

designed to do a definite work, but always in harmony with our general purposes.

And on the material side the following two suggestions will make our financial basis more stable:

1. Members of the Association are urgently requested to propose new members, sending their names, connection, and other relevant data, also remittance for membership fee to our secretary-treasurer.

### OPENING OF THE HINTERLAND

Readers of JEWISH CHARITIES will peruse with interest Mr. Jacob H. Schiff's statement in regard to the closing of the Galveston Bureau for the reception and placing of Jewish immigrants. The Galveston office was established on what was considered a sound principle in the distribution and adjustment of immigrants—namely, diverting the stream from the overcrowded ports to that part of the country where crowding is unknown and where labor is in steady demand. Those in charge of the Galveston Bureau have remained true to their principles, and if the work has to be discontinued now it is not because it is not needed, nor because it was not well done, nor because it was not sufficiently supported. It retires apparently in the face of an imperfect sympathy, which it has not been able to overcome.

The exclusion of immigrants, as everyone knows, is not an exact science; the Government does not even pretend that it is done in a specially competent way by men who have ability to judge character or trained practice in weighing evidence. The fact that the fate of the immigrant depends upon the judgment of untrained judges, receiving a salary of \$1,800 a year, has been pointed out repeatedly as an injustice to the immigrants and a reflection upon our Government's interest in the rights of aliens. Again, inspectors are swayed by the views of the officers under whom they work, and an energetic commissioner of restrictive tendencies can run up the percentage of exclusions without saying a word to his inspectors. They know what he wants.

The large percentage of exclusions at Galveston, therefore, does not indicate that an inferior grade of immigrant was reaching that point. It rather reflects the mental

Mr. Monroe M. Goldstein, 356 Second Avenue, New York City.

2. Members are asked to send their yearly dues of \$1.00 to the secretary-treasurer and to pay such arrears as may be outstanding against them.

With cordial greetings,

DAVID M. BRESSLER,

*President National Association of Jewish Social Workers.*

attitude of the inspectors toward immigration in general, for our law is elastic enough to give free play to an inspector to indulge his feelings in this matter. The brief in the case of Ali Gegiow and others, lately filed by Mr. Max Kohler and his colleagues in the United States Circuit Court of Appeals, is an *exposé* of the methods of inspectors sufficient to account for any queer results obtained at a port of entry respecting exclusions. And this without any reflection upon the integrity of the inspectors.

That the officials of the immigration department were not more sympathetic with the Galveston attempt speaks more for their zeal for applying the exclusion features of the law than for their concern for the welfare of the admitted immigrant. This point has been made over and over again—that the Government is very alert and interested in the ceremony of admitting an immigrant, but neglects him after he is in and becomes a responsibility of the state. The Galveston Movement intended to make good the Government's neglect—desired to place the immigrant where he would be of greatest economic service to the country; but it was met with the ancient point of view that the admission of the immigrant, no matter where, was the whole thing. Those who have labored in behalf of the Galveston Movement can be comforted with the thought that their acts were no less patriotic than wise and sound, and they have further assurance that they have prepared a way for the immigrant, which he will keep open himself. And to Mr. Schiff, who has so generously supported the faith he had in the diversion of immigration from New York, the country is under obligations that will be understood and realized in time.

L.

## THE GALVESTON MOVEMENT

Jacob H. Schiff

The so-called "Galveston movement" was initiated in 1907 for the purposes of deflecting some part of the large emigration which has been flowing practically exclusively into the North Atlantic seaports—notably into New York—and directing it toward the Gulf, with the view of distributing these immigrants over the American "Hinterland" west of the Mississippi. Galveston was chosen as the most available port of entrance and a Jewish Immigrants' Information Bureau was established there under the auspices of a committee, which had its headquarters at New York and of which the writer of this was made chairman, with David M. Bressler as honorary secretary and managing director. The committee placed itself promptly after its organization into communication with the Jewish Territorial Organization, of which Israel Zangwill is the head, and an arrangement was entered into between that organization and the Galveston Committee, under which the former undertook to make propaganda in Russia and Roumania for acquainting intending emigrants with the advantages of going into the United States through Galveston, rather than to and through the overcrowded and congested North Atlantic ports. The Jewish Territorial Organization or "Ito," as it is popularly called, to this end established a number of committees in Russia under the able management of Dr. Joelmann, of Kieff, where the headquarters of the "Ito" Emigration Regulation Department became located. It was stipulated, and this was carried into effect throughout, that, as demanded by the laws of the United States, no pecuniary assistance was to be extended to emigrants, but that the "Ito" and its committees should limit their activities to efforts destined to smooth the way of the emigrant, through a perfected system of supervision and advice, from the moment he left his home until his arrival at Galveston.

Reaching Galveston, immigrants are taken under the care of the Jewish Immigrants' Information Bureau. This bureau, originally established with Morris D. Waldman as its manager, who in turn was suc-

ceeded by Henry Berman and latterly by Maurice Epstein, gradually organized a system of agencies over the entire territory, extending from the Mississippi to the Pacific Coast, got in close touch with B'nai B'rith Lodges and kindred societies, from whom it obtained valuable support and cooperation, and thus it has been made possible to procure prompt employment for the immigrants, as these reached Galveston from time to time, and to distribute them over the large territory from the Mississippi to the Pacific Coast and from the Gulf to the Dominion boundary. The expense of the Galveston establishment, the maintenance of immigrants until employment had been found for them, the cost of transportation from Galveston to places of destination were all borne by the Galveston Committee, a sum approaching \$300,000 having been expended to date for the between nine and ten thousand immigrants which have come to Galveston and have been distributed by the committee.

This work, successful enough in itself, has, however, by no means been entirely smooth. The fact that only one line of transportation from Europe to Galveston was available—the North German Lloyd steamers from Bremen—placed the emigrant who wished to come to Galveston more or less at the mercy of this single steamship company, and while on the whole the accommodation the latter furnished was reasonably satisfactory, a journey of twenty-three days in steerage quarters brought in itself discomforts, which frequently led to not always unjustified complaints on the part of emigrants. But what has proved the greatest handicap was the attitude of the Federal Government, which, having an immigration station at Galveston, did not always show itself as sympathetic as the committee believed it was justified in expecting. The committee had assumed that its efforts to deflect immigration from the congested centers of the North Atlantic Coast and open a new route leading directly into the American "Hinterland," where the laborer is still much in demand, would meet with every encourage-

ment on the part of the Federal authorities, who, however, to the contrary in recent times, since immigration has been transferred from the Department of Commerce and Labor to the newly created Labor Department, have shown what must be called a repressive policy, which has become most marked at Galveston, where the law is being now applied with a rigidity and deportation ordered for such slight reasons that the proportion of the excluded whose prompt deportation is insisted upon by the Government equals 5 per cent., as compared with an average of 1.21 per cent. at all other American ports.

Under such conditions the committee, after careful deliberation, has concluded that it is useless to continue the effort for which it was organized—to deflect emigration from the congested centers at New York and other North Atlantic seaports—and it has decided to discontinue the Galveston Bureau after next September. By that time some 10,000 Jewish immigrants will have been established through the Galveston Committee at numerous points in the Far West, Southwest and Northwest, where most of these new arrivals have been able to found dignified existences and happy homes. Centers have thus been created, to which many others are certain to be attracted from the more congested places in the Eastern states, and at the same time the existence of these centers will induce many in Russia and elsewhere, who are forced to emigrate, to avoid the congested American seaport towns, and to go direct to the places in the "Hinterland," where their friends have already established themselves.

In this manner the "Galveston movement" is certain to continue and ultimately work out silently, but effectively, the problem for which it has been started.

While New York is already too overcrowded and the making of further larger additions to its Jewish population should obviously be sought to be avoided, there is considerable room yet in the comparatively thinly settled districts west of the Mississippi for those who wish to go there. To direct Jewish immigration into these districts will surely aid in promoting the happiness of the immigrant and prove a boon to the area

in which he continues to be needed and where the immigrant will not only be able to find ready employment, but also more attractive surroundings than in the tenement districts of the Eastern city.

### No Buildings Without Maintenance Maurice E. Stern

At the annual meeting of the Federation of Jewish Charities of Philadelphia, a resolution was offered and carried asking the beneficiary societies to refrain from accepting any sums of money donated for memorial buildings, unless provision was made for an adequate endowment for maintenance; or the advisability of acceptance to be discussed with the board of directors of the Federation.

There was quite a lively discussion as to its merits, but the resolution was carried.

There was a thought prevalent among some of the members that the Federation would, by the adoption of this resolution, stop charitably inclined individuals from giving freely of their moneys for the erection of buildings much needed by some of the beneficiary societies. It was shown, however, that since the resolution had been offered in directors' meeting and prior to its adoption by the members at their annual meeting, that two large funds given for memorial buildings had been increased sufficiently to provide for their maintenance. The increases were gladly made by the donors when the proposed resolution and reasons therefor were submitted to them.

When it is considered that the burden of securing the necessary funds for maintenance of the various societies and institutions rests entirely upon the officers and directors of the Federation, is it not only fair that they should be consulted as to whether, upon the acceptance of unendowed memorial buildings the Federation would be in a position to properly finance them? Of course, the officers and directors of the Federation, with the sincere interest of all its beneficiaries in mind, would only too gladly advise the acceptance of buildings needed, even though not endowed, and they would naturally use every effort to secure and appropriate the funds necessary for maintenance of such needed buildings.

### Manual Training in Jewish Foster Home

*Editor of Jewish Charities.*

Sir: The Jewish Foster Home and Orphan Asylum, located in Philadelphia, has at all times felt its responsibility for not only the moral and physical training of the children, but also for that training which will give them confidence and security in what they are able to do. It has long been considered that manual training for young children is one of the methods by which these factors of character may be instilled. With this in mind, various classes are continually in session, including, for the boys, wood work, iron work, gardening, etc.; for the girls, embroidery, needlework, fancy and plain, dressmaking, millinery, stenography, cooking and other classes, all necessary for the rounding out of good workers. It is not our main purpose in these various classes to teach a trade, but rather to develop in each one what will eventually be their life's work. It is only through these channels that, if we are at all to know, we can find out what a child is best fitted for. The community has continually watched the progress of our institution in these lines, and felt that if we were to expand in any way at all, larger and more convenient quarters would have to be got for us to carry out our manual training departments.

As a result of our continual agitation and informing those interested in our welfare of our most actual needs in this line, Mrs. Birdie L. Gimbel donated \$13,000, with an annual endowment of \$250 for the manual training school building, in which will be taught all of the industrial work for both the boys and the girls. This will be a one-story building with a basement, and will be so constructed that it can be used for a lecture hall at any time. This building is being erected as a memorial to Mr. Benedict Gimbel.

It may be rather interesting to know that in spite of the fact that our Bureau for Jewish Children has continually kept in mind the fact that a proper home with a proper mother ought not be broken up on account of poverty, our institution has increased until we are at this time at our full capacity of more than 200 children. Our

present synagogue occupies the space directly under our boys' dormitory and, if vacated, will accommodate thirty beds.

The late Benjamin F. Teller, for many years secretary of this home, made a contingent provision in his last will for the giving of \$15,000 to the home for the erection of a synagogue as a memorial to himself and his wife and their respective families. The will was executed within thirty days of his death, and the amount intended for charity would fail even though the contingency therein provided for had arisen. Notwithstanding this fact, realizing that the home could use the space presently occupied as a synagogue for other purposes, his widow, Mrs. Jennie Teller, on January 19, 1914, tendered unto the officers of this association the sum of \$15,000 to be used for the erection of a synagogue, in accordance with the provisions of Mr. Teller's will. Mrs. Teller further agreed to endow the synagogue by the payment of an annual sum of \$200.

Both the manual training school building and the synagogue are now in the course of erection, and under ordinary conditions should be completed before the end of October of this year.

AARON D. FABER,  
Superintendent.

Philadelphia, June 16, 1914.

### EXCHANGE BUREAU

Experienced Matron desires position in Sanatorium or Institution. Can furnish best reference. Mrs. J. L.

Wanted Head Worker for Settlement in a large city. Man preferred, but man and wife, or woman will be considered. Finely equipped building; excellent living quarters; splendid opportunity for constructive work. Apply with references and statement of experience to JEA, care of JEWISH CHARITIES.

Wanted Gymnasium Director. Application must contain education, experience, salary desired, single or married, age, references and where training was received. Only first-class men will be considered. Applications should be made to Sinai Social Center, 4622 Grand Boulevard, Chicago.