price which they can pay. We shall wait awhile before coming to the serious undertaking of such a project on the part of the government; and meantime the mixture of races is extending to occupy this suggested region of territory more and more closely. There would then be a white race to deport as well as a black, and deportation for the lordly white—whatever would he think of it?

But this whole talk of separation will strike anybody who stops to think over it as wholly idle, except in so far as it may be confined to the creation of exclusively colored communities in the states where the colored population is large. The white South would resist a general colored exodus to the utmost, for that would mean the loss of a third of its population and a nearly proportionate shrinkage in the value of all southern property. The supposition that northern whites would move in as fast as the negro moved out is a hope, and not an assurance—something remotely possible, but not probable until at least the available country northward into British territory has been crowded full, for the whole present drift of the northern races of Europe and America is northward, rather than southward. The industrial South simply cannot spare the negro, and knows it, and will resist his general going to the uttermost—and that ends the deportation or separation discussion as a serious and practical matter.

What then? We shall always come back to the same point from every desperate voyage

for discovery of a solution of the race question—and this is, that the black is here to stay, that the white must live with him at peace or at war, that he cannot live with the negro at war and be at peace with himself, that he cannot live with the negro at peace and deny to him the rights and opportunities of a man, and that therefore the only way out is to smash the assumption which the John Temple Graveses set up as a rock of everlasting truth, namely, that race prejudice is as fixed and ineradicable as the very structure of the human body. It is not so. To affirm it is to affirm that man is incapable of growing out of the narrow and miserable little inheritances from his cave-dwelling ancestry.

The real truth is that race prejudice is an acquired and not a natural possession. Man, and not God, is responsible for it, and ignorance and provincialism, and not enlightenment, are the soil in which it lives and grows. It is greatest where the human life is smallest and narrowest and meanest and least where life is largest in knowledge and experience. This is simple fact, and the Gentile in the presence of the Jew or the Yankee in the presence of the Celt, or the white man in the presence of the negro, will do well ever to keep the fact in mind. That way, and that way only, lies the solution to the race problem. Education is the word—but education for the white quite as much as for the black. It is race prejudice, and not the negro, which "must go!"—*The Springfield Republican*.

#### The Dead Hand.

The artless letters from the dead hand of Cecil Rhodes, in favor of what have now come to be known as "Mr. Chamberlain's Proposals," are psychological documents of some value, but we are not sure that they will greatly aid the cause which the *Times* and Dr. Jameson have at heart. At length we know from whom Mr. Chamberlain has drawn his inspiration. It has come from the same brain which conceived the Jameson Raid. As Mr. Chamberlain's war was a continuation of Mr. Rhodes's raid, so Mr. Chamberlain's "proposals" are the outcome of an agitation which the same practical dreamer started ten years ago. It has, indeed, the spiritual hall-mark of all Mr. Rhodes's conceptions. Mr. Rhodes went straight to his object, and he generally found that the short cut led to a precipice. Impatient, masterful, limited in his mental horizon, he could never understand that the means are often much more

important than the end. He wanted to win the Boers for the Empire, and straightway he made the raid which alienated them—possibly for ever. He wanted to pacify Cape Colony, and straightway he proposed to destroy the Constitution which is the whole basis of whatever loyalty it has left. The Zollverein scheme came from the same brain. It is a plan to create a great commercial federal Empire, by destroying the very basis of its commercial and maritime prosperity—free trade. Mr. Rhodes complains of the short sight of British politicians. To do him justice, he was not near-sighted. He had, indeed, a mania for immensity in any form. The disease of vision from which he suffered was rather that he could only see in a straight line. He was blind to everything but the one distant spot, in which he had fixed his gaze—a peculiarity that led to some very tragic stumblings.

In another way, which is quite as characteristic, Mr. Chamberlain's proposals betray their origin. The masterful mind which has hypnotised him during the latter half of his career was a mind of singular limitations despite its power. There was a side of life which this half-trained intellect could never grasp. He did not understand the ties of sentiment, which mean as much in politics as in home life. He had formed his knowledge of men among the cosmopolitan crowd of a diamond field and a stock exchange. He had a theory that money would buy everything. He confused mankind with the men without a country or a conscience who were his friends and his satellites. The money tie was the only bond he believed in, and, patriot though he was, he did not know what love of country means. Mr. Stead in giving his will to the world revealed the man. He had a scheme for annexing Spain to the British Empire, and evidently he imagined that Spaniards would be only too proud to be absorbed in a bigger and more flourishing "concern." Nor was that all. He had another scheme for annexing these islands to America, as though we, too, would be only too thankful to sink our history and our national existence. His dealings with the Boers were the most disastrous application of these views. Such a man inevitably misunderstood the Colonies. "Future generations," he writes, "will not be born in England," a phrase which seems to imply that the tie which rests on community of ideals will not survive the strain of emigration. Distrusting sentiment, he looked to business as the foundation of the Empire. There he was wrong. The Barnatos and the Beits—men who

have never had a country—are not the types of mankind. All history is against him. A century which has seen the resurrection of nationalities in Italy and in Greece might have learned that patriotism is a force which can surmount obstacles more formidable than an ocean.

The appeal to business motives is, in fact, an appeal to something which sunders even more effectively than it binds. We in this country are attached to our Colonies, but we cannot sacrifice to them the interests of our working-classes, whose prosperity depends upon cheap food. They in their turn have economic interests which they must put first. The *Daily Mail* publishes a most significant telegram from Australia. Australia is bent on building up her own manufactures. She will not lower her tariffs to admit our exports. The utmost she will do is to raise her barriers to keep out foreign goods. On these lines of conflicting and competing interests there is no prospect of unity. The real corner-stone of Empire is that sentiment of nationality which these hasty builders have rejected.—*The London Echo*.

### THE SERVANT PROBLEM.

#### A Guild of Home Training Suggested.

In all one's work among our poorer neighbors in South London nothing so powerfully appeals to my own sympathies as the needs of the growing girls. Their parents are too poor to apprentice or give them "time" to learn any trade or business; as soon, therefore, as she leaves school the girl must add her tiny earnings to the family income and as nearly as possible "keep herself." This necessitates her taking up some branch of unskilled labor, such as tin-cutting, wood-chopping, rag-sorting and packing or pasting in cocoa or jam factories. This class of work is most precarious; the firm gets "slack," and the newer, slower or worst hands are turned off. Then another few weeks maybe of work and again weeks or months of idleness. Under these circumstances the girl and her mother reluctantly turn their thoughts to "service"; they will try *that*, all else having failed, and the mother says she "cannot keep so many at home idle." So half-unwillingly, half-hopefully, the girl comes to our registry office to "get a place." Training Homes there are, it is true, but neither the girl nor her mother like that prospect. They do not understand the value of the training given; they will rarely consent to any really useful amount of time being spent there because no wages are

gained, and they feel that after all it is a school, only without the alleviations of living at home. On the other hand, to a "good" girl the Training Home offers small advantage. As a rule, the possible insight into housework and cookery is not more elaborate than at home, the work being divided among so many does not afford any *real* idea to the girl of what she would have to do in a "place," and, greatest drawback of all, she mixes with the unsatisfactory ones, not these from whom she is likely to get much good, for we all know that it is the girls who have not done well whom we send to Homes in hopes of their doing better in the future.

The demand for servants is as great as ever, it is a trade in which "slackness" rarely occurs, but the supply gradually grows smaller and is drawn from a more inefficient class than heretofore. Here, it seems to me, is "woman's opportunity." And my suggestion is that ladies should band themselves into a guild or association to help both their own class and their poor little sisters, by taking a girl regularly into their houses to train. I would propose that the girl should be provided with a proper outfit of clothes, to be hers at the end of her training, that the

#### TRAINING TIME SHOULD LAST SIX MONTHS

and during it no wages should be paid, unless a few pence were given as pocket-money, that at the end of the time the mistress might retain her at a wage for another six months, but that after that she should get another place. There are many houses where a second pair of hands would be useful if no wages need be paid, and now I know of a lady who has always two in training, but, as she cannot afford proper wages, they pass on to other places, knowing their work, having, as it were, a trade in their hands, and therefore saved from helping to flood the unskilled labor market. The advantages on either side would be:

*On the Girl's Part*—(1) Learning the ways of a family differing from her own; (2) learning good manners; (3) being under the influence of some one who cared she should do well; (4) having a six-months' character; (5) becoming possessor of a proper outfit of decent clothes and having a penny or two of pocket-money.

*On the Mistress' Side*—(1) Having a girl to lighten the work of the house for no wages; (2) knowing that her "general" who would otherwise have a very dull life had young companionship, also the knowledge that by this "per-



sonal service" she was helping a class who would otherwise have little chance of rising.

Bermondsey Settlement Magazine, London, April, 1903.

We can not always be living in the full vision of this City of God, or living at the level of any of our highest and grandest thoughts. We get glimpses and lose them again, but it is these when they come to us that are the nourishment and the strength and the inspiration of our lives.—*James Orr, D. D.*

The Kingdom of God begins within, but it is to make itself manifest without. It is to penetrate the feelings, habits, thoughts, words, acts, of him who is the subject of it. At last it is to penetrate our whole social existence, to mold all things according to its laws.

So there will be discovered beneath all the politics of the earth, sustaining the order of each country, upholding the charity of each household, a City which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.—*Frederick Denison Maurice.*

We are still busy making the Republic out of the children in our homes; out of the races which were here before us; out of men from all the completed countries whose doors open towards our long seaboard; we are steadily, surely, making a people, with one language, one liberty, one virtue, one purpose. The world has no loftier ideal. There can be none loftier than our highest thought, that here may be the holy city, New Jerusalem, rising up from earth to heaven.—*Alexander McKenzie, D. D.*

If we can only come back to Nature together every year, and consider the flowers and the birds, and confess our faults and our mistakes under the silent stars, and hear the river murmuring in absolution, we shall die young, even though we live long; and we shall have a treasure of memories which will be like the twin-flower, a double blossom on a single stem, and carry with us into the unseen world something which will make it worth while to be immortal.

—HENRY VAN DYKE.

"A worker I must always be—it is my nature—but if I had £400 pounds a year I would never let my name appear to anything I did or shall ever do. It would be glorious to be a voice working in secret and free from all those personal motives that have actuated the best."—*Huxley.*

Our life should be an incessant apostolate—in word, in deed, in example—of that which we believe to be the truth. He who sets bounds to that apostolate denies the unity of God and of the human family; he who despairs of the Intellect of the people denies history, which shows us the unlearned ever the first to seize and comprehend, through the heart's logic, the newest and most daring truths of religion.

—MAZZINI.

You were first slaves, then serfs. Now you are hirelings. You have emancipated yourselves from slavery and from serfdom. Why should you not emancipate yourselves from the yoke of hire, and become free producers, and masters of the totality of production which you create? Wherefore should you not accomplish through your own peaceful endeavors, a revolution which, accepting labor as the commercial basis of human intercourse, and the fruits of labor as the basis of property, should abolish the class distinctions and tyrannical dominion of one class over another. And by proclaiming one sole law of just equilibrium between production and consumption, harmonize and unite all the children of the country, the common mother.

—JOSEPH MAZZINI.

BY EDWIN MARKHAM.

Author of "The Man with the Hoe, and other poems."  
Written after seeing Millet's great painting with this title.

Soon will the lonesome cricket by the stone  
Begin to hush the night; and lightly blown  
Field fragrances will fill the fading blue—  
Old furrow-scents that ancient Eden knew.  
Soon in the upper twilight will be heard  
The winging whisper of a homing bird.

This is the Earth-god of the latter day,  
Treading with solemn joy the upward way;  
Strong to make kind the grudging ground, and  
strong

To pluck the beard of some world-honored  
Wrong—

A lusty strength that in some crowning hour  
Will hurl Gray Privilege from the place of  
power.

This is the World-Will climbing to its goal,  
The climb of the unconquerable Soul—  
The strong, inevitable steps that make  
Unreason tremble and Tradition shake—  
Democracy, whose sure insurgent stride  
Jars kingdoms to their ultimate stone of pride.

### The Month at Chicago Commons.

September is a month of "endings finished of beginnings unbegin," for settlement work and workers. The summer resident has taken flight and the winter residents have not all returned. There is movement everywhere—here a tear of regret and there a laugh of welcoming gladness—as departures and arrivals go and come.

In accordance with established precedent, the Tabernacle Church held its rally for the fall and winter work Sunday, September 20. Beginning with the sunrise prayer meeting, an excellent spirit was manifest at the well-attended gatherings of the day. Pastor and people feel much encouraged and are entering with greater confidence into the service of the approaching season because of this gathering together of their forces.

The Domestic Science Department opened this year in better condition than ever before. About seventy-five girls from last year's classes returned to the cooking school to form a senior class, which will be graduated in the spring, while fifty new girls gained admission, taxing the entire capacity of the room and necessitating a waiting list, which grows longer each day. In connection with the department two housekeepers' clubs have been formed, one of Italian mothers and one of Norwegian. Also a "rug club," which meets every Wednesday morning, the members dyeing as well as sewing the rags, and taking turns in weaving their rugs on the Eureka loom. A normal class for the kindergarten training school will also be held one day in the week.

The boys' clubs will begin in their new quarters October 5. The gift of \$100 almost pays the rent for one year. The receipts from the boys' minstrel show, given last winter, were sufficient to paper the walls and ceiling and paint the woodwork. One of our neighbors presented the club with pictures to decorate the walls. A small circulating and reference library and the Penny Savings Bank are already installed in the new room. Our games from last year will be sufficient to begin the work. We shall hope to make some games in the manual training department. One need yet remains: a pool table for the older boys. This winter's work promises to be the best in our experience.

While the Commons has been supplying to its community for the past several years oppor-

tunity for musical study, it is only this season that an organized effort in this direction will be made. Taking up residence at the Commons this fall, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar B. Gordon will devote their entire time to this work, and an attempt will be made to combine the various musical interests into a regular School of Music. Arrangements have already been made for giving instruction in piano, voice, violin, mandolin and guitar. A children's orchestra and a mandolin and guitar club are contemplated. The adult chorus begins its season with an enthusiasm unequaled in the past. Contrary to its custom, rehearsals were held throughout the summer months, and as a result the club will present the sacred cantata, "The Fatherhood of God," by Schneckler, with the assistance of soloists and orchestra, early in October. The children's chorus, 200 strong, will again be under the able direction of Miss Sprague. This body of singers is perhaps one of the most interesting features of the Commons' musical work. It is well worth any one's while to hear these children from the neighborhood sing.

### PESTALOZZI-FROEBEL

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# The Commons

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## THE STORY OF RUSKIN AND THE KESWICK SCHOOL OF INDUSTRIAL ARTS.

AS TOLD BY ITS FOUNDER, REV. H. D. RAWNSLEY,  
CANON OF CARLISLE.

INITIATIVE GIVEN BY PROFESSOR RUSKIN'S TEACHINGS.

One of the many rememberable talks with the professor in old Oxford and Hinksey digging

"Why don't the bishops," he said, "admonish their clergy to see to it that side by side with parish church and parish mission room there shall be a parish workshop, where the blacksmith and the village carpenter shall of a winter evening teach all the children who will be diligent and will learn the nature of iron and wood and the use of their eyes and hands.

"I would have the decoration of metal and



days turned on the question of how to add happiness to the country laborer's lot. His eyes flashed and his voice rose with its earnest singing as he urged that it was the simple duty of every squire and every clergyman to see that idle hands should have something found for them to do by other than the Devil; and that it was a scandal that the church had neither rest homes nor recreation rooms nor public houses where the poor might find cheer and solace without the necessity of drink on the long winter evenings.

wood brought in later, and these children as they grow shall feel the joy of adding ornament to simple surfaces of metal or wood; but always they shall be taught the use of the pencil and the delight of close observation of flower in the field and bird in the hedgerow and animal in the wildwood. We must bring joy, the joy of eye and hand skill to our cottage homes."

In some such words did the professor talk, and his words were not forgotten. It had been my fortune to come under the teaching of Edward Thring, himself a student of Ruskin's

theories. I had learned at Uppingham that if a boy was not gifted with power of language or mathematics, nor likely to prove a good classic, he was not on that account to be despaired of by his head master. At least he might be clever with his hands, and I once heard Thring say that one of the proud moments of his life was when he saw the old archdeacon's schoolroom, that had done its classical work since the days of great Elizabeth, turned into a carpenter shop and loud with the hammer and saw.

#### TRANSITION IN THE LAKE COUNTRY LIFE.

It was not to be wondered at that when one came into the lake country and settled down to the care of the little village of Wray on Windermere, one of the first things one should seek for was to find how to help the joy of the winter evenings in the cottages. There were really no poor among the people, but there was plenty of time for training hands to the wood carver's art. Song was already one of the features of the village life; the postmaster was a musician. The old spinning wheel days were spoken of tenderly by the village grandmothers, but the thought of reviving that industry never occurred to one as possible. Wood carving was possible, and friends at Grasmere were as keen for it as we were at Wray; some also at Ambleside were wishful to learn. To make a long story short, a lady was engaged to come down from South Kensington to give a course of lessons in the three villages, and our humble home industry in the lake district was set on foot.

The last winter we were at Wray my wife began to make experiments in metal repoussé work, stimulated by the amateur efforts of a friend who chanced to call one day—and in the hope of turning such knowledge to account in our own village or elsewhere. There hangs before me as I write the first dish she made, her tools being, I think, a hammer and a French nail.

We were encouraged in the possibility of teaching this art to unskilled hands by the efforts made by a Swiss butler at Croft, my mother-in-law's house, who after one or two lessons set to work on an intricate pattern my wife gave him of a scroll from a Florentine "scaldino" and who produced an effective bit of decoration. I like to think of this man's experiment as part of the seed from which our Keswick School of Industrial Arts sprang.

Circumstances brought us over the Raise gap into Cumberland in 1883; we left behind the

wood carvers in Westmoreland, but not the sense of brightness in their cottage homes which the interest of this simple handicraft had added. We left behind the presence of the master, and the possibility of going over the Hawkshead Hill to talk with him at Brantwood from time to time of the work. We carried with us his wishes and his hopes for the evangel of home industries. The Langdale spinning wheels had just begun to hum; we had none to help Cumberland homes in this way, but at least we knew something of the elements of wood carving and metal repoussé work, and we were amongst a people who must necessarily have little work to do, out of the tourist season, and were in a town which had none of the excitements of the "three-penny theater" or "penny-gaff" to act as counter attraction. Besides the town was a Viking town. Town of the wyke of Ketel the Dane; and these Vikings were living here still with probably the same aptitude for wood carving and wood shaping and with that same love of ornament that their forefathers had brought with them who came with Ingolf and Thorolf from over the sea—supplemented, as I suppose, by the love of it that the German colony of miners in the days of Queen Elizabeth had in their hearts. It was true that there was no evidence of its existence in the cottages, unless the raddle mark and whitening pattern on hearth or door stone might be looked upon as survivals of a day of Scandinavian ornament; but some one had evidently been fond of wood carving of old, for not a settle nor high "seat post" nor meal-ark or kist in the old farms but had careful scroll and vine-roll ornament upon them, dating some of these from King James' time, and the later Restoration down to the middle of last century. There was evidence here that the love of wood carving detail was cared for in Cumberland homes. Some of the patterns on these meal-arcs were clearly Norse, the linked serpent was sign of it; others showed an earlier origin and told of the time when the forefathers of these dalesmen were still dwellers in the land of the palm, Aryans in their eastern home. The conventionalized palm-roll on the Cumberland furniture has often set me thinking of the permanency of traditional ornament among a pastoral people. But this is by the way.

#### FAVORING CONDITIONS AT KESWICK.

Here, then, at Keswick was just the place for an experiment in home industries. A little country town, dull enough in winter evenings,

lacking enough in work and wages of all year round besides, and full enough of tourists in a summer season to insure a sale for the goods made. So we set to work in the winter of 1883-4, called a committee together, enlisted the help of a gentleman in the neighborhood who was an artist and designer, and engaging a teacher of wood carving from the South Kensington School, offered her services to the ladies of the neighborhood on such terms during the day as enabled us to hold a class free of charge for workingmen and lads during the evening. We met in the parish room three nights a week, my wife superintending the brass repoussé work and a clever local jeweler making experiments as to the manipulation of the sheet metal in the matter of heating it up into shape from the flat. Within a month of the start we could produce very simple brass or copper finger plates for doors which found a sale. Our expenses of that first session of five months amounted to £181, but we had produced work which we estimated to be worth £118. Our expenses were kept as low as possible. The parish room in which for the first ten years the classes were held was lent us, and, though it was a very considerable trouble to have to clear away all benches and tools at the end of each evening's work, the workers cheerily undertook this, for the room was quite certain to be needed for parochial work on the following day. For the second winter session we engaged a clever wood carver to come once a week from Carlisle, and the sum of £9—the only sum ever asked for of the neighborhood to help to defray expenses—was collected. The working expenses of this second season was £147. A local exhibition of work done was held at Easter in the Town Hall, and I remember well the astonishment on the faces of some of the townsmen who found that this work had been done in their midst by men and lads whom they knew well enough in any capacity but that of wood or metal worker.

#### SELF-SUPPORT SOON REACHED.

At the third session, 1886, we found applications were so numerous for admission to the school that we could afford to be careful in our selection, and could impose such rules as that no lad should be admitted to work till he could prove by attendance at the drawing class his ability to trace his pattern for himself on to the metal or wood. From the first we had wished to see each metal worker finish his work throughout, but the difficulty of having proper accommodation in a smith's shop pre-

vented this. Nevertheless, as time went on we fitted up an iron room, hard by the parish room, with concrete floor, blow pipe, anvil, vises and the like; and one of the cleverest of our school hands thenceforward undertook to teach himself as he went along and to teach others as he worked. At the end of the third session we found ourselves with our expenditure doubled, but our sales had doubled also, and we were possessed of assets that showed us we were £131 to the good. The experiment so far has shown itself entirely self-supporting, and from that day to this it has not looked back.

#### BEAUTIFUL HOME FOR THE WORK OF BEAUTY.

For ten years we worked in the parish room under great inconveniences. Then our committee determined to obtain a site and build workshops and show room, office and designer's room in one, and, while the school itself out of its earnings contributed £300 and the county council £200, friends to the enterprise contributed the balance of the £800 necessary, and in 1894 we entered into possession of as compact and picturesque a school of art as may be found in Great Britain. For the design of the school we were indebted to Messrs. Paley & Austin of Lancaster. Amongst those who had helped us were Walter Crane, Holman Hunt and that truest champion of the whole movement, our dear old friend, G. F. Watts, the Royal Academician.

But the spirit that had made the whole venture possible was the spirit of him whose face hangs now upon its walls, the spirit of John Ruskin.

Most visitors go to see the pencil works near Greta Hall, some are glad to see Southey's home upon the tree-clad hill hard by; it is but a step beyond in the direction of Crosthwaite Church, and the eyes of all who cross Greta bridge will light on a pleasant building swathed in flowers, with balcony such as might be welcomed by the spinners of old time, with chimneys just such as those round chimneys on their square pedestals which Wordsworth so much admired, and which Ruskin himself delighted to draw. Beneath the balcony runs a legend:

"The loving eye and skilful hand  
Shall work with joy and bless the land."

I once heard a tourist spell it out to his friend, and say: "Oh, yes, it's the Keswick eye hospital, you know." And truly it is an eye hospital, if by that is meant an institution for getting men to use their eyes and see beauty in living design and the worth of a springing curve.

Enter the garden gate, climb up the round of stone steps, pass along the balcony and we find ourselves at a door leading into the show room of the Keswick School on Industrial Arts, upon whose front is a tablet with the words from Browning:

"Oh, world as God has made it, all is beauty,  
And knowing this is love, and love is duty";  
as one lifts one's eyes to the hills from that balcony or entering into the show room and crossing to the further side one gazes out upon the ample mead, the winding river, the distant hills, the flashing lake, one feels, unless one's heart is stone, that Browning is right.

Here is the ideal craftsman's home of work, and here in the winter months the windows gleam as one passes, one hears above the sound of Greta swirling by, the sound of the anvil and the chink of the hammers, and, passing on may find a set of men as proud of their school as they are well behaved and courteous. Men who scorn all that is meant by the word drink, and men who, though many of them live laborious days, will not miss if they can help it, crowning the labor of the day with the rest of this complete change of work for hand and eye.

You will find the lady who started it all faithfully at her post no matter what the weather is, noting and criticising each piece of work and deciding if it shall be passed and have the school stamp, a lozenge with the initials K. S. I. A. upon it. You will find another lady the friend and confidante of all the workers from the first, giving out or taking in the work and paying for it its just value to the worker. You will see the art director planning with sure hand how this or that metal problem is to be met. You will pass into the next room and mingle with the wood carvers round their teacher, or on another evening you will watch the men with pencil in hand doing what they may to reproduce a branch of wild rose upon their drawing boards, or modeling a cast of a leaf in clay beneath the direction of their drawing teacher. You will open the door and find yourself in another room odorous with pitch and hissing loud as the redhot bowl is tempered for its twentieth time. This is the abode of Vulcan and Æolus *pro tem*. The stithy is being arranged for outside. Iron work has in this last year of the century been added to the copper and brass work. Passing through this room you will enter the workshop where silver work goes forward, and beyond may chance to find an enameler's gas stove red hot and a worker in enamel busy.

But in summer you will note that the chief attraction is the show room, and, as you gaze at the varied wares of wood, of brass, of copper, of silver and of electro-plate, you will not be surprised to learn that the amount of work turned out annually is estimated at £1,700, and that the difficulty is rather not how to dispose of the work done, but how to keep customers in good temper while they are waiting for their work in its due rotation to be executed.

#### THE WORTH OF THE WORK.

And what really is the worth of the school work? It cannot be estimated in pounds. Go to the homes of any of the workers. Ask their wives or their brothers and you shall learn. Go to any of the workers themselves and you shall learn that the good of the school to them has been that they now have always something to turn to on a dull evening and something that has opened their eyes to see what they used to pass by without notice in flower life and bird life and beauty of light and shade, of cloud and sunshine, upon the fellside of their native vale.

But if you were to ask the art director I think he would say that he is astounded at the natural refinement that has come upon the men; a coarse word, a vulgar suggestion, is not known in the school. He would say further that he realizes here in this little school at Keswick, something of the guild camaraderie of the olden time. If a man finds out any secret in working metal he does not care to keep it to himself, it is at once at the service of all his fellow-workers. It is this spirit that is better than rubies, whose price is above silver and gold.

And if you were to inquire of the townsmen what they thought of the institution I believe the more thoughtful would answer: "We know nothing of the ideal before the mind of the promoters. This we know, that it is the grandest temperance agent in the place."

Now to whom is this owed? Whose is the spirit that inspired it? There is only one answer possible. It is the mind and spirit of John Ruskin. How well I remember the day when we took our first little results of brass repoussé over to Brantwood to talk about the work in the spring of 1884. How pleased he was to hear about it all. How grieved he was to think that we should allow our workers to work in a mixed metal. Copper, yes; gold, yes; silver, yes; but this *brass* was neither fish, flesh nor good fresh herring. It was a base alloy. And yet though he clapped his hands

over it, and vowed it was shockingly immoral, he admitted the work was careful and true, and was forced to allow that much of the sunshine that dazzled the eyes of the heroes of Homer's song was just this base alloy on shining threshold and on glittering helm. Ruskin was too enfeebled in health to admit of our troubling him afterwards with details of our work, but he knew of our progress and rejoiced in it, and from time to time sent tender messages to the school.

### A GUILD FOR SOCIAL WORK AND ITS MESSAGE TO SETTLEMENTS.

BY FRANCIS H. McLEAN, ASSOCIATE WORKER, NORTH-WESTERN UNIVERSITY SETTLEMENT.

The University Settlement of New York City has not been entirely a stranger to achievement during its years of growth. Its influence upon the local conditions existing in the great East Side of New York has been exceedingly powerful. It has succeeded in becoming a great center for labor unions. Its workers have in pamphlet and report and verbal speech given striking and clear expositions of social sores and their cure. So much more might be said.

But if one were looking for that achievement which, above all others, has been remarkable and unique in the history of this settlement, he would find it—not among these things which are chiefly spoken and written about. If he were wise and accustomed to look beneath the surface he would discover that which he sought in what brought about a meeting recently held in the Settlement when the Neighborhood Guild Alumni Association was organized. That Association is the last fine flower of a development which has been going on ever since the early beginnings of what is now the University Settlement, a development which has brought to the young men and young women of the settlement clubs a fine sense of social responsibility, which has resulted in their becoming efficient directors and leaders in the work of other social centers. No more significant development has ever appeared in the annals of the settlement movement in America, and it is certainly worthy of more careful study and attention than has ever been given to it. For what other settlement in America can point to three of its "boys" in charge of three other settlements? What other settlement can point to the organization of a new social center entirely through the efforts of a number of its "boys" and "girls" now young men and women. Can anyone fail to see the tremendous impetus and strength which will be given to the

settlement movement when not one or two or three, but many more centers are developing young men and women, who in their turn will establish or direct other new centers? In a very modest way the writer will endeavor in the present article to describe what conditions, methods and policies are responsible for this development. For what has been accomplished in the University Settlement may be accomplished in a greater or less degree by other centers.

To Dr. Stanton Coit belongs in a large share the honor for having so directed the work and energies of the social center which gradually grew up about him, when he went to live on the East Side some seventeen years ago, as to bring forth such remarkable results. The broad ideals which Dr. Coit had in mind have been embodied in his book on neighborhood guilds. Though the Neighborhood Guild which grew up on the East Side of New York, and which has since been incorporated in the University Settlement, does not by any means attain to Dr. Coit's ideals and standards, still in a very forceful and strong way it has demonstrated the value of his theory and practice. It is hardly necessary to here summarize Dr. Coit's ideals beyond saying that they simply meant that social centers should not be developed from the outside, but from the inside. In other words, that the people themselves in any particular community should be the great working force in a social center and that the assistance, material and otherwise, which came from the outside should be merely incidental. Perhaps a certain amount of leadership is necessary, as he led the old Neighborhood Guild, but if the whole spirit of a place does not impose responsibility and mutual duty upon all who become a part in this life, then certainly it fails signally, judged from the guild standpoint. Responsibility and mutual service, these are the keynote of the guild ideal. It was undoubtedly Dr. Coit's hope that in time the Neighborhood Guild would grow up into active, flourishing life, continually extending its sphere of activities, perhaps through encouraging the growth of other local centers, and that the greater share of responsibility for its maintenance and support and work should be upon the people of each particular community where in it worked; in other words, it should be not only *for* the people, but *from* and *by* the people. As time has gone on, the necessities of many crises and other influences have materially changed the growth of the Guild, especially since the incorporation in the Univer-

sity Settlement. Nevertheless, though Dr. Coit himself may imagine that in a very large degree it has failed to grow up to his ideals, still even in partial success it has shown remarkable achievement.

Without attempting to be exact and historical in a description of the career of the Neighborhood Guild, it is possible to trace the line of development with a fair degree of precision. As indicated above, at the start, upon the young people who gathered around Dr. Coit was placed a large share of responsibility for carrying on the Guild. This does not mean, of course, that there were not so-called "up town" workers who assisted Dr. Coit both financially and otherwise. It did mean, however, that in general charge of the Guild there gradually grew up a Guild Committee composed of delegates from the other clubs. This committee had general responsibility, subject, of course, to large executive power on the part of Dr. Coit himself. But this committee was the governing body of the Guild; it managed its finances, it arranged for the use of rooms, it settled the policy of the Guild in many matters. In other words, behold then a local aggregation of clubs managing their joint affairs and conducting many activities through the Guild house. Curtailed as the responsibilities of the Guild members have been since that time, the great principle has never been lost sight of, and to the spirit which it engendered may be traced the great amount of native leadership which has come from the ranks of Guild members.

As time went on and the activities and interests of the Guild grew, it became more and more difficult to secure the money necessary for the payment of expenses. So in the end, the direct responsibility for the Guild work was assumed by the University Settlement Society, and, of necessity, the responsibilities of the Guild committee and of the Guild itself toward the House became somewhat more limited. The Settlement Society, of course, assumed all financial responsibility, and in doing so likewise became responsible to its members for the management of the house and its relations to the neighborhood. For a number of years there was more or less dissatisfaction. Having lost some of its more serious duties, it looked for a time as though the Guild itself would decline and would disappear as a separate organization. This was the time when minor shreds of authority were assumed and held on to with dogged grasp by the representative of the Guild Clubs, that is, the Guild committee. This was the time when a mere matter of routine, for in-

stance, like the assignment to rooms—was a continuous bone of dissension between the head worker and the Guild committee. Was there, after all, a place for the Guild in this settlement, with its general council and with its head worker, with its activities constantly increasing, activities in which the Guild itself might be little interested and of little value?

Fortunately, there were always wise hands at the helm who realized that it would be a serious loss indeed if all the spirit of mutual service and responsibility which the Guild had brought into existence on the part of all who were connected with it should entirely die out. So, for a long time there was doubt and uncertainty, but finally sufficient light broke in for the old Guild itself to see just what part it should play in the advance of the Settlement House.

Without going over the growth step by step, it may be well to describe just what the Neighborhood Guild is to-day. The Neighborhood Guild is an integral part of the University Settlement House. There are certain Settlement activities which do not come within its purview. For instance, library, kindergarten, the use of the public hall by labor unions, the use of the roof by gymnasium classes; in fact, all activities which do not directly result from the initiative of the clubs themselves do not logically belong to them for management. On the other hand, under its constitution and with the general approval of the Settlement authorities, it is always possible for the Neighborhood Guild to enlarge its own activities. For a more comprehensive view of the Guild, it may be best here to incorporate the constitution under which it is now working. This may be of benefit also to those who are interested in trying like experiments:

#### CONSTITUTION OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD GUILD.

ARTICLE I.—*Name*.—This association shall be known as the Neighborhood Guild.

ARTICLE II.—*Objects*.—The objects of this association shall be the intellectual and social improvement of its members and of the people of the neighborhood. The means of attaining these objects shall be such as the following: Self-governed business meetings, educational classes, lectures, literary meetings and debates, social meetings and dances, a reading room and circulating library, choral and dramatic societies, friendly and sick-benefit societies and athletic clubs.

ARTICLE III.—*Sec. 1. — Membership*.—The Guild shall consist of the Tenth Ward So-



cial Reform Club, the Out Ward Club, the Improvement Club, the S. E. I. Club, the Dolly Madison Club, the Neighborhood Civic Club, the Wadsworth Literary Circle; and Sec. 2. Other clubs, for both social and intellectual purposes, now formed and yet to be formed, which may be admitted to full representation upon the Guild Committee in accordance with the terms of Section 3, Article IV.

ARTICLE IV.—Sec. 1.—*Officers and Guild Committee.*—The general business of the Guild shall be managed by the Head Worker and a Guild Committee.

Sec. 2.—The Guild Committee shall consist of:

(a) Two representatives, who shall be elected for a term of one year, from each Guild Club whose members average seventeen years of age.

(b) The adviser or manager of every other club not admitted to full membership.

(c) The Head Worker as Chairman, and such residents of the University Settlement as may be actively associated with the work of a Guild Club.

Sec. 3.—Every club admitted to the privileges of the Guild House shall be entitled to representation upon the Guild Committee after six months' probation, provided its application be approved by the Guild Committee and the Head Worker.

No club shall be allowed the privileges of the Guild House after one year from the date of its admission, unless it applies for and is granted representation upon the Guild Committee. This provision shall not apply to any club formed of Guild members for special purposes.

Sec. 4.—Every club admitted to the privileges of the Guild House shall be expected, during the period of its probation, to send one delegate to the Guild Committee, but such delegate shall not be entitled to a vote in said Committee.

ARTICLE V.—Sec. 1.—*Government.*—Each one of the clubs constituting the Neighborhood Guild shall be self-governed, and shall discipline its own members, subject to appeal to the Head Worker.

Sec. 2.—The Head Worker shall be the executive head of the Guild, shall administer discipline and make general and house rules.

Sec. 3.—The Guild Committee shall act as the social center of the Guild. It shall discuss on its own initiative all matters of interest to the Guild generally or clubs particularly, all questions referred to it by the Head Worker or the clubs, and make suggestions as to all such

matters to the clubs and the Head Worker. It shall act as an advisory council to the Head Worker.

Sec. 4.—The Guild Committee shall have power to form and supervise, with the consent of the Head Worker, clubs, classes and organizations which may tend to further the objects of the Guild.

ARTICLE VI.—*Revenue.*—Every club shall contribute a certain portion of its income from dues, to be fixed by the Head Worker, towards the expenses of the Guild.

ARTICLE VII.—*Conferences.*—A conference to consider the general affairs of the Guild shall be held semi-annually, in the second week of May and October, at which shall be submitted reports from the Head Worker, the Guild Committee and the various clubs and classes. All members of the Guild Committee and of Guild clubs represented by two delegates shall be entitled to a vote at a conference.

ARTICLE VIII.—*Associates of the Guild.*—Upon the admission of the Guild Committee and the confirmation of the Head Worker, such persons as may have been honorably connected with clubs represented upon the Guild Committee may be made Associates of the Guild. Such Associates shall have all the rights and privileges of a member of a Guild Club except the right to a vote at a Guild conference.

ARTICLE IX.—*Amendments.*—This constitution may be amended at any conference by a two-thirds vote of those present, provided that the proposed amendment shall be included in the notice for such conference.

#### BY-LAWS.

1. The Head Worker shall be the Chairman of the Guild Committee.

2. The Guild Committee shall meet regularly once a month from September to May inclusive. Special meetings may be called at any time upon notice by the Head Worker.

3. The clubs, in rotation, upon a schedule prepared by the Guild Committee, shall have full charge of the monthly Guild socials. The Committee shall have power to frame rules governing the socials and in the event of any club not giving the one assigned to it by the Committee itself shall take such charge.

4. Each conference of the Guild shall be held upon notice given to each club by the Guild Committee at a regular meeting of such club, held at least six days prior to the date set for the conference, which notice shall be accom-

panted by a copy of agenda for such conference. The business covered by the agenda must first be acted upon at such conference, other business may then be discussed, but shall not be acted upon except by a two-thirds vote to proceed to the consideration of the proposed business.

5. A special conference shall be called by the Guild Committee within seven days after receipt of a requisition therefor from a majority of the clubs represented by the Committee, provided that each of such clubs shall have voted in favor of such conference, and no business shall there be considered except such as is stated in the notice.

6. A quorum at any conference shall consist of a majority of the Guild clubs. Each club shall be deemed to be sufficiently represented whenever there are two delegates present at such conference.

7. The Head Worker shall be Chairman of every conference. In his absence the Assistant Head Worker shall be Chairman. The Secretary of the Guild Committee shall act as Secretary of the conference.

8. At all conferences the parliamentary authority shall be Reed's Manual.

Now, like the constitution of all bodies, there is much more ground covered in the article on objects than has actually been brought to pass. Section 3 of Article V. does in the main, however, indicate in just what ways the Guild and its representative body has been helpful. It is true that some classes and clubs have been organized and managed by the Guild. It is true that very helpful social life has been fostered by it. It is true that its parental body has acted as an advisory committee for the Head Worker. It is true that though the Guild has not been officially connected with the many outside investigations made by residents, still individual members have been of great assistance and in more than one case they have made contributions themselves. It is true that the attitude of club members towards the Settlement has been very different from that observed by the writer in other settlements. The old Guild spirit is one which does not fight for equality, but simply assumes it as an axiomatic fact at the very start. In the Guild world it is not necessary to claim equality, because your very presence there means that you have assumed equality. Equality of responsibility, equality in service. That is what the Guild has always signified. When one views the old Guild and the new there does, of course, appear a serious discrepancy in the amount of power and

responsibility. In that comparison the present duties of the Guild may appear curtailed and limited, and such they are; yet, as has been indicated before, with all this curtailment there has been possible all the way through, such an encouragement of the spirit of self-reliance and social service as has borne much good fruit. At times there has been severe criticism of the Guild Committee within the Guild itself. There have not been wanting statements that the old Guild scheme had outlived its usefulness so far as the Settlement was concerned. Yet the Guild and its Committee have persisted through all discouragements, and there is every reason to believe that it will increase in influence during the years to come rather than decrease.

Indeed it would take a good deal of an iconoclast to attempt to put the Guild upon the shelf, in view of the striking results which have come from its existence. Slight allusion has already been made to some of the achievements, but they deserve fuller mention. As years have gone by, many old members of the Guild have moved to Harlem. The colony there has now become so large that a Harlem Guild has been organized which opened up quarters in the fall of 1902. In the last report of the University Settlement Society, it is stated that at present there meet in this Guild five boys' clubs, two girls' clubs, a reading class for small girls and a manual training class for boys, a drawing class, a dancing class and an elocution class; and there are also on foot plans for using the room during the day for a kindergarten. Details of the management of the Guild are in the hands of a committee of three, which is elected every four months from the members. All of its work is looked after by the young men and young women who started it. The Guild is supported by the dues and contributions of its originators, with some assistance from members of the council and from outside persons. An old member of the Guild is Head Worker for this Settlement. The Harlem Guild certainly is a most striking and interesting outgrowth of the old Neighborhood Guild. In the way of leadership the Guild has sent forth, as before indicated, three Head Workers for other Settlements. Besides that, it has had more than one recruit in the work of playground centers and public school clubs. For a long time one of its young women was director of junior girls' work in the University Settlement, and is now gone to a similar position with another society. Indeed, it would be extremely hard to set down in order, in just how many clubs and societies the Guild members have organized or have been

interested. It would be hard to estimate just how much their contribution has been to the social work now carried on in New York City. The last fine flower of the growth, as indicated in the beginning of this article, was the organization of the Neighborhood Guild Alumni composed of old workers in and members of the old Guild clubs. That is, the Association is meant to include workers who were no longer connected with the Settlement and also members of Guild clubs which have gone out of existence, but who still desired to maintain their interest in the Guild. There were drawn together at the preliminary meeting of this association men who had been residents and men who had been Head Workers, and besides them, other young men and women who had come up from the clubs and who had done their service also in connection with the growth of the Settlement. It is interesting in this connection to note that in the roster of workers in the University Settlement published in the Annual Report of 1902, it appears that out of the total of 69 workers, 18 are old members of the Guild or members of present Guild clubs. At the very first meeting of the Association, the question of what service it could perform to the Neighborhood Guild came up. It had been suggested that something in the way of a fellowship might be particularly appropriate for an association of this sort. Sooner or later there is every reason to believe that some project of this sort will be carried out, for there is an evident intention on the part of the Guild Alumni to keep the association in vital touch with the Settlement through some definite and specific activity. It should be stated in this connection that many members of the Alumni Association are now performing services of different sorts individually for the Settlement. The Alumni Association has been largely the means of bringing together and solidifying the Alumni body, and thereby, perhaps, increasing the present interest of many old members of the Guild who might fall away from it if there were no definite opportunities for their re-assuming touch with it. Such an opportunity is furnished through this association.

To the mind of the writer the Neighborhood Guild has several lessons to teach to Settlement workers. In the first place, it has succeeded so well in developing native leadership because it has put into actual existence without equivocation or fear, that absolute democracy which should be the ideal of every settlement. It has not confined the interests of the member of a club to that club or to any set of particular

activities. Rather it has from the start, as soon as his actually childish days are gone, assumed and considered that he is part and parcel of the house or Guild and that his opinions are entitled to just as much grave consideration as that of any resident in the house. Rather the resident has been considered as belonging to a particular class of Guild members, and a class, be ye careful to observe, which has its limitations! There have been times in the history of the University Settlement when residents have been freely and frankly criticized and when the general management of the house has been freely and frankly criticized. Some of this criticism has been just—some unjust. It has been irritating and exasperating at times. There has more than once been displayed an obstinacy which has been absolutely senseless. But no minor irritation or series of minor irritations can weigh for a second against that marvelous bringing out of the best in scores of young men and women for which the democracy of the Neighborhood Guild is responsible. Right at this point a distinction should be made. It cannot be too plainly stated that other settlements have succeeded better than the University in interesting men in local affairs. Other settlements have also been more successful in developing the spirit of co-operation among young women. But nowhere else has there been developed so great a power for leadership and for extending and spreading the best ideals of the settlement movement as here. The Neighborhood Guild has shown the lasting social value of settlement clubs when rightly organized. Not in the mere social (using the word in its narrower sense) and educational advantages may their chief value lie, but in adding materially to the ranks of those who are thinking and working for social betterment *outside of merely local lines*. Clubs have come and gone in the Neighborhood Guild. But they have not gone without leaving behind strong and active workers in the University Settlement and without contributing strong and active workers to other centers.

The inarticulate message of the Neighborhood Guild to other centers is apparently as plain. Give to your young people power and responsibility, and a very large share of it, in shaping the policy and activities, not of their respective clubs only, but of the whole house. Mayhap if you do not feel the absolute necessity for growing very fast, you may even succeed better than the University Settlement, which has grown to such large proportions. If it is given to you to remain a comparatively

modest and simple social center, then indeed your opportunities are the greater. You can then even give large financial responsibility to those who should have it. A head worker recently installed in a Chicago settlement beautifully said to the assembled representatives of the house clubs: "This is your house to do with as you will. We are your servants to carry out your serious purposes, and you can make this house just as strong and powerful for good as you wish." With a strong Guild and a strong Guild spirit developed that can come to pass with a greater fullness and completeness than is possible under other conditions.

To anyone attempting something along this line there should be given the caution. Never be discouraged. Foolish things will be said and done. There will be periods when it will all seem a delusion and a snare. But be assured that wisdom will come with experience and that by and by some of your best advisers and workers will be among those club members who have come into a larger realization of their responsibilities and their opportunities.

#### ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD WORKERS, NEW YORK CITY.

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY  
MARY KINGSBURY SIMKHOVITCH,  
26 Jones Street, New York City.

#### Playgrounds and Public Parks.

June 30th is a red-letter day in the history of the development of the social conscience of New York, for it was on that date that New York City for the first time saw a playground in a public park, operated by the Park Department. Previous to this time the Board of Education had maintained playgrounds during the vacation period, and also for several years the Outdoor Recreation League had maintained at private cost small playgrounds in public parks as well as in other lots. But the purpose of the Outdoor Recreation League from the start was to urge before the city as rapidly as possible the duty of maintaining playgrounds and outdoor gymnasiums under the jurisdiction of the Park Department. Commissioner Willcox could have appointed no one who was so well fitted to carry out this plan as is Mr. Charles B. Stover, identified with the Outdoor Recreation League from the beginning, and now, for two years, its president. It is to the credit of the present administration that

the Park Department has at last vigorously taken hold of the idea that playgrounds are an integral part of decent municipal park system, and it is to the credit of Mr. Stover that this attitude of the Park Department has become an effective reality. There are now in operation six playgrounds, where there is also an open-air gymnasium. These are the playgrounds in: Tompkins Square, Seward Park, De Witt Clinton Park, the John Jay Park, Hamilton Fisk Park, and the park at Corlear's Hook.

Playgrounds (without the gymnasium) are maintained at the Battery Park, at Hudson Park, at Seventeenth Street and East River, and at the East River Park.

In making up the budget for next year the department is asking for \$38,450 for the maintenance of these ten playgrounds. Next year, also, will probably see the opening of a park on the East Thirty-fifth Street site, selected by the commission of 1897 and since that time urged by the citizens of that district.

The work of the playgrounds has so far been hampered by the fact that the Civil Service Commission has taken so long to furnish lists of eligible attendants. But that difficulty has been met, and now we have in New York ten splendidly equipped playgrounds, with apparatus for the boys, with croquet, swings, etc., for the girls, and engaging little swings for the babies. The one "but" to these playgrounds is their relative scarcity in proportion to the density of population. The result is that these playgrounds are overcrowded. This is only a beginning; when we get really civilized we'll have enough playgrounds so that all can have a chance at them. These playgrounds are to be operated all the year round. Of course when school is in session the playgrounds cannot be used by school children. But the grounds are open to school children after school till dark.—*Mary K. Simkhovitch, Greenwich House.*

Mr. and Mrs. Archibald Hill have returned to their work at West Side Neighborhood House. They are living, however, in a tenement nearby. Mr. Hill has regained his health and is welcomed back to New York most heartily.

Mr. R. G. Fitzgerald, of the Richmond Hill House, 28 Macdougall, has begun his work as attendant or truant officer of the Board of Education, being the first one on the eligible list, over 300 persons having taken the examination. The Richmond Hill House has two especially

interesting features to be noted: One is a series of lessons to Italians to prepare them for naturalization, and the other is instruction in hand-spinning. Richmond Hill House is right on the edge of a large Italian district, ever pushing its frontiers westward and northward.

Mr. Paul Kennaday, of Greenwich House, is the newly appointed secretary of the Tuberculosis Committee of the Charity Organization Society. The campaign of this committee is a vigorous one. It is not only educational, but is also making itself felt in effecting changes through co-operation with state and city agencies that deal with the tuberculosis question.

A recent number of the Review of Reviews published an article by Mr. Edward T. Devine, of the Charity Organization Society, which has attracted widespread attention. The article showed what the present city administration has done through its great city departments, which most closely touches the daily life of working people. The Tenement House Department, the Charities Department and the Board of Health are conspicuous examples of what such departments can be when headed by such able men as are now serving as commissioners.

On the first Saturday evening of October the alumni of the Neighborhood Guild of the University Settlement tendered a reception at the settlement to the new head-worker, Professor Hamilton, recently of Syracuse University. Professor Hamilton brings to his new position a cultivated mind, broad sympathies and ripened judgment. He is a man who will understand the art of going slowly, but who will not flinch from a positive point of view when there is occasion for it. A man of mature years, who has known the business as well as the academic world, Professor Hamilton enters upon his work under favorable auspices.

Mr. Ernest Poole, of the University Settlement, who last year contributed to magazines interesting articles on child labor, and who, later in the year, brought out a valuable and interesting study of what is called "The Lung Block"—so infested is the block with tuberculosis—is this year devoting his attention to New York sweat-shops.

A great sorrow is a great opportunity. This world is never dark when it is seen in the light of God's countenance.—RUFUS ELLIS.

## COLLEGE SETTLEMENTS ASSOCIATION.

### STANDING COMMITTEE.

*President:* KATHARINE COMAN, Wellesley, Mass.  
*Vice President:* HELEN CHADWICK RAND THAYER (Mrs. Lucius H. Thayer), Portsmouth, N. H.

*Secretary:* SARAH GRAHAM TOMKINS, 1904 Walnut St., Philadelphia.

*Treasurer:* ELSIE CLEWS PARSONS (Mrs. Herbert Parsons), 112 East 25th St., New York City.

*Fifth Member:* SUSAN E. FOOTE, Port Henry, New York.

### STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUB-CHAPTERS.

*Chairman:* LOUISE B. LOCKWOOD, 441 Park Ave., New York.

### LOCAL COMMITTEES.

Boston—Bertha Scripture, Chairman, Lincoln, Mass.

Philadelphia—Isabel L. Vanderslice, Chairman, 436 Stafford Street, Germantown, Pa.

### SETTLEMENTS.

New York City—95 Rivington Street.

Philadelphia—433 Christian Street.

Boston—93 Tyler Street (Denison House).

EDITED BY SARAH GRAHAM TOMKINS.

## SETTLEMENT CO-OPERATION IN VACATION SCHOOLS.

BY MARY H. DANA, CHAIRMAN BOSTON VACATION SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

The Tyler Street Vacation School was started in 1894 by Ward Eleven of the Boston Associated Charities acting in conjunction with the College Settlement, Denison House, and has been carried on each year since by Denison House assuming the responsibility and the Associated Charities raising the money.

The classes are held in one of the public school buildings with the exception of the sloyd and cooking departments, which are in rooms adapted for the purpose in other buildings. We have found that it is wiser to have trained and paid teachers, and that the children's interest in manual and nature work is so great, it is best to give them those studies entirely during the short session of six weeks. We reach the children by having about five hundred circulars distributed in the near-by public schools the last of June, and

these circulars tell them that the school will open on the Monday after the Fourth of July, and that there will be kindergarten, primary, sewing, cooking, sloyd, cobbling and nature classes for children of from four to fourteen years of age; also that tickets may be obtained by parents applying at Denison House during certain hours.

We often feel that the parents do not appreciate the value of the school, excepting that it keeps Mary or John "off the street," but there is certainly no lack of enthusiasm on the children's part, and this year many more applied than could be accommodated. Many of the children did not miss a day, and it seems as if each year they came more regularly from their interest in their work, rather than be on hand for a possible excursion. We had an average daily attendance of 212, the superintendent discharging children who were absent without good cause and substituting those on the waiting list.

The kindergarten had an average attendance of 40, our most efficient teacher being helped by one of the nurses from the Day Nursery near the school. The children were much interested in the finger work, clay molding, paper cutting, etc., and the exhibition showed how much can be accomplished in six weeks.

The most satisfactory excursions for these little ones were the trips made in the afternoons with small parties of four to six children. We feel that of all departments these afford the best opportunity for knowing each child and giving lessons in courtesy and kindness.

The primary department is always crowded and we divide it into two sections. This year the first section studied about Japanese and Chinese life, making many interesting articles to illustrate their work. The second section had for its subject United States history, giving much time to Indian life. The hand work was devoted to making wigwams, canoes, snowshoes, etc.

One of the busiest rooms was the dress-making department. The interest never seemed to lag, and the older girls finished twenty-five mohair shirt waist suits and six shirt waists, besides several minor articles. The little girls, many of whom were in the primary grade last year, made sixteen gingham dresses and many aprons.

The teacher of the cooking class tried to select dishes which the girls would be able to prepare in their own homes, and several dishes were voluntarily made by the girls at home for the exhibition. One laundry lesson was

given each week, and scrubbing and dish-washing were taught every day. The ignorance about dish-washing was quite appalling.

The sloyd work is always successful, the girls enjoying it almost as much as the boys. The addition of walnut stain to the articles made for the house added to their attractiveness. A class of older boys were glad to work before and after school in pyrography and color study.

The cobbling class was a new department this year and proved very popular. About 250 pairs of tops and heels were completed during the ten half days of labor. First the boys took off their own boots and mended them, and then brought from home those of their brothers, sisters and neighbors.

We have, perhaps, been the most interested in the growth of the nature work. Through the generosity of one of the committee, we have been able to send classes of from fifteen to twenty children, with a competent teacher, to the seashore or country nearly every day. The interest in nature this has aroused, as well as the cultivating influence it has had, has been of great value.

This year we added gardening to the field and class work, and both the boys and girls were intensely interested in their little plots of earth. Many plants were transplanted into boxes and taken home at the close of the term. The children learned the systematic care of their gardens and their powers of observation were very much sharpened; then, too, respect for the rights of property ownership was instilled and the labor gave the boys a chance to work off their superfluous energy.

The mothers' teas, held every week, were well attended, and both the parents and children who came seemed to be more self-possessed and more capable of mingling and talking together than they used to be.

The school cost about \$800 this year, the nature work adding nearly \$200 to the total expense. We plan each year to buy some casts and pictures for decoration and leave them in the rooms, so that the children may enjoy them in winter also.

### Humility.

The bird that soars on highest wing,  
Builds on the ground her lowly nest.  
And she that doth most sweetly sing,  
Sings in the shade when all things rest.  
In lark and nightingale we see  
What honor hath humility.

—MONTGOMERY.

# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor  
from the Social Settlement Point of View.

GRAHAM TAYLOR, - - - Editor

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A Year

## EDITORIAL.

### The Keswick School of Industrial Arts.

To catch a glimpse of Canon Rawnsley on his field is to have a new assurance of the possibility not only, but of the practicability also, of identifying the spiritual and social motive, and the historic spirit with the most intensely practical purpose. At the old Crosthwaite parish church in Keswick there is on every hand the evidence of his reverence for every detail of its antique art and storied history, and in the announcement of its services all over town there is equal witness to his "present mind." Equally at home in the nature, life and literary associations of the English lake country as he is in the pulpit, recognized to be not more in his place when administering parish affairs than in awarding prizes at the agricultural fair and in directing the school of industrial arts, this citizen-minister fulfills John Ruskin's ideal of the parish priest in trying with his people to "make earth heaven by doing certain fair deeds." Not more, if as much to him as to Mrs. Rawnsley are due the home art industries for which Keswick is becoming far-famed. To the courtesy of both the readers of THE COMMONS are indebted for the good Canon's story of their work and its inspirer.

G. T.

### Graft and Booodle.

Just now there is no word so common in our political gossip as "graft." While we may be better able to define the term after the Committee of Nine concludes its investigation of the administration of the city of Chicago, we know, at least in a general way, what we mean when we use the word. We may get a clearer idea of it by comparing it with its malodorous companion, "booodle."

Booodle is wholesale, graft is retail corruption.

Booodle is bribery on a grand scale, graft is petty bribery. The briber by booodle is the master of millions, the briber by graft may be only a "land poor" single cottage householder. The boodler is boss of the gang, the grafter is a comparatively obscure official. Booodle is the fruit and reward of bossism, graft may exist without close organization. Booodle finds its opportunity in the legislative, graft in the administrative department of the government. The boodler and the grafter are alike in making private gain out of public office. The only difference between them is the difference in the size of the "swag." The grafter is only an abridged, manifold edition of the boodler.

If we accept Steffen's optimistic interpretation of the Reform movement in Chicago, that the city has overthrown boodling, we may find an explanation for the retirement of this once much-used term. The word is now without local significance, the thing itself being a back number. We know this because we see public service corporations bargaining in the open before our council committees for franchise privileges that they formerly bought or boodled from the boss of the gang in his own room.

Having checked, possibly overthrown boodling—a fact we accept with wary trustfulness—the next forward step of the people will be to eliminate grafting from its civic administration. A good beginning has been made in the Hull House investigation of the sanitary conditions in the Nineteenth ward, culminating in the searching report of the Health Department by the Civil Service Commission. What the outcome of the present investigation by the Committee of Nine will be remains to be seen. One thing is certain, graft is getting a publicity that is likely to be unhealthy for it. The people can eradicate graft as they have eliminated boodling. All that is needed is the same kind of persistent faith and discriminating, independent judgment that has won the first notable advance in the reform and the redemption of the city from corruption.

To be sure there will be some faithless, unbelieving ones who will maintain that grafting cannot be eradicated. We know them. They spoke after the same manner seven years ago when the assault on booodle began. Nevertheless, we have a "clean" council to-day, and boodling is out of style. The same catastrophe will happen to graft. When the spirit of the people is once aroused to sustained antagonism to grafting as we believe it is now to boodling, grafting will become disreputable, unfashionable, out of date.

J. M.

## VIEW POINTS AFIELD.

BY GRAHAM TAYLOR.

**Social Conference of the Friends in England.**

No finer or more practically effective social work is done in England than by members of the Society of Friends. Their newer meeting houses resemble social settlement buildings with the most ample quarters and best equipment for varied educational, industrial, social and religious work. The First Day Adult Schools, which we plan to describe with illustrations in an early number of *THE COMMONS*, are the most popular religious agency and the most effective social endeavor at work among men in England. Some members of the society, who have become captains of the large cocoa industries, are marshaling their resources for the social betterment of conditions in and all about their great plants with an ethical insight, a public spirit and a vision of the ideal far ahead of their times. Some account of the Cadbury's Model Works near Birmingham, together with the Bournville Village Trust, and of the Rountree's liberally designed and managed plant at York, with the scientific investigation of conditions which father and son are making, may be expected later in these columns. It is of the summer school and conference on social questions to which these practical endeavors have led that this introductory article is devoted.

An old family country house with beautiful grounds at Woodbrooke, near Birmingham, has become the seat of this new educational enterprise which has the promise of a unique development. Here a select circle of rare spirits has gathered for six weeks about expert lecturers and teachers in science, language, literature, Biblical criticism and philosophy, with such success that Professor J. Rendel Harris, the eminent scholar, prefers leading the movement to build up a permanent school here, rather than to accept the professorship in the University of Leyden, to which he has been elected. The social conference which followed was conducted on the same high plane and made place for its branch of inquiry in the curriculum and teaching force being provided for.

## MR. ROUNTREE ON ENGLAND'S LIQUOR PROBLEM.

The first place on the programme was given to Mr. Joseph Rountree's discussion of "The Present Critical Condition of the Licensing Question." As joint author with Mr. Anthony Sherwell of "The Temperance Problem and So-

cial Reform," this manufacturer is regarded as one the highest authorities on the liquor problem among English investigators.

Through his courtesy the syllabus of "Propositions," to the discussion of which his paper was devoted, follows:

(1) That the consumption of alcohol in this country is excessive, and ought to be reduced.

(2) That the consumption of alcohol in a country can be enormously affected by the force of law and of social arrangement.

(3) That the ever-present obstacle which temperance reformers have to encounter is the power and unslumbering hostility of the trade to any changes whatsoever that are calculated to lessen the consumption of alcohol.

(4) That after legislation and restrictive agencies have done all that can reasonably be expected from them, there will for a long term of years be a great volume of drink traffic still existing in the country.

(5) That that portion of the trade which cannot be suppressed should be placed under effective control.

(6) That an effective control of a character calculated to effect a great reduction in consumption is not likely to be brought about so long as the public-house trade remains in private hands.

(7) That it is altogether improbable that the nation will long permit the monopoly profits of the retail trade to pass entirely into private hands, and that public management on a large scale in the near future is inevitable.

(8) That the benefits of taking the public-house trade out of private hands will be largely neutralized if it means merely replacing the private interest of the publican by the collective interest of the ratepayers; yet this result is likely to come about if the question is allowed to drift, and if the temperance party fail to formulate a clear positive policy with regard to that portion of the traffic which comes under any form of public management.

(9) That when the public-house trade is taken out of private hands and is conducted either by municipalities or by controlling companies, it is essential:

(a) That the general conditions under which such bodies work shall be determined by statutory law, and especially

(b) That the appropriation of profits shall be determined by law and be such that localities can have no inducement either to stimulate or to continue the traffic for the sake of the profit which it yields.

The difference of opinion centered about the



contention of Mr. Rountree, supported by Mr. Sherwell, that public appropriation of the liquor trade would necessarily involve the question of compensation to the manufacturers and dealers for the loss of the value of their plants and facilities for distribution. Thus only, they claimed, could the inseparable charge of injustice be removed from the path of progress toward this end. The validity of this objection to state appropriation and the public policy of proposing any compensation whatever were sharply challenged and stoutly denied by Mr. Arthur Chamberlain, brother of the retired Colonial Secretary. As a manufacturer and magistrate in Birmingham he saw enough of the damage and danger of the private liquor traffic to warrant the state in suppressing and assuming control of it.

#### CRISIS IN POOR LAW ADMINISTRATION.

The poor law and its problems were discussed with rare wisdom and wit by Mr. A. L. Smith, fellow and tutor of Balliol College, and for many years poor law guardian in the city of Oxford. He drew his eminently practical suggestions as to methods and his weighty conclusions as to results from his personal knowledge of Arnold Toynbee's pioneer investigations in East London, and his own long experience in administering the law and studying the causes and treatment of pauperism.

The present extent of pauperism in England was indicated by these statistics of the past decade:

London population, 4,201,875 in 1891; 4,520,490 in 1901.

Per cent of paupers to population, 1891, indoor 1.23, outdoor 2.13; in 1901, indoor 1.28, outdoor 2.13.

Total poor law expenditure in 1891, £2,435,164, a rate on every £1 of assessable property of 1s 6½d; in 1901, £3,770,926, a rate of 1s 11¼d on £1. Yet the growth of London's wealth was twice as great as that of its population.

The decline in pauperism during the past forty years from 5.6 to 2.5 of the population was offset by the increase in the prosperous year 1901-1902 to 2.6. Under the pauper taint there were reported 36,000 able-bodied men, 76,000 able-bodied women, and 218,000 children.

In England and Wales in 1863 there were 1,142,624 paupers, of whom 134,113 were indoor, 968,040 outdoor, and 253,499 able-bodied. In 1903, with an increase of over twelve and one-half millions in population, there were 847,480 paupers, 217,319 of whom were indoor, 514,206 were outdoor, and 106,412 were able-bodied.

The increasing ratio of pauperism to population the speaker attributed mostly to a new system of outdoor relief, which has sprung up under the discretion recently given the guardians that is threatening to equal the abuse prior to the enactment of the law in 1834. This contention was strikingly illustrated and attested by an array of figures showing the fluctuations in the policy of the guardians to correspond with the increase or decrease of pauperism. Ten unions were cited which increased their pauperism over 15 per cent, among them such as Kensington, which increased its outdoor pauperism 28.5, St. George's 50, Poplar 52, St. Olave's 70.1. Among the six unions which decreased their outdoor pauperism over 40 per cent were Whitechapel's decrease in outdoor 61.5, St. Giles 57.1, Woolwich 56.5. The demoralizing influence of the casual labor and light jobs offered by the university population in Oxford was noted. Tramps invariably reappear with the opening of the term. One of them, when informed by some wag that the term's opening had been postponed, immediately left town. Oxford, with a population of only 22,994, provided in 1902 for 6,999 vagrants' night lodging.

Outdoor relief was condemned as bad public policy because it undermines self-respect, tempts to take alms, is not more humane, should not be claimed as a rate payee's right, does not prevent the breaking up of homes, renders investigation impossible, and its increase does not decrease indoor relief.

The poor law judges only of the fact of destitution, leaving charity organization to follow and supplement it by dealing with the poor themselves.

The only salvation of democracy is to harness society to the state and make public duty fall on private individuals.

Other parts in the conference were taken by Mr. G. H. Perris of London, who delivered a severe arraignment of the sordid "economics of empire" in England, and by Professor Graham Taylor, who defined "the social function of the church."

"ALL sensuality is one, though it takes many forms; all purity is one."—THOREAU.

"No man can choose what coming hours may bring

To him of need, of joy, of suffering;  
But what his soul shall bring unto each hour  
To meet its challenge—this is in his power."

—THE OUTLOOK.

### THE MONTH AT CHICAGO COMMONS.

The usual activity along musical lines during the past month gives every evidence of a most profitable winter. As was noted in last month's issue, all of the musical work of the Settlement is organized this year into a regular School of Music. Already the advantage of this change has become manifest. There has been a decided improvement in regularity and promptness at lessons, as well as a large increase in enrollment. The capacity of our piano and vocal classes is now taxed to the limit, and there are large waiting lists. An unsurpassed opportunity for musical friends of the Commons to do effective non-resident work is here presented.

The Children's Chorus has begun its fall work under more favorable conditions than any time heretofore. A plan of work will be followed this season which will give Miss Sprague and her assistants a much closer and more personal contact with each of the 150 children comprising the group.

Another and entirely new musical feature of the Commons is the Mandolin and Guitar Club. Already twenty persons are enrolled, with new applications coming in all the time.

The Shakespeare Club in its opening is fortunate in having again this season for its leader the young lawyer whose active interest has meant so much to the Club. At the first meeting fifteen members began the reading of Macbeth, following an outline study course of the greatest plays of Shakespeare, prepared by Professor MacClintock of the University of Chicago. The plan of work for the year includes lectures by University professors and others, explaining the work and helping to make it most helpful to the members. They are expecting to have a monthly lecturer from the University of Chicago's Bureau of University Extension. The fellowship in the class has always been of great interest and help to the members, and has been increased by the giving of a social every month or two.

The same lack of teachers in the sewing school Saturday mornings is felt this year that has always prevailed. With no announcement whatever of the sewing classes, the number of children now in them is over 125—quite the limit unless more teachers can be found. A new feature this season is the holding of the game period in the gymnasium, immediately after the close of the two boys' classes there.

The first gathering of the mothers' meeting this fall was unusually large and interesting. They had quietly prepared among themselves a pleasant surprise for some of the residents and their president, in recognition of her return as Mrs. Todd. After a light supper was enjoyed by all, there were a few speeches and a short musical program. Mrs. Hegner, who began the mothers' meeting, was present, and pleasantly recalled the early days at the old building. Three of the mothers present were of the original seven who were present at the first meeting eight years ago.

Thursday Evening's Gymnasium Class for young women has enrolled forty-six, and, under the leadership of Miss Lambkin of the Jewish Manual Training School, the members are sure to find the recreation and help they expect.

The first of the Tuesday Evening Free Floor Meetings will be held November 10. The program for the first four meetings will probably be: "Proposed Legislation Regarding Newsboys." The facts secured in the newsboys investigation that has been going on this summer are nearly ready for publication, and will awaken a good deal of interest in the question of the sale of papers and of boy life in the streets. "The Work of the New Child Labor Law," by State Factory Inspector Davies; "How to Deal with Truancy," by Principal MacQuery of the Parental School, and Mr. Bodine, Superintendent of the Compulsory Department of the Board of Education. "The Juvenile Court," by John J. McManaman, Head Probation Officer. Early in December Dr. James B. Herrick will speak on "The Economic Aspect of Tuberculosis."

## The Commons

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# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor from the Settlement Point of View.

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Chicago, December, 1903

## HENRY DEMAREST LLOYD.

### \*His Passion for the Better Social Order.

BY JANE ADDAMS.

In the few minutes at our disposal I should like to speak of the passion for a better social order, the hunger and thirst after social righteousness which Mr. Lloyd's life embodied beyond that, perhaps, of any of his fellow-citizens.

Progress is not automatic; the world grows better because people wish that it should and take the right steps to make it better. Progress depends upon modification and change; if things are ever to move forward some man must be willing to take the first steps and assume the risks. Such a man must have courage, but courage is by no means enough. That man may easily do a vast amount of harm who advocates social changes from mere blind enthusiasm for human betterment, who arouses men only to a smart-

ing sense of wrong or who promotes reforms which

\*Address delivered at the Memorial meeting in tribute to the life and public services of Henry Demarest Lloyd at the Auditorium, Chicago, November 29, 1903.

are irrational and without relation to his time. To be of value in the delicate process of social adjustment and reconstruction, a man must have a knowledge of life as it is, of the good as well as of the

wrong; he must be a patient collector of facts, and furthermore he must possess a zeal for men which will inspire confidence and arouse to action.

I need not tell this audience that the man whose premature death we are here to mourn possessed these qualities in an unusual degree.

His search for the Accomplished Good was untiring. It took him again and again on journeys to England, to Australia, to Switzerland, where ever indeed he detected the beginning of an attempt to "equalize welfare," as he called it, wherever he caught tidings of a successful democracy. He brought back cheering reports of the "Labor Co-partnership" in England, through which the working

men own together farms, mills, factories and dairies, and run them for mutual profit; of the people's banks in Central Europe which are at



*Henry Demarest Lloyd*

last bringing economic redemption to the hard-pressed peasants; of the old age pensions in Australia; of the country without strikes because compulsory arbitration is fairly enforced; of the national railroads in New Zealand, which carry the school children free and scatter the unemployed on the new lands.

His new book on "The Swiss Sovereign" is not yet completed, but we all recall his glowing accounts of Switzerland, "where they have been democrats for six hundred years and are the best democrats," where they can point to the educational results of the referendum, which makes the entire country a forum for the discussion of each new measure, so that the people not only agitate and elect, but also legislate; where the government pensions fatherless school children that they may not be crushed by premature labor. The accounts of these and many more successful social experiments are to be found in his later books. As other men collect coins or pictures, so Mr. Lloyd collected specimens of successful co-operation—of brotherhood put into practice.

He came at last to an unshaken belief that this round old world of ours is literally dotted over with groups of men and women who are steadily bringing in a more rational social order. To quote his own words:

"We need but to do everywhere what some one is doing somewhere." "We do but all need to do, what a few are doing." "We must learn to walk together in new ways." His friends admit that in these books there is an element of special pleading, but it is the special pleading of the idealist who insists that the people who dream are the only ones who accomplish, and who in proof thereof unrolls the charters of national and international associations of working men, the open accounts of municipal tramways, the records of co-operative societies, the cash balances in people's banks.

Mr. Lloyd possessed a large measure of human charm. He had many gifts of mind and bearing, but perhaps his chief accomplishment was his mastery of the difficult art of comradeship. Many times social charm serves merely to cover up the trivial, but Mr. Lloyd ever made his an instrument to create a new fascination for serious things. We can all recall his deep concern over the changed attitude which we, as a nation, are allowing ourselves to take toward the colored man; his foresight as to the grave consequences in permitting the rights of the humblest to be invaded; his warning that if in the press of our

affairs we do not win new liberties that we cannot keep our old liberties.

He was an accomplished Italian scholar, possessing a large Italian library; he had not only a keen pleasure in Dante, but a vivid interest in the struggles of New Italy; he firmly believed that the United States has a chance to work out Mazzini's hopes for Italian working men, as they sturdily build our railroads and cross the American plains with the same energy with which they have previously built the Roman roads and pierced the Alps. He saw those fine realities in humble men which easily remain hidden to dull eyes.

I recall a conversation with Mr. Lloyd held last September during a Chicago strike, which had been marred by acts of violence and broken contracts. We spoke of the hard places into which the friends of labor unions are often brought when they sympathize with the ultimate objects of a strike, but must disapprove of nearly every step of the way taken to attain that object. Mr. Lloyd referred with regret to the disfavor with which most labor men look upon compulsory arbitration. He himself believed that as the State alone has the right to use force and has the duty of suppression toward any individual or combination of individuals who undertake to use it for themselves, so the State has the right to insist that the situation shall be submitted to an accredited court, that the State itself may only resort to force after the established machinery of government has failed. He spoke of the dangers inherent in vast combinations of labor as well as in the huge combinations of capital; that the salvation of both lay in absolute publicity. As he had years before made public the hidden methods of a pioneer "Trust" because he early realized the dangers which have since become obvious to many people, so he foresaw dangers to labor organizations if they substitute methods of shrewdness and of secret agreement for the open moral appeal. Labor unions are powerless unless backed by public opinion, he said; they can only win public confidence by taking the public into their counsels and by doing nothing of which the public may not know.

It is so easy to be dazzled by the combined power of capital, to be bullied by the voting strength of labor. We forget that capital cannot enter the moral realm, and may always be successfully routed by moral energy; that the labor vote will never be "solid" save as it rallies to those political measures which promise larger opportunities for the mass of the peo-

ple; that the moral appeal is the only universal appeal.

Many people in this room can recall Mr. Lloyd's description of the anthracite coal strike, his look of mingled solicitude and indignation as he displayed the photograph of the little bunker boy who held in his pigmy hand his account sheet, showing that at the end of his week's work he owed his landlord-employer more than he did at the beginning. Mr. Lloyd insisted that the simple human element was the marvel of the Pennsylvania situation, sheer pity continually breaking through and speaking over the heads of the business interests. We recall his generous speculation as to what the result would have been if there had been absolutely no violence, no shadow of law-breaking during those long months; if the struggle could have stood out as a single effort to attain a higher standard of life for every miner's family, untainted by any touch of hatred toward those who did not join in the effort. Mr. Lloyd believed that the wonderful self-control which the strikers in the main exerted, but prefigured the strength which labor will exhibit when it has at last learned the wisdom of using only the moral appeal and of giving up forever every form of brute force. "If a mixed body of men can do as well as that they can certainly do better." We can almost hear him say it now. His ardor recalled the saying of a wise man, "That the belief that a new degree of virtue is possible acts as a genuine creative force in human affairs."

Throughout his life Mr. Lloyd believed in and worked for the "organization of labor," but with his whole heart he longed for what he called "the religion of labor," whose mission it should be "to advance the kingdom of God into the unevangelized territory of trade, commerce and industry." He dared to hope that "out of the pain, poverty and want of the people there may at last be shaped a new loving cup for the old religion."

Let us be comforted as we view the life of this "helper and friend of mankind" that haply we may, in this moment of sorrow, "establish our wavering line."

"O strong soul, by what shore  
Dost thou now tarry? \* \* \*  
Somewhere, surely, afar,  
In the sounding labor-house vast  
Of being, is practiced that strength,  
Zealous, beneficent, firm!"

"The key-word of scientific democracy is not rights, but reciprocity."—HENRY D. LLOYD.

"How is the strong staff broken and the beautiful rod!" We never had greater need of him. But he has done a great work; a work that will endure. The new America will be different from what it would have been—better in much than it would have been—if he had not lived."—WASHINGTON GLADDEN, OF HENRY DEMAREST LLOYD.

"If people want to do right they will find leaders of righteousness. Democracy never came by the good will of the few."

"Democracy makes a people where there was only population."

"The progress of events has eyes the eye of man has not. So far are we along that to comprehend the destiny we are creating we need visions no longer; only vision. The morning stars once sang together. On the day the truth breaks upon man that these myriads of worlds are but one world, and that the lesser commonwealths of home, town, are members of a great commonwealth, all men will shout together for joy: Thy will is being done on earth."

"We are to become fathers, mothers, for the spirit of the father and mother is not in us while we can say of any child it is not ours, and leave it in the grime. We are to become men, women, for to all about reinforcing us we shall insure full growth and thus insure it to ourselves. We are to become gentlemen, ladies, for we will not accept from another any service we are not willing to return in kind. We are to become honest, giving when we get, and getting with the knowledge and consent of all."

"It is not a verbal accident that science is the substance of the word conscience. We must know the right before we can do the right. When it comes to know the facts the human heart can no more endure monopoly than American slavery or Roman empire. The first step to a remedy is that the people care. If they know they will care. To help them to know and care, to stimulate new hatred of evil, new love of the good, new sympathy for the victims of power, and by enlarging its science, to quicken the old into a new conscience, this compilation of fact has been made. Democracy is not a lie. There live in the body of the commonality the unexhausted virtue and the ever-refreshed strength which can rise equal to any problems of progress. In the hope of tapping some reserve of their powers of self-help this story is told to the people."

## FOOD PRICES AND POVERTY IN ENGLISH POLITICS.

DISCUSSED BY EMINENT MEN BEFORE LONDON SETTLEMENTS.

The new Settlements Association of London and vicinity is rapidly winning prestige for the way in which it rallies the ablest men and commands the widest hearing for the discussion of public questions. Its autumnal session at Passmore Edwards House was a great success. Not only were many settlements represented in the audience, but its large hall was crowded by eager listeners to hear the discussion of "Food Prices in Relation to Poverty." Of course the bearing of the question upon the most critical political issue before the English people whetted the popular desire to hear and read the utterances of the three well known and eminent authorities on the subject. In stating the object of the meeting, Mr. Percy Alden, the honorary secretary of the association, explained that it was not a political gathering. Nevertheless the inevitable drift of all the speeches landed all the speakers into the discussion of the way Mr. Chamberlain's proposed preferential tariff tax on food would bear upon the wage earners' standard of living and upon the poverty of the casual workers and the unemployed. It illustrates also how inevitably the settlements' interest in and duty toward improving industrial conditions and relationships force them to take their stand on political issues, however non-partisan they are in so doing. For the first time in all their history many of them are obliged to depart from their non-committal inactivity in politics, and take what hand they can in the pending struggle. Some of them have long since led the way to this, but many more are sure to follow before this campaign on first principles ends. For, as Mr. Alden said, "the increase of a penny a day on the price of bread was more than the majority of family workingmen can bear, and extending the tax to meat would be intolerable." The churches, too, are facing in advance the dire distress at hand already, and registering their protest against any fiscal policy involving the "dear loaf."

To interpret and emphasize the identity between economic issues in politics and the very problem of existence with which all settlement and social workers have to do, the speeches on this occasion are quoted at length. They should re-impress upon all our resident workers the importance and public value of their persistent study of and continuous familiarity with the cost of living in relation to wages, to

be determined by accurate information regarding the family budgets of the neighborhood. The misinformation and misuse of partially true information on this subject, in the interests of employed or employees when at variance, or of contending political parties, will be the more readily checked, and truthful efforts to sense or solve the real situation correspondingly promoted, by every bit of demonstrably trustworthy knowledge on file or at command in any settlement.

### LORD GOSCHEN'S FAR-FAMED ATTACK.

As the first utterance of the ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer, and one of England's most authoritative experts in finance, the address here summarized was widely published at once and became an issue between Mr. Chamberlain and his opponents in the pending campaign.

"What I should wish to be able to do is to analyze some of the economic facts connected with this question. I have always been an analyst of economic facts rather than an assimilator of any cut-and-dried doctrines of the past. I shall address myself to the subject so far as it touches the taxation of food. What is the situation broadly? We live in a little island of forty millions of inhabitants, dependent for nearly four-fifths of the supply of our food stuffs upon over-sea supplies. In that respect it seems to me that we differ from all the other countries which are continually mentioned as examples partly for us to follow—as examples of other fiscal methods. Germany depends only for one-third of her wheat supplies upon foreign countries, and France only 2 per cent. We require 280 pounds weight per head of wheat to feed our population from foreign sources; Germany requires about 85 per cent of wheat, though rye stands outside; and the case of Germany is not so easy to understand, therefore, as that of France. France imports only 2 per cent of the total wheat she consumes, against our 22 per cent; and in many years she imports much less than 2 per cent; in fact, it is almost a minimum quantity.

### OVER-SEA SUPPLIES.

"We depend upon our over-sea supplies. If these supplies fail us, we know the situation in which this country would be, and therefore the more than any other country must see to it that the channels which bring us those supplies are kept open and free from obstruction, and are well dredged if there is any symptom that they are silting up, and that those supplies will not come to us. (Hear, hear.) There is a somewhat extraordinary fact—that is, that while we are not a corn-growing country, while

we depend upon the foreigner and upon our colonies for so large a proportion of our over-sea supplies, the price of wheat in this country is infinitely below the price of wheat in the other countries which I have mentioned. It is generally about 7s. a quarter less than the price in Germany, and from 8s. to 12s., and sometimes even as much as 13s., below the price of wheat in France. Why is that? Because they have protection and we have freedom. (Cheers.) So we, with our dependence upon over-sea supplies, are better off in that respect than other countries which grow their own corn; and there one may see how, in France, for instance, protection works, that with only 2 per cent required from foreign countries, there is a difference of from 8s. to 12s. in the price of wheat as compared with this country, which has no protection. That is the situation.

#### BRITISH WORKMEN GET THEIR FOOD CHEAP.

"The British workmen can be fed more cheaply than the French or the German workman. (Cheers.) But it is not only as regards bread. Sugar and many other groceries are all infinitely cheaper in this country than they are in France and in Germany; and a French authority has lately published a statement that he has made inquiries with reference to forty-six different articles of groceries, and that he has discovered and calculated that the English housewife is able to buy as much for 100s. in England as the French housewife is able to buy for 130s. in France. (Cheers.) We must be very careful before we assimilate, at all events as regards imports of food, our system to that of our continental neighbors. It is proposed now to put a tax upon bread. Two shillings is the present proposal. I accentuate the words 'present proposal.' (Laughter and cheers.) Further, it is proposed to put a tax upon meat, upon cheese and dairy produce of 5 per cent. How that will affect the hudget of the workingman has been calculated. (Cheers.)

"The closest calculation that I have seen comes out at a loss to the workingman of not 16½ farthings, but 19 farthings, while the gain is 15 farthings, giving a difference of one penny a week upon that which the blue-books call the typical or normal laborer or urban worker's family. And so it comes in that way to a loss of one penny a week, after the remissions have been made. I want to ask you whether the remissions of taxation on sugar and tea is equivalent to a tax imposed on meat, and especially upon bread. (Cries of 'No, no.')

I hold that it is not. (Cheers.) One is more the staff of life than the other. (Hear, hear.)

Existence can be prolonged on bread; it cannot be prolonged upon tea and sugar. I should desire that the taxation upon tea should be reduced as far as it can be, because one knows the comfort which it is. There may be families on the verge of starvation. Therefore, it seems to me that such a tax of 2s., with the taxation imposed upon meat, dairy produce, cheese, butter and other things which you should wish to have is not compensated for by the taxation which is to be taken off. (Cheers.)

#### WAGES DO NOT RISE WITH FOOD PRICES.

"And do not run away with the idea that the greater cost of food is compensated for by higher wages. No; the wages of the workman in Germany, according to the blue-book, are 20 per cent lower than the wages in this country; and, therefore, in this fiscal paradise the German workman pays more for his food and gets much less for his wage. Before this country consents to accept a fiscal policy under which that has been developed, they will, I think, consider twice, and perhaps three times. (Cheers.) The hurden will fall upon the consumer in one form or another. The new duty proposed of 2s. is more than the present freight on a quarter of corn from New York to Liverpool. From New York to Liverpool during the last two years the freight has been under 1s. a quarter, and in the year before it was about 2s. a quarter. Therefore the imposition of this tax is more than double the cost of bringing wheat from New York to Liverpool. Look the matter in the face and say whether these proposals of taxes on food products are likely to redound to the prosperity of the masses of this country." (Cheers.)

#### SIR JOHN GORST ON FAMILY BUDGETS.

Sir John Gorst said that the proposal which was now before the country was perfectly plain and intelligible. It was that the masses of the British people should consent to pay a higher price for their food for the purpose of establishing the imperial character of the empire. They must first ask whether the people were capable of bearing the burden which they were invited to undertake. He quoted at length from the evidence of the blue-books to show the average earnings and expenditure of different classes of laborers, urban and rural. He held that a very large proportion of these people had very little margin indeed for the food of themselves and their families, after rent, fuel, clothes and other necessities had been provided for. For instance, the average agricultural laborer received 18s. 6d. (\$4.44) per week, while those in Essex got only 11s. or

12s. per week (\$2.64 or \$2.88). The average cost of food for a man and wife with four children is 13s. 6d. per week, leaving a balance from the average wages of only 5s. (\$1.20) per week to cover the cost of rent, fuel, clothing and all the other necessities of life, to say nothing of any provision for accident, sickness, old age or death. He had often asked the wives of Essex farm laborers, "How do you manage to bring up your family on 11s. weekly?" The reply had invariably been, "God only knows."

Thirty shillings per week is the average wage received by the mass of urban workers in the building trades and railway service. More than half of the total wage, 15s. 6d., goes in the average family budget for bread and meat only.

#### CHILDREN SUFFER MOST FROM DEAR FOOD.

The Royal Commission on the need of physical drill to counteract the deterioration of children in Scotch schools investigated the health of 600 richer and poorer scholars in Edinburgh. It found 70 per cent diseased, 35 per cent seriously, and 30 per cent suffering from insufficient nutrition.

Of all taxes imposed on the people of this country, the taxes on food fell the lightest upon the rich, heavier on the workmen, and the heaviest of all on the poor. The persons who suffered most from a rise in the price of food were the children, upon whose health the future character of our country depended. (Hear, hear.) A full-grown man might starve for a week, a month, or longer, and yet recover when better conditions came. But with children the mischief could not be undone. If they starved a child in the early years of its life it was never such a citizen, it never could furnish the strength to the country, which it could have done if properly nourished. The question of the starvation of children and the general health of the population was a much more important question than this fiscal question. It transcended every other public question which was before the people of this country at this time. Those who lived amongst the people, and had some influence over the votes that they would give at elections, ought, irrespective of party, to urge upon the people that under no circumstances ought they to take upon their backs a burden which they were no more able than their fathers had been to bear. (Cheers.) Therefore he did not believe that it was fair and just to attempt to impose upon people of this kind any more sacrifice even for the preservation and welfare of the empire. (Hear.)

#### ROWNTREE ON THE POVERTY LINE.

Mr. C. Seebohm Rowntree, of the great cocoa works at York, whose scientific study of poverty in that typical provincial city is a companion to Charles Booth's great analysis of London's Life and Labor, brought the results of his investigation to bear upon the issue.

He said ten per cent of the families in York were found to be in such poverty that their total earnings would not be sufficient to maintain them in merely physical efficiency. Eighteen per cent were living in poverty caused by drink, gambling or thriftlessness, which, however, were in no small part due to the conditions under which the people live. The dietary by which the standard of "physical efficiency" was estimated is ten per cent lower in cost than the workhouse per capita allowance for the food of its inmates, and was verified by the experts on food requirements for prison labor.

While the servant-keeping class are often overfed, and the artisans adequately nourished, the household budgets of unskilled laborers proved 25 per cent of them to be less than sufficiently fed, 27 per cent to be on a lower dietary than the pauper inmates of the workhouses, and 30 per cent on lower fare than is allowed the prison convicts. Their growing children and child-bearing women suffered most. These, and many other facts which he most effectively massed from the arsenal of his investigation, were argued to be an overwhelming claim for the exemption of food from taxation.

G. T.

"The welfare of all is more than the welfare of the many, the few, or the one. \* \* \* If all will sacrifice themselves none need be sacrificed, but if one may sacrifice another, all are sacrificed. That is the difference between self-interest and other-self interest."

"Though it is the human nature of the individual to seek monopoly; it is the human nature of the many to defeat it."

"Men of almost every race have united to form the politics and society of these United States. Why can they not unite to reform them? And as for the isolation of New Zealand, that is a fortunate incident for the weak, but the United States has a nobler kind of isolation in its might and wealth. It can stand alone for any cause it chooses to espouse."—HENRY D. LLOYD.



## ASSOCIATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD WORKERS, NEW YORK CITY.

EDITED FOR THE ASSOCIATION BY  
MARY KINGSBURY SIMKHOVITCH,  
26 Jones Street, New York City.

### The New York City Election.

Why fusion was so badly defeated in the recent election is not an absolutely unprofitable inquiry. For confession is good for the soul, and if anything is clear about the defeat it is the certainty that the blame cannot be placed upon the so-called enemies of good government, but rather upon those who are ordinarily classed as "the better element." If those who presumably would have voted for Low had all registered, and those who registered had all voted, the result would have been different. It is therefore quite idle to blame the "ignorant vote" for the result.

Fusion was defeated for several reasons. First, because of the usual lightness of the "uptown" vote; second, because of the opposition to the recent enforcement of the excise law ("Twas the can that done it," said a neighboring butcher); third, the feeling broadcast that the present administration did not properly represent or come from "the people;" fourth, the opposition of all those who felt restive and under restraint—a partly criminal element and partly only a free-and-easy element objecting to any kind of restriction; fifth, and most important, the real conviction that fusion is only Republicanism in disguise. In other words, New York is normally a Democratic city and a city that doesn't want to be so very good. In times of great moral stress it will revolt and turn evil out, but it isn't so keen on keeping good in. And as it has had so little knowledge or understanding of non-partisanship, it normally reverts to a Democratic administration.

And how can we expect it to be otherwise? The Citizens' Union's strength is also its weakness. It is strong because it declares for a standard of municipal business efficiency as against party issues which really have no bearing on city affairs. But at the same time, being composed as it is of both Republicans and Democrats, it is not a regular party with primaries and other party machinery, and it therefore lacks stability and that necessary daily intercourse and friendly relationship which lie at the basis of successful politics.

We can therefore only expect a Citizens' Union and fusion movement to succeed when a

great moral issue is raised. It will never succeed by going before the people on its record, no matter how able that record has been. The people of New York do not care yet about the decreased death rate, the additional number of parks, or the introduction of nurses into the public schools. But they will not stand a too evident police corruption or the moral degradation of young children or the complicity of the administration with a rise in the price of ice.

What, then, is the course for the lovers of good city government to follow?

First, get out the uptown indifferent vote; second, change the liquor law to meet the requirements of this big foreign city; third, eradicate the superstition that there is a "better element" except the really better element of honesty and faithful social service; fourth, develop, if possible, city parties with city issues. But how this is to be done is another question. Perhaps it is impracticable entirely. If so, there would seem to be no prospect of anything except a spasmodic putting out of office of the dominating political party. Even with this alternative one need not be too pessimistic. New York reaches in many ways a higher standard of municipal housekeeping with each reform administration, and these improvements do not go for nothing. They get to be fixed habits and a part of the popular expectation.

And it is also true that even the best and most disinterested of administrations makes some mistakes which are more easily seen under defeat than would be the case under continued power. M. K. S.

### A Day's Wage.

Love wore a suit of hoden gray,  
And toiled within the fields all day.

Love wielded pick and carried pack  
And bent to heavy loads the back.

Though meagre fed and sorely lashed,  
The only wage Love ever asked,

A child's wan face to kiss at night,  
A woman's smile by candle light.

—MARGARET E. SANOSTER,

### Wanted Wherever Women are Employed.

1. Plenty of good light.
2. Plenty of fresh air.
3. Forewoman over women.
4. Chairs with backs.
5. Separate toilet rooms.
6. Lunch room.
7. Place to warm lunch.

**COLLEGE SETTLEMENTS ASSOCIATION.****STANDING COMMITTEE.**

*President:* KATHARINE COMAN, Wellesley, Mass.

*Vice President:* HELEN CHADWICK RAND THAYER  
(Mrs. Lucius H. Thayer), Portsmouth, N. H.

*Secretary:* SARAH GRAHAM TOMKINS, 1904 Walnut St., Philadelphia.

*Treasurer:* ELSIE CLEWS PARSONS (Mrs. Herbert Parsons), 112 East 35th St., New York City.

*Fifth Member:* SUSAN E. FOOTE, Port Henry, New York.

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUB-CHAPTERS.**

*Chairman:* LOUISE B. LOCKWOOD, 441 Park Ave., New York.

**LOCAL COMMITTEES.**

Boston—Bertha Scripture, Chairman, Lincoln, Mass.

Philadelphia—Isabel L. Vanderslice, Chairman, 436 Stafford Street, Germantown, Pa.

**SETTLEMENTS.**

New York City—95 Rivington Street.

Philadelphia—433 Christian Street.

Boston—93 Tyler Street (Denison House).

EDITED BY SARAH GRAHAM TOMKINS.

**THE FALL MEETING OF THE COLLEGE SETTLEMENTS ASSOCIATION.**

The fall meeting of the College Settlements Association was held at Denison House, Boston, on Saturday, October 24. Twenty-nine members of the Electoral Board were present, representing most of the colleges on the board and the three settlements. The president, Miss Coman, presided, and the business of the entire day was marked by full and intelligent discussion, resulting in action significant for the future policy of the association.

The first motion to come before the meeting was for the amendment of the clause in Article V, Section 1, of the by-laws, which limits the number of members on the Electoral Board to forty-five. The growth of the association brings the present board up to this aggregate, and with the formation of other college chapters in prospect it seemed wise to propose that the limiting number, forty-five, be struck out from the clause, leaving the number of members to be guarded by the classification which follows in Article V. Action on this amendment will be taken at the annual meeting in May, 1904.

The secretary read the report of the Electoral Board, containing a somewhat detailed account of the work of the various undergraduate and

alumnae chapters of the association. In each of the fourteen colleges represented on the board work has been going on during the past year which, in many cases, shows increasing results in interest and financial response. Wellesley College reported the largest subscription in its chapter history. The Bryn Mawr elector speaks of the growth in personal enthusiastic interest on the part of her members. Mount Holyoke has started a reading club where papers on social questions and the settlement movement will be read and discussed, and the elector expresses a hope that some future day may see a college settlement among the mill people in the town of Holyoke itself. Under the auspices of the chapters, addresses have been made on social and settlement work before many college audiences, and Miss Davles of the Philadelphia settlement has been particularly successful in arousing enthusiasm through the description of the Philadelphia work illustrated by a complete collection of lantern slides prepared from photographs taken by the residents.

Following the report of the treasurer, Miss Adeline Moffat of the Home Culture Club of Northampton, Mass., was elected to membership on the board. The Speakers Committee, of which the association president is chairman, reported plans for an active campaign during the coming year, and particularly this fall, when Miss Williams, Miss Dudley, Mrs. Simkhovitch, Miss Coman, Miss Lockwood and other C. S. A. workers will speak in numerous colleges.

The Committee on Increased Appropriations to Settlements, Mrs. Fitz Gerald, chairman, presented a full report, definite action on which was deferred until the May meeting of the board. For some years it has been felt by a number of members of the board that the appropriations to New York, Philadelphia and Boston are uneven in division, New York receiving by far the largest amount. The committee appointed last May to consider the matter now recommends a decrease in the New York appropriation and would endorse the policy of putting surplus money into educational work, thus throwing the support of the three settlements more and more on the local committees. In the discussion which followed, Miss Scudder urged the board to bear in mind its responsibility towards its existing settlements which now represent the association. She would oppose a policy which bound the board not to increase the Boston and Philadelphia appropriations at some future time.

It was pointed out by other members of the board that at this time, when settlements are rapidly multiplying and trained workers are in demand, a high standard of salaries should be set for work which demands high efficiency. The college electors were divided in opinion as to whether the work of a definite settlement house appeals more strongly to a college constituency than a work being done more along educational lines in the appropriation to fellowships and scholarships.

The Committee on the Extension of Fellowships, Mrs. Simkhovitch, chairman, presented to the association the following recommendation: "The appropriation of one-third of an annual fellowship of \$400 (or annual scholarship of \$300) to each college represented in the College Settlements Association; the Association of Collegiate Alumnae, the Alumnae Association of the colleges, or others interested in the carrying out of this plan, to make up the balance necessary for such fellowship or scholarship; and, further, this committee recommends to the Association of Collegiate Alumnae the appropriation of not more than \$1,000 to cover one-third of such fellowship in the seven colleges of the A. C. A. represented in the C. S. A." The committee also reported that from the \$200 appropriated for its use in May, 1903, it had voted to appropriate \$133 as one-third of a proposed fellowship to be offered to the Columbia Committee on Social Settlements, to be used for the establishment of a joint fellowship with Columbia for this ensuing year. This appropriation was made on the proviso that the award of the fellowship and the direction of the work of the fellow be left to a joint committee of the Columbia University Committee and the C. S. A. Fellowships Extension Committee. No report of action had been received from the Columbia University Committee at the time of the October meeting. The Wellesley alumnae at their meeting in June voted to raise their needed one-third of \$400. Smith has appointed from its alumnae a committee to investigate the matter and make definite recommendations. The Association of Collegiate Alumnae had not taken action on the recommendation, as its annual meeting takes place subsequent to the October meeting of the C. S. A.

(At its annual meeting, held later, the A. C. A. appointed a committee with power to decide on its contribution to the joint fellowships. The president of the C. S. A. is a member of this committee.)

Discussion on this report was opened by Miss

Goldmark's motion to approve the plan presented by the Fellowships Extension Committee and to empower that committee to continue its work. The chair pointed out that if the board endorsed this policy of the report, and if the colleges accept their part, it would amount to an appropriation from the association of about \$1,000—a question which touched very closely the association's financial policy. After a full expression of opinion from members of the board the motion was carried, and a subsequent vote authorized the Standing Committee of the association to act with power in the matter in case any action must be taken before the May meeting of the board.

The Committee on Western Extension, Miss Myrta L. Jones, chairman, reported unfavorably as to the present advisability of forming chapters of the C. S. A. in the western colleges or universities. Apart from the geographical objection—the tremendous distances which separate the colleges of the West—there is the fact that many of the universities and colleges are interested directly in some particular settlement, and that in the colleges and in the settlements themselves there is a strong feeling against federation or any complication of machinery. The board voted to accept this policy of not extending organization to the West at the present time.

The Committee on Educational Publication, Mrs. Thayer, chairman, reported the preparation of a pamphlet for use by electors, explaining the aims and methods of the College Settlements Association. The board voted that this committee should continue its work. Miss Scudder (a member of the committee) sketched a plan for keeping more settlement literature in circulation through the reprinting of vital articles, etc. Reference was made to the course of study for social workers to be conducted at Denison House this winter by Miss Emily Greene Balch of Wellesley College, and it was suggested that the valuable bibliography for this course prepared by Miss Balch might well be placed in more general circulation.

At this point the board adjourned, and was entertained at luncheon by the Boston Local Executive Committee.

At half past two the president called the meeting to order, and Miss Williams of the New York Settlement, Miss Dudley of Denison House, and Miss Davies of Philadelphia presented their headworkers' reports, which will appear in full in the annual report of the association this month. Miss Vida D. Scudder followed with an inspiring and memorable ad-

dress on the traditions and ideals of the settlement movement, which it is hoped she will prepare for early publication.

At five o'clock the board adjourned until the annual meeting in May, 1904.

SARAH GRAHAM TOMKINS, Secretary.

#### NOTICES.

Miss Frances A. Kellor, C. S. A. fellow, 1902-1903, will continue her investigation of employment bureaus for women as C. S. A. fellow for 1903-1904.

Miss Myrta L. Jones, 996 Prospect street, Cleveland, Ohio, has been elected editor of the College Settlements Association columns in THE COMMONS.

Copies of the Bibliography of Settlements may be obtained on application to the secretary of the C. S. A., Miss S. G. Tomkins, 1904 Walnut street, Philadelphia.

The annual report of the College Settlements Association for 1903 will be issued on December 1. It contains an article on "The Settlement Fellowships" by Miss Katharine Coman.

#### Finances of British "Municipal Trading."

A comprehensive return of the financial workings of the "public utilities" undertakings in British towns and cities has just been given to the public through a Government board. It covers the four years ended March, 1902. The principal undertakings carried on by 299 corporations were:

Markets .....	228
Waterworks .....	193
Cemeteries .....	143
Baths .....	138
Electricity .....	102
Gas Works.....	97
Tramways .....	45
Harbors .....	43

Summarized, the return shows that the total capital provided by these towns and cities, with a gross population of 13,093,870, was £121,172,372 (\$589,675,348), of which £100,786,404 (\$490,476,035) was borrowed money. Originally, £117,032,923 (\$569,540,720) was borrowed, but £16,246,519 (\$79,063,684) has been repaid. The average annual income was £13,040,711 (\$63,462,620) and the annual working expenses £8,228,706 (\$40,045,098).

The benefits we receive must be rendered again, line for line, deed for deed, to somebody.—EMERSON.

#### Dying.

The one remains, the many change and pass;  
Heaven's light forever shines, Earth's shadows  
flee;

Life, like a dome of many-colored glass,  
Stains the white radiance of Eternity,  
Until Death tramples it to fragments. Die,  
If thou wouldst be with that which thou dost  
seek.

—SHELLEY.

They never die who fall  
In a great cause. The block may drink their gore,  
Their heads may sodden in the sun, their limbs  
Be strung to city gates and castle walls.  
But still their spirit walks abroad. The years  
Elapse and others share as dark a doom,  
They but augment the deep and sweeping thoughts  
Which overpower all and turn the world  
At last to Progress.

—J. Howsrd Moore.

#### RICH MEN'S SONS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

[From the Chicago Tribune.]

Time was not so long ago when "Bud" Flanagan and "Buck" Jones of the grammar grades of the Chicago public schools took their social revenges upon Clyde Montmorencles and the Fauntleroy Astorites by looking over the high fences of the private schools and hooting at them.

To-day "Bud" and "Buck" have the privilege more than ever in the history of the Chicago schools of getting astride the necks of Clyde and Fauntleroy in their common playground and rubbing their tresses in the dirt—if they can. For it is beyond dispute that Clyde and Fauntleroy are growing harder than ever to down in a "wrestle" and that in the process of "mixing" the "Buds" and the Clydes are finding a common ground without having to wait for it, unprepared, until each shall have drifted so far from the other as to make world "mixing" almost impossible.

"It is something that simply had to come," said Superintendent Cooley of the Chicago schools. "Out of our material age the value of being able to 'mix' in the world has been growing upon parents. To mix has become a necessity to the man of the world, and the best time for him to learn the art is in the public schools. You cannot put a boy aside with a private tutor, or in the walls of a more or less isolated private school and not at the same time train him toward unfitness to take the world as he must find it when he goes into it.

"He has more to learn than books, but at the same time I think it has become evident that the boy in the public schools of Chicago may

learn mere of books in the public schools than elsewhere. Somewhere between the growing excellence of the public schools and the associations which the man of the world counts as valuable to the boy, this growth of attendance of children of the rich in the public schools may be accounted for.

"Every day the feeling of the rich man to the school system which he must support must change in its favor. It is his school as much as it is the school of anybody else paying taxes. He has found it good for society at large and of his experience he is learning that it is good for him and for his. It is a movement and a tendency which must be applauded as the best for all concerned."

To show just how the schools of the United States that are free rank with the private schools of all classes, it may be shown that in 1900 the attendance in the schools of the country numbered 17,223,270, of which only 1,503,927 were in private schools. To show how this public school attendance has increased throughout the United States, \$197,281,603 was spent on these schools in 1900, an increase of more than \$60,000,000 in ten years in the cost of the institution.

Why should not the child of the rich man attempt to avail himself of the result of these colossal millions?

A member of the Board of Education of the Chicago schools suggests another reason for the increase of the patronage of the rich in the city schools.

"The private school has not always been above distrust on the part of the rich parent," he says. "When a father is sending his check regularly to a school whose sole support is in the form of checks there is a feeling that perhaps a disposition on the part of his boy to shirk may not be too sorely pressed home upon the lad as a bad thing. His humors may be regarded with too much leniency; his examination papers may be marked with a free hand.

"But in the Chicago public schools the same father is certain that there will be no favoring circumstances in the shortcomings of his boy. The same scale of merit will hold for the rich and the poor and in all respects there will be the application of the spirit of democracy. I believe with Daniel Webster, who said that if he had as many sons as Priam had he would send the whole fifty to the public schools."

There are a thousand men in Chicago to-day who are suffering disadvantages that came to them in the tutelage of the private school and at the hands of the private instructor. Just

as there are thinking men bred in the city who wish they might have had the advantages of the farm in their youth, so these men of private instruction are wishing for the advantages that might have come to them in the public schools.

Setting off this view of the public schools in the United States and in Chicago, a recent flurry in Putney, one of the large suburbs of London, may point to the radical difference in the educational views of the two countries. It chanced a short time ago that in one of these Putney schools the master discovered that his pupils were dropping out without cause. He could not understand, but the boys from the best families were going, and it was not until most of them were gone that he found the cause. That cause was in the person of a small boy who was the son of a tea merchant. Not by any manner of means could the boys of the select school tolerate the son of the man who furnished their fathers' houses with the morning beverage at table.

Vigorously and to the point the Edinburg News took up the case, pointing out the dog in the manger spirit which the British owner of the private school had assumed toward the proposed and necessary enlargement of the public school system in England. It says:

"The master of the private school no doubt is entitled to the British privilege of deciding for himself who shall and who shall not be admitted to his classes. His school is as much his castle as is his home, and his will is the supreme law of both.

"But in that case he cannot justly complain if those who have no right to his hospitality are otherwise provided for. Yet that is exactly what the masters of English private schools do. They are up in arms against an attempt to provide higher grade public schools in their vicinity. The consequence is that in a London suburban district, with a population of 22,000, a man bearing the brand of trade cannot get his son into any school suitable to his age and attainments. He is willing to pay whatever fees are charged. But that matters nothing. He is in trade; and the suburban stock broker who gets rich by swindling simple clients will not tolerate the contamination of his son by contact with the son of an honest tradesman. Putney has no public secondary school, because it would be an invasion of the rights of a few third-rate scholastic snobs, and the tradesman's son must go without his educational rights because the seedy curate cannot brook the idea that his son should be associated with the smell of the shop."

# The Commons

A Monthly Record Devoted to Aspects of Life and Labor  
from the Social Settlement Point of View.

**GRAHAM TAYLOR, - - - Editor**

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50 Cents



A Year

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## EDITORIAL.

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This number of THE COMMONS has been delayed a few days in order to secure the tribute to our lamented friend Henry D. Lloyd and to allow the editor to resume the conduct of the paper after his six months' leave of absence abroad. The interest and co-operation of many settlements and social workers in England and Scotland were enlisted, and all our readers may expect to share with the residents of American settlements occasional contributions to the columns of THE COMMONS from social workers at the best English points of view.

To Mr. Raymond Robins the readers and editor of THE COMMONS are indebted for editing the last six numbers of this journal. He carries with him to the headworkship of the Northwestern University Settlement (Augusta and Noble streets), Chicago, the best wishes and hopes not only of his fellow residents at Chicago Commons but of all who know of his noteworthy achievement at the Municipal Lodging House of the city of Chicago and his new work as secretary of the City Homes Association.

The editorship of the College Settlements Association department in THE COMMONS falls to the capable hand of Miss Myrta L. Jones of Cleveland, Ohio, who has long been identified with settlement work in that city, as well as with this association of college women organized to promote and sustain their settlements in New York, Boston and Philadelphia, and to inspire and train the interest of undergraduates at women's colleges in social service and literature. Both the association and THE COMMONS have profited by Mrs. Caroline Williamson Montgomery's initiatory work in so successfully establishing this department, and also by the intermediary service of the present secretary of the association.

In addition to several occasional contributors to our columns from the social settlements and kindred lines of service in Great Britain, we are happy to announce as a regular correspondent from London, Mr. F. Herbert Stead, M. A., warden of Robert Browning Settlement, Walworth. Not only by his long and efficient labor in that densely populated industrial district, but also by his exceptionally wide contact with men and movements making for social betterment, he is very advantageously situated and especially qualified to render most helpful service to his fellow workers everywhere, particularly on this side of the sea. His authorship and contributions to the periodical press emphasize the importance of his acquisition to our regular staff of gratuitous workers. He begins his social survey for us in the January number.

### The People's Tribute to Henry Demarest Lloyd.

It falls to the lot of very few men to receive such a tribute as was paid in Chicago to the memory of Henry Demarest Lloyd. It was the tribute of the people, though not quite the whole people, only one class—or, better, faction—was conspicuous by its silence and its absence. Nothing was seen or heard from the predatory few whose pecuniary interests involve private gain at public expense. But representatives of every other class in our great cosmopolitan community composed the vast audience of four thousand people who assembled in the Auditorium on the memorial Sunday afternoon. The diversity of the assembly was the more significant because of Mr. Lloyd's radically pronounced position upon deeply divisive issues. It was to have been expected that the great majority would be gathered from among the common people and the rank and file of organized labor. For they knew he had crossed the barricade of wealth and culture to their side of the struggle, and they met him on their own ground. Prominent, therefore, among the organizations under whose auspices the occasion was arranged was the Chicago Federation of Labor. From the bituminous coal fields of the west and the anthracite mines of the east came delegations of the miners with their rare leader, John Mitchell, as their spokesman, to pay their tribute of gratitude to the champion of their right to an American standard of life and labor. The Carpenters' Council were there because he had settled a strike for them. The Typographical Union claimed him to be of their craft by virtue of his thirteen years of editorial service on

the Chicago Tribune, and his still more protracted authorship of books. From labor union treasuries \$650 were contributed toward the expense of the meeting, poor miners' locals contributing liberally. Mr. Edwin D. Mead fittingly voiced the appreciation of Mr. Lloyd's literary fellow craftsmen in Boston and New York, where he was taken into the inner circles; in Chicago, where he was one of the founders of the Literary Club, and in England, where Robert Louis Stevenson's opinion is shared by not a few: "He writes the most workman-like article of any man known to me in America, unless it should be Parkman. Not a touch in Lloyd of the amateur." The United Turner and Singing Societies made response not only for the German, but for many other foreign peoples, of whose labor and life Mr. Lloyd was a sympathetic student. The Henry George Association and the Municipal Ownership Convention stood forth, perhaps, most prominently of all, as those most committed to the economic ideals which inspired Mr. Lloyd's writings and to the cause of public ownership of municipal monopolies, in the fight for which at Chicago he laid down his life. The village council in which he organized his Winnetka neighbors for the practice of the referendum principle in their home suburb, was a center of a much larger group from the highest professional, business, literary and society circles of the city. A judge of the Chicago Bench presided, an attorney of the county bar was one of the speakers, and the mayors of the two principal Ohio cities—Cleveland and Toledo—were foremost in eulogy. Hull House and Chicago Commons also joined in issuing the call to which the people thus responded in token of Mr. Lloyd's far-sighted social vision and pre-eminent service of that better social order for which the settlements stand, to Mr. Lloyd's passion for which Miss Addams gave such true and fitting expression in the address which we are privileged to share with our readers.

The popular estimate upon his personal character was well expressed by the counsel who was associated with him in pleading the case of the miners before the President's arbitration commission:

"He was rich, but uncorrupted by wealth. He was an aristocrat, but unsullied by aristocracy. He was a scholar, but he still retained sentiments and feelings straight from human nature which bind man to his fellow-man. He was a man whom gold could not corrupt, and whom learning could not destroy; and these men are rare upon the face of earth."

In our judgment, which ripened through ten years of ever-increasing friendship and deepening admiration, Henry Demarest Lloyd, and no less truly the lady to his manor born, so personified a self-exacting devotion to the ethical ideal of Christianity and a truly racial social consciousness as to set a prophetic type of the America that is yet to be.

#### Arbitration vs. War.

Along with the reports of the distressful and disgraceful outrages in Macedonia, and the oft-repeated rumor of war in the Far East, appear two fair harbingers of the better day when men shall learn war no more; namely, the award of the Alaskan Boundary Commission and the treaty between England and France, to submit hereafter all disagreements of political and commercial significance to a tribunal of arbitration.

The Alaskan award, being on the whole in favor of the American contentions, has, indeed, aroused considerable ill-feeling among our neighbors over the border. To see 30,000 square miles of coveted coast land passed over to her rival is surely no slight matter, and the display of feeling may be easily understood. Nevertheless the permanent good secured by the decision in removing an ever-fruitful source of friction between the two peoples will be acknowledged also in time by the Christians. One may remark in passing that the use of many of our newspapers of such military and belligerent expressions as that the United States, possessing the two outer islands, can still "dominate" and "command" Port Simpson, is not calculated to alleviate the feeling of our neighbors.

The award brings to a close a long series of disputes with Great Britain concerning the limits of our northern boundary. Those disputes in some instances awakened intense feeling—particularly the one concerning the Oregon frontier—but were all settled by diplomacy or arbitration. The record constitutes a testimonial to the political good sense, national self-control and popular appreciation of the might of right and reason, such as the Anglo-Saxon and the Anglo-American may well be proud of. It is a notable fact of history that the two land-hungry peoples have settled all differences involving territorial integrity without resort to the sword. (The War of 1812 had other grounds.) The Alaskan award is the latest chapter in this commendable record. It is unlikely that hereafter disagreement will arise as to the limits of our northern frontier.

In its larger and more far-reaching significance, the award is a fresh testimony to the practical value of the principle that the appeal to reason and justice is more effective and much less costly than the appeal to force. It will increase the confidence of the men in the feasibility of arbitration, or, as in the present case, of adjudication. It will confirm old and awaken new faith that patriotism does not mean prejudice, that men can rise above the solicitation of time-serving interests, even when of national import, and view the facts and estimate the evidence according to the Eternal Law of Righteousness and the Rights of Humanity.

J. M.

#### Notes.

The special features of THE COMMONS for next month will be articles on "International Peace Movements," by Edwin D. Mead, of Boston, on "Training for Social Service," reporting what is being attempted and projected at London, New York, Boston and Chicago, and "An Interview with a New York Truant Officer."

Mr. John Graham Brooks' reportorial accuracy and economic insight, which so remarkably characterized his volume on "Social Unrest" (Macmillan Company), make that faithfully truthful and fearlessly just volume a timely handbook of facts and experiences amidst the industrial strifes which are now so damaging to our progress and so dangerous to the public peace. It is attracting deservedly wide attention and use on both sides of the Atlantic.

Mr. Riis' "Battle with the Slum" (The Macmillan Company), encouraging as is its good cheer from the scene of action in New York, reads like the report of a skirmish, contrasted with the general engagement into which the full force of British municipalities are entering for the demolition of the slum and the rebuilding of its area with municipal dwellings and other necessary provisions for decent family life. But the book is our best bugle-blast to rally our cities to prevent conditions with which England is in a life-and-death struggle.

The increasing reference value of *Charities*, the vital and able monthly of the New York Charity Organization Society, is emphasized by its issue for November 7, principally devoted to "The Juvenile Court, a Campaign for Childhood." The remarkably interesting and accu-

rate accounts of the child-saving service rendered by these courts and their probation officers in Baltimore, Denver, Chicago, New York and St. Louis, with touches of personal experiences of the official representatives contributing the articles, make this number of *Charities* invaluable to all at work for the prevention and treatment of juvenile delinquency.

By one of those slips which are as annoying as apparently unavoidable, credit failed to be given in our last number to Messrs. MacLehose & Company, the Glasgow publishers, for permission to reprint from their volume on Ruskin and the Lake Country, Canon Rawnsley's story of the Keswick School of Industrial Arts. The courtesy extended us, both by the author and his publishers, was so graciously given that it makes the error all the more mortifying and our apologies most sincere.

#### English Free Church Scheme for Social Work.

The General Committee of the National Council of the Evangelical Free Churches has adopted a scheme of social work which includes the following points: 1. That one Sunday in the year be specially devoted throughout the country to social questions; the second Sunday in October is suggested. 2. The issue of literature upon Christian social topics. 3. That all prisoners be met on their discharge at the expiration of their sentences and brought into touch with the churches. 4. Individual churches to be encouraged to take greater interest in soldiers in garrison towns, apart from the work of the chaplains who are appointed and sanctioned by the government. 5. The organized visitation of workhouses by Christian workers, holding religious services, etc. 6. To arrange for the weekly gathering of crippled children on the lines laid down by the Crutch and Kindness League. 7. To take concerted and organized action for the suppression of impurity. 8. To encourage the churches to support, wherever possible, the Sunday School Union scheme of forming institutes for keeping in touch with young people after leaving Sunday school, of whom it is estimated that 90 per cent are lost to the churches.

In connection with the autumnal session of the Congregational Union at Bournemouth a meeting in the interests of settlements supported by churches of that fellowship was held. Representatives of Mansfield House and the



Woman's Settlement of Canningtown, Lancashire College Settlements, Manchester, and Robert Browning Hall, South London, presented the work on their fields, and Prof. Graham Taylor spoke on the general relation between the churches and the settlements.

### The General Alliance of Workers with Boys.

The increasing emphasis placed on the "Child Study Department" in our public schools, the work of the church in its different organizations, the boys' department in the Y. M. C. A., state and private schools for boys, boys' clubs, settlement work with boys, and literature both for boys and about boys, indicates the growing interest in boys, as such, and also demonstrates the need of special work with and for boys.

To correlate all these existing agencies for studying and carrying on boys' work, to create, publish and distribute literature in the subject and for the mental benefit derived from a personal exchange of ideas and acquaintance-ship, "The General Alliance of Workers With Boys" was founded in 1895. The officers and directors of the "Alliance" are men and women actively engaged in boys' work. The president, William B. Forbush, author of "The Boy Problem" and editor of "How to Help Boys," the official organ of the "Alliance," is known to all students of boys.

The value of such an organization cannot be mistaken. It corresponds in its own sphere to "The National Conference of Charities and Corrections." The meetings are held annually, in the fall of the year. The subjects discussed are taken up both theoretically and practically. The subject of the meeting held last year in New York City was "The Working Boy." Two years ago in Boston "The Boy and the Home" was discussed. This fall in Chicago the subject was "Boys' Groups, Gangs, Clubs."

The success of the "Alliance" is assured. Its membership is scattered throughout the United States and in the several foreign countries. All persons interested in boys' work should cooperate with this organization, not only for the personal profit, but also for what they may add from their own experience to enlarge and strengthen the work of the Alliance.

#### THE CHICAGO CONFERENCE.

Eleven states were represented and sixteen different types of boys' work. Judge B. B. Lindsey, of the Juvenile Court of Denver, Col., showed what an important part the "gang" plays in juvenile crime. In speaking on "The Gang and Religion," Prof. George E. Coe, of

Northwestern University, said: "The feeling for men as such grows out of deepening and purifying the 'gang' impulse." In the discussion the "gang" was recognized to be a factor in society that must be faced and dealt with judiciously and sympathetically. Prof. Charles R. Henderson, of the University of Chicago, made a strong plea for the boy in the home. The great progress in the treatment of boys in correctional institutions was forcefully demonstrated by Mr. John J. Sloan, the wise-headed and large-hearted superintendent of Chicago's John Worthy School, connected with the House of Correction. This conference was thought to be the best which has yet been held.

The complete report of its proceedings is to be published in "How to Help Boys." (Single copies 25 cents; yearly subscriptions \$1. Membership in the alliance, including this subscription, \$2. Address Wm. B. Forbush, 14 Beacon street, Boston.)

### SPECIAL NUMBERS OF ... THE COMMONS ...

Reporting investigations on "Social Aspects of the Saloon," "Juvenile Delinquency and the Juvenile Court," "School Children's Earnings, Spendings, and Savings," "Boy Problem Number. Robert A. Woods on "Settlement Achievements." Hull House Labor Museum, illustrated, Chicago Settlements number, illustrated. Orders filled by mail for five cents a copy.

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### The Month at Chicago Commons.

#### UPON THE WARDEN'S RETURN.

Last summer, for the first time in nine years' work at Chicago Commons, the warden was justified in dropping his gratuitous administrative and financial care long enough for much needed rest and recreation abroad. He is happy to report the neighborhood work never to have been better in hand or more promising than it is found to be upon his return. This is entirely due to the efficiency, economy and unflinching fidelity of the resident workers. Financially the work was barely tided over the six months of his absence. The effort kindly volunteered to relieve him from incessant solicitude for the support of the settlement was assumed by all too few men without public appeal. Funds are immediately needed to meet current accounts. Prompt renewals and early payments of subscriptions for the support of the work during the ensuing year are necessary to prevent deficit in the treasury and serious embarrassment to the warden while under the burden of accumulated work.

Our neighborhood Tabernacle church is fortunate in having such a well established event as the New England supper annually. It has long served as the reunion of the year for the many who have been attendants at the church. The fostering of old associations, both historical and personal, is invaluable in a community so diverse and changeable. More than usual interest and pleasure were attached to the event this year by the fact that it was the welcome-home of Prof. and Mrs. Graham Taylor after their six months' absence abroad. Speeches and singing accompanied the reception. More than three hundred guests gathered around the tables, thus contributing materially to the financial support of the church. The Tabernacle Ladies' Aid and Missionary Society and the Chicago Commons Woman's Club joined for the first time in making the occasion a greater success. The club improved the opportunity to make its annual gift in commemoration of the settlement's birthday, contributing fine table linen to the equipment of the house.

The concert of the Choral Club proved to be the best work of the organization thus far. With a spirited chorus of fifty voices and the help of excellent soloists, the cantata "The Fatherhood of God" was very creditably given. They start on their next work, "The Rose Maiden," by Cowen, with a larger chorus and an enthusiasm which is good to see. Several

of the members are taking private vocal work on another evening at the settlement. A junior mandolin club has been organized under Mrs. Gordon's direction. We have twenty more applicants for piano lessons than we can provide for. We greatly need additional help in the teaching force.

The 250 people who were present at the first Pleasant Sunday Afternoon of the season enjoyed the unusually good stereopticon pictures of the English lake country, presented with delightful description by Mrs. Jean Sherwood, one of the first and best friends of Chicago Commons. On the following Sunday the Chicago Commons Choral Club rendered selections from Schaefer's "The Fatherhood of God." In the long list of musical privileges offered through us to our community none have been more enjoyable than the concert given by the Schubert Madrigal Club.

By the opening of the new Boys' Club Rooms in the store next to the settlement building on Grand avenue, it has been possible to offer in the settlement a meeting place five nights a week to an Italian Men's Club. About fifteen have joined. Their purpose is to be self-governing, and conduct the club as a social self-improvement, reading circle.

The principal and teachers of the neighboring Washington public school extended their friendly greetings to the Warden and Mrs. Taylor at an informal little reception in the school building. The average attendance at the night school held here has been over 900 so far this season, chiefly grown men of many nationalities.

The Illinois state factory inspector, Mr. E. T. Davies, admirably explained the new child labor law, how it was enacted, why it was needed, and how it is worked. Many questions and hearty approval indicated the interest awakened by this efficient officer.

The neighborly socials in our neighborhood parlor every Saturday evening are greatly appreciated by the larger or smaller groups of family folk, who enjoy the relief and recreation they afford. An evening of dialect stories was an especially happy one.

Under the leadership of Mr. A. P. Laughlin, one of the best high school manual trainers, our normal class is now engaged in wood working, having taken other instruction in basket weaving and clay modelling.

















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