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VICTORY NUMBER

JEWISH CHARITIES

Vol. IX

November

No. 7

Reconstruction

Post-War Transients

Growing Into the Community

PUBLISHED BY THE

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The Field Bureau of the National Conference of Jewish Charities

Jewish Social Workers Exchange—provides positions for Jewish Social Workers and assists organizations in procuring qualified candidates for existing vacancies.

Central Registration Bureau for Transient Applicants for Relief.

Contributors' Exchange—notifies organizations of new potential contributors moving in from other communities.

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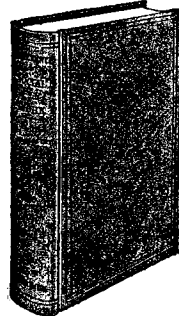
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VOL. IX

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No. 7

PEACE came upon the war-worn world like a radiant morning, flooding it with an unearthly light, that seemed to lend to familiar things a strange glory. In dazed wonderment men settle down to their work-a-day tasks, try to bring themselves back to the pre-war routine, while again and again the truth comes upon them that never again can they return to the old ways. In no field of endeavor is this transfiguration more evident than in the realm of social service. On the one hand, new problems, new tasks, new calls for service call for an increased emphasis on technique, a new definition of method and principle, an increased breadth of vision and soundness of judgment, an intensified unselfishness, self-abnegation, devotion and consecration. On the other hand, to help in the solution of these problems, the war has brought into being new resources of human energy, inspiration and understanding. Communities have found themselves in service. People have come to realize, as never before, the meaning and fruits of tolerance and co-operation. Energy, devotion, wealth and toil, that have been poured forth so eagerly to make a happier, better world, can now be turned to the task of rebuilding existence on the foundations that the war fires have fused and welded together.

Throughout the civilized world, peace has come to mean but one thing—Reconstruction. Humanity is not looking back to the pre-war order of things. It is looking forward to the new order. And, if the Jewish social workers are to be true to themselves and their work, they must, earnestly and purposefully, weigh and consider the place and significance of the new problems and the new resources.

With the tremendous changes that the war has brought to Jewish communal life, with the extension of the field to embrace the Jews the world over, with this new era of co-operation and interactivity with non-Jewish effort, with the new urgency and intensity of interest in Jewish social problems, the importance and responsibility of the Jewish social worker has been multiplied a hundredfold.

THE necessity for sound reconstruction work along the lines of Jewish social service emphasizes the importance of the national school of Jewish social work, embodied in the amalgamation plans as described elsewhere in this issue. On the one hand, the new type of work that is to be done, the new conditions surrounding it, and the new problems connected with it, makes necessary definite and practical training along these lines. The technique of Jewish social service, long in process of development, must now take gigantic strides if it is to keep up with the demands of post war conditions. On the other hand, war activities have brought into the field a large group of new workers, socialized, inspired and drawn into professional social service by their interest and war time experience. In fairness to them, there should be made available means for securing the necessary training and knowledge for the tasks they will undertake. In fairness to the communities they serve, they should take advantage of every opportunity to bring to their tasks the maximum efficiency.

IN THE great reconstruction plans that America is about to undertake in Europe, there is no doubt that the Jews in this country will contribute their share. And there is no doubt but that the Jews of Europe will receive their portion of the help that is extended through these plans, in equal measure to that of the other people. But there is a certain margin of special service that will have to be given the European Jewish population, a margin that only specific Jewish activity can supply. Elsewhere in this issue, the nature and problems of this marginal service are discussed, with special reference to the task of the Jews of America in this connection. And it is for the Jewish social workers in America to bring a true understanding of this problem to their communities, and to inspire them to service.

THE move to change the name of "Jewish Charities" and the National Conference of Jewish Charities, as reported elsewhere in this issue, is an indication of the wide-spread reaction against time-worn terms in social service. There is a general tendency to discard "charity" as descriptive of the work of organization; charity worker, aid society and charity organization give way to communal worker or social worker, and personal service or social service organization. This is not merely a manifestation of the changing meaning of words, of the flexibility of our speech and the trend toward more accurate definition. It goes far deeper than that. It is an actual expression of a real development in concept, a fundamental advance in the philosophy underlying social service.

The day when the mere distribution of alms was the sole function of the relief worker lies in the almost forgotten past. Real family rehabilitation, with all that it implies, of the understanding and dealing with fundamental

social problems, is now the accepted field of the relief agency. The time when the settlement worker dedicated her life to the teaching and "uplift" of her unfortunate brethren, is remembered vaguely as part of a discarded thought system.

As a unifying force in community endeavor, the settlement worker bears to communal life somewhat of the relationship of the artist, not attempting to create new substance, but to interpret and revivify the old, seizing upon the social force, the interests and desires animating the people and blending them, giving them purpose and philosophy, organizing them, directing them, to the development of the better community life.

Throughout every phase of social service this rejection of old standards is strikingly evident. In correctional work, in health service, in civic and educational endeavor one feels the democratic basis of a fundamental humanity. And this makes possible, to a degree undreamed of, the identification of the social worker, with his community on the one hand, and on the other, with the big new ideals and forces that are groping their way towards the great masses of the people.

With this view in mind, the change-of-name movement is vastly significant. It heralds the necessity for careful re-definition of familiar things and accustomed tasks; it marks another step in the development of the new social vocabulary.

IT HAS BEEN SUGGESTED THAT THE FIELD BUREAU ESTABLISH A SPEAKERS' EXCHANGE, THROUGH WHICH ORGANIZATIONS DESIRING SPEAKERS TO ADDRESS MEETINGS, GROUPS, ETC., MIGHT REGISTER THEIR NEEDS AND THROUGH WHICH SOCIAL WORKERS AND OTHERS WILLING TO ADDRESS SUCH GATHERINGS MIGHT NOTIFY THE BUREAU AS TO IMPENDING VISITS TO VARIOUS CITIES, COMMUNITIES THAT WILL BE PASSED EN ROUTE, ETC. INDIVIDUALS, ORGANIZATIONS AND GROUPS DESIRING TO AVAIL THEMSELVES OF THE SERVICES OF SUCH A BUREAU WILL KINDLY NOTIFY THE FIELD BUREAU AT ONCE.

ESTABLISHING COMMUNITY SERVICE

With the new social energies released by the war work, and the discovery, on the other hand, of hitherto unrecognized community problems, it is to be expected that there will be a great tendency, now that the war is over, to organize service societies, community aid organizations, and volunteer agencies of all sizes, purposes and types, out of the emergency groups and volunteer war work groups utilized during the past four years. It will be a wise and fortunate social worker indeed, who succeeds in harnessing this energy to real practical and constructive service, who will, by securing interest in the organization of community service on a scientific basis, forestall the establishment of numerous inspired and well-meaning but ineffective social service societies. A striking illustration of how one community is hastening to meet this problem is seen in the following communication, recently received at the Field Bureau.

It tells its own story of sudden realization of a problem, whole-hearted determination to act upon it, and careful effort to bring to it the best that the experience of the past in other communities has to offer.

"THE FIELD BUREAU, NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF JEWISH CHARITIES.

For the last two years we have been a constituent member of your organization, but so far have not had any occasion to address you concerning any activity, as we thought our community was too small to require any. We are now, however, confronted with a very serious problem, on which we wish to consult you.

The epidemic of Spanish Influenza, which is still raging here, has opened our eyes to the conditions existing here, among the Jewish population, of which we have about 700 families. A great many of these families have been stricken with the disease, and as no trained nurses could be obtained, a call went out for help, and a goodly number volunteered to help nurse the sufferers as the hospitals were all full.

The volunteers reported that in our poorer Jewish homes they found wretched, dirty conditions, and could not help the sufferers. Thinking this may have been somewhat exaggerated, we organized a Volunteer Aid among our Jewish ladies, who also reported the same. The homes had to be cleaned up, as well as the sick attended, and where slight services could be rendered to the sufferers, the relatives were too ignorant to give them, and waited for some society or other to give assistance.

We did not realize, until the present epidemic, that such conditions could exist in our community. The entire population is about 120,000, and if the matter is not taken in hand immediately, we will have the same conditions here as exist in larger cities. Social service work has become an absolute necessity.

A good many of our Jewish ladies are willing to take up the social service work, but do not know where and how to begin. In your publication, Jewish Charities, we note that "communities are visited for organization and propaganda services." This is what we require before we could begin anything. Please let us know by return mail what you can do to help us, as it is urgent that the work be taken up without delay.

Yours very truly,

UNITED HEBREW ASSOCIATION."

This experience is significant of several important things. It gives evidence of the value of just such an agency as the National Conference of Jewish Charities, and of the extent to which it might be of service not only in this country, but in other places as well. (The above communication comes from Canada.) It describes the situation in a community in which the problem of mere money relief was handled by an organization established for that purpose, but the problem of personal service and community organization for that end, had been heretofore untouched.

RECONSTRUCTION

By BORIS D. BOGEN

The problem of reconstruction in Europe is one that calls upon the best efforts of the American people towards its solution; the shattered civilian populations, the desolated cities and the chaotic economic situation present a gigantic task of organization, administration and relief. This work will touch all peoples alike; the war has brought its burden of suffering, famine and misery upon all, with no distinction as to race, religion or nationality, and so the task of reconstruction, to be complete, must also reach all peoples. With the realization of the immensity of this problem and the fine spirit of brotherhood with which it is being approached, the question arises as to whether, in the reconstruction program, there is room for specific Jewish activities, specific Jewish funds and specific Jewish organization. Could not the American Jews contribute their share towards the general reconstruction funds, and could not the Jews of the war countries receive their share of benefit from the reconstruction work in common with the other peoples of stricken Europe? If there is no place for the specific Jewish organization in reconstruction, then assuredly such effort should receive little encouragement from the Jews in the United States. If, on the other hand, there not only is room for such specific effort, but there is actual need for it, then it is the solemn duty and privilege of every American Jew to share in the task of retrieving the lives of his people in Europe, as a definite part of the general reconstruction program.

The peculiar position of the Jews in the war countries need not be described here; it is too well known to need repetition. Socially, the Jews were part of definite entities, outside of which, because of age-old tradition and public usage, it was difficult for them to exist. In small villages, or in the large cities, the Jewish community life, slenderly as it may have been balanced, was the thing by which they lived. With the expulsion of entire communities, the separation of families, the disintegration of the social ties, the social relationships of the Jews have become shattered, and the restoration to normal existence, amid the national intensities developed through the war, is a definite and delicate problem, vital to the future of European Jewry and peculiar to the Jews alone. Politically, the restrictions and inhibitions that surrounded the Jews before the war may have been intensified or lessened because of the political consciousness aroused through the war. Where the former is the case, it is evident that careful adjustments will have to be made. Where greater tolerance and liberties will have developed, the task of adjustment of the fortunate peoples to their new freedom will be a vital one to the future existence of the Jews in those countries. Economically, the Jews have always held a peculiarly difficult place in European life. Because of political and social conditions, and the historic development of the Jews in the industrial system, trade and the dealings of trade have been their particular portion. And because of this same historic development, and such religious inhibitions as the Sabbath day and other observances make necessary, the Jew in trade had established a definite life and routine, industrial habits and economic customs. With the loss of their capital, be it a miserable margin; or a definite and respectable portion, the means of livelihood were destroyed. The shops and stores, the stalls, the trading posts,

have been swept away in the maelstrom of the war. Practical industrial rehabilitation in the skilled trades, in farming, in productive industries which Europe will now so greatly need, will avail the Jews little for a time at least, until readjustment is made possible; here the peasant and industrial populations of Europe have the distinct advantage. The economic reconstruction of the Jew is a specific problem, involving in the first place, the peculiar economic setting of the Jew in European industrial life, and the delicate task of readjustment to new economic conditions.

In addition to the political, social and economic aspects of the problem of reconstruction among the Jews, there is the old problem of specific Jewish attitude, case treatment, language differences, and the natural yearning to be dealt with by their own people.

Assuming therefore, that there is a specific Jewish problem in relation to reconstruction work in Europe, the question arises as to whether such activity can be carried on without conflicting or interfering with the general program, and without creating the feeling that we Jews are too anxious to "walk by ourselves." In answer to this question it is only necessary to point to the effective manner in which the work of Jewish War Relief was carried on through the approval and co-operation of the United States Government, and the general feeling of appreciation and respect towards it on the part of the country at large. The recognition on the part of the United States Government and the other existing national war work agencies, of the place and effectiveness of the Jewish Welfare Board, and the definite part that it is taking in the entire war work program is convincing proof that there are occasions when the Jew working for the Jew, hand in hand with the great unified force of national activity, is the one effective way to do his share in the broad, humanitarian movements developed to meet the suffering, want and the urgent human problems that the war has brought upon us.

There is no doubt but that all efforts looking towards reconstruction must be made part of a unified, coherent program, fitting in to the large general plan, and avoiding duplication, waste and conflict of interests. It is important therefore that the Reconstruction Program of the Red Cross, of the Government, and of agencies working with it must be carefully studied; the entire plan must be seen through, and when it has been definitely established, the place and nature of the Jewish activities must be so determined as to be a vital and co-ordinated part of the system.

In the meantime, no efforts must be spared to secure as quickly as possible as much information as can be secured concerning the needs, problems and general situation of the Jews in the various European countries. When the time comes to act, there must be at hand a definite foundation of knowledge of existing conditions on which to act.

The sending of Jewish social workers into the European lands, to study the situation as especially related to the Jews, to report on just what might be done, is the one important step before the Jews of America at the present moment. With its skilled representatives in the field, and with constant and earnest effort to share in the big task that America has set for itself, American Jewry will be in position to best serve the interests of humanity in the task of Reconstruction.

RECONSTRUCTION AMONG THE JEWS OF EUROPE

In order to meet the problems of reconstruction, arising out of the end of the war, the Joint Distribution Committee has formed a special sub-committee of members of the Executive Committee, consisting of representatives of each of the constituent committees of the Joint Distribution Committee, and has authorized the sub-committee to secure such expert assistance as may be needed.

The Committee has inaugurated a study of the huge problem, with a view to being prepared as rapidly as conditions allow to enter upon a program of permanent rehabilitation, suited to the especial needs, environment, and circumstances of the Jews in different parts of the world.

Outline of Reconstruction Plan.

It is planned to give reconstruction work the benefit of American system, energy, and resourcefulness, reinforced by American millions. The scope of the undertaking in its broad outlines embraces the following:

1. Immediate and temporary assistance necessary to pave the way for permanent reconstruction, viz.: the supplying of food, clothing, shelter and medical attention.
2. Scientific study upon the ground of the various forms reconstruction shall take, according to the needs of the several populations.
3. Employment of labor, through the planning and carrying out of projects by which workers may be most advantageously and economically made self-supporting and the public welfare furthest advanced.
4. Repatriation of refugees and the re-establishment of the family and home.
5. Supplying of raw materials needed for the industrial life of the community.
6. Vocational and technical schools for the training of the young.
7. Gemilath Chasodim—the extension

of free loans—loans without interest—to the deserving, for the purpose of engaging in useful business and occupations.

8. Provision for the spiritual and moral welfare, through assistance to the Rabbis, Yeshivoth (Jewish Theological University), Talmud Torahs (Religious Schools) and other religious and higher educational factors essential to the Jewish faith.

9. The return to the United States of American citizens, exiled through the war in enemy and neutral countries, reuniting them to their families.

PRESENT STATUS OF REHABILITATION WORK.

Russia.

Plans are being made to send a special relief commissioner to Russia. A report has been received giving the details of the relief organization in Russia from August, 1914, to June, 1917; this report will shortly be ready for distribution.

Palestine.

Mr. Loewenstein, who has just returned from Palestine, has given a report of the work being done there and the desperate need for further assistance. A report of the Jewish institutions and social service agencies in Jerusalem, as recently published in the Bulletin of the Joint Distribution Committee, states that since the beginning of the war the Committee has sent \$1,746,485.86 to Palestine. The present appropriation for General Relief to Palestine under British occupation is at the rate of \$60,000 per month, in addition to \$4,000 monthly for the two Soup Kitchens and \$2,000 for the Health Bureau, making a total of \$70,000 per month.

Salonica.

The Joint Distribution Committee has sent as its special commissioner to Salonica, Miss Hetty Goldman, who is to

investigate and report on conditions there, as well as in Bulgaria, Roumania, Serbia, and neighboring countries.

Turkey.

Regular relief is being sent to the parts of Turkey that have been under British occupation.

Galicia.

The Joint Distribution Committee announces that it is now enabled to forward money from the Jews of America to Galicia. This was made possible through the conclusion of the armistice terms with Austria, no money having gone to Galicia from the United States

since the declaration of war upon that country.

In addition to this important announcement, which means that immediate succor is being extended to thousands of Jews cut off from relief for many months, the Committee announces that besides \$100,000 for Galicia, the following additional appropriations have been made: \$150,000 for Palestine sent to the Zionist Relief Commission; \$250,000 for Poland; \$50,000 for General Relief in Lithuania, and \$50,000 for relief in Roumania.

The Committee announces its willingness to again accept individual remittances for transmission to Lithuania.

THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee of the National Conference of Jewish Charities, which met in New York City on November 10th, emphasized the increased development that the Conference is experiencing out of the removal of its headquarters to New York City.

The Committee officially endorsed the proposed plan for the amalgamation into a central research bureau, of the Research Department of the National Conference of Jewish Charities, the Bureau of Philanthropic Research, and the Bureau of Statistics of the American Jewish Committee.

Mr. Butzel, Max Senior and Boris Bogen were appointed a committee of three to co-ordinate the work of the various committees of the Conference and arrange for the program of the Conference meeting next Spring. Dr. Lee K. Frankel was appointed a committee of one on Insurance for Jewish Social Workers.

Mr. Max Senior was appointed a committee of one on Constitution and By-Laws.

The question as to the time and place of the next Conference meeting was discussed and it was pointed out that the National Conference of Social Work is

to meet at Atlantic City from June 1st to 8th. At the Kansas City meeting, the National Conference of Jewish Charities voted that its 1919 meeting should be held preceding the meeting of the National Conference of Social Work and at the same city. It was provided, however, that this matter should be subject to referendum, and for this reason the Executive Committee voted to refer the matter to the voting membership of the Conference for decision.

The long desired change of name of "Jewish Charities" was then considered, and it was suggested that, along with changing the name of the publication, the name of the Conference also be changed. Among the new titles suggested were National Conference on Jewish Social Service, National Conference on Jewish Communal Work, and National Conference on Jewish Community Service, with the name of "Jewish Charities" changed to Jewish Social Service, Jewish Communal Work or Jewish Community Service. It was voted to leave this matter also to the decision of the voting membership of the Conference.

By unanimous vote, Louis H. Levin was made a member of the Executive Committee of the National Conference.

POST-WAR TRANSIENTS

With the urgency of war problems and the centering of attention upon them, the problem of the transient applicant for relief was almost forgotten. And when someone suddenly happened to remember that the dependent transient had once been a serious problem in Jewish social agencies, it was discovered that this was no longer the case. The registration of transient applicants at the Central Registration Bureau had fallen almost to the zero point. It was decided that this could be due to one of three causes; either the agencies were neglecting to register their transient applicants, the transient applicant, as a problem, had ceased to exist, or the Great War had caused a temporary suspension in travel. Inquiry was promptly instituted, and the solutions of the problem, as offered by some fifty or sixty registering agencies, were illuminating. They indicated that no one thing could be pointed out as the reason for the suspended registration, but that it was due almost entirely to a combination of the three causes mentioned above.

Almost unanimously the opinion was expressed that there had been a tremendous falling off in the number of transients, because of war conditions. The drafting into the national army of large numbers of men, the drafting into industry of another large group, the marvelous opportunities for employment offered in every part of the country, and the realization that "lack of work" could not safely be offered as a reason for perambulations, resulted in a great decrease in the number of transients, so much so that if these conditions continued, the problem might be considered at an end for good and all. But it is evident that these conditions are more or less transient themselves. With the release of men from the service, with their return to industry and the consequent dropping of less efficient, recently employed men, one may logically expect that many will once more take to the road. And with this prospect in view, it is well that Jewish social agencies do not cease to look to this question. Moreover, one may expect that the war will furnish a new basis for travel to a number of Jewish transients; the well-known utilization of former wars and other catastrophes as a topic on which to hang a tale of tribulation on the part of the applicant seems ample evidence that the same use will be made of present conditions. This, as well as other obvious elements that might cause an increase in the extent and difficulty of the problem makes it imperative that everything that can be done to help in its solution must be taken advantage of.

In this connection, a situation deserving serious consideration is that reported by numerous agencies in all parts of the country—that unaffiliated relief agencies, unfederated, and operated on more or less out-of-date lines, agency. Transients aware of this fact naturally cease to apply to the affiliated are known to give relief and funds to transients refused by the organized organization, and so, although no registrations are reported, the transient problem is in a fair way to return to its former extent. The danger of such conditions is obvious, and steps should be taken to avert it. The way has been pointed out by two of the affiliated organizations, who have invited the unfederated local agency to join the Central Registration Bureau, a definite step in the direction of gradually standardizing the treatment on the part of these agencies. As a real reconstruction activity, the securing of the more or less indiscriminate relief-giving agencies as part of the Conference work is a definite task of the local constituent society.

Another reason given for the falling off of the registration was failure to register applicants at the Central Bureau. The causes for this failure

were many and varied. Here, the applications had been so few as to be considered "not worth registering." Here they were not registered because the worker believed the registration a useless formality, "since no reports are given as to whether the applicant is deserving." Here the worker neglected to register the cases because the registration slips had given out. Here the agency had forgotten all about the Central Registration. And here the worker writes in that she doesn't see the use of registering, since the entire registration is not complete.

It is an encouraging experience to turn to those agencies that are continuing, in spite of the excitement and diversions of war activities, to register regularly with the Central Registration Bureau. They comment on the opportunity to gradually develop a national program of work in this connection; they are hopeful over the possibilities of using the registration system as a basis for a real national transient exchange, where actual service in the way of reporting on the treatment recommended for the applicant, might be secured. A recent example of how this might develop was in the case of Wilmington, Del., where two transient applicants gave New York references; the Field Bureau verified these references and reported back to the agency. Registering organizations realize, however, that in order to establish a national service of this kind, a system of complete registration must be secured, and that it is only through the understanding co-operation of the Jewish social service agencies of the entire country that this might be done.

Post-war handling of the transient problem, therefore, emphasizes two active needs—complete registration on the part of registering agencies, and the bringing into the Registration Bureau of all local Jewish relief agencies.

EXCERPTS FROM REPORTS.

The Year Book (1918-1919) of the Federated Jewish Charities of Buffalo, N. Y., emphasizes the necessity for the Federation being the single collecting and distributing agency for all Jewish social activities of Buffalo. In spite of the large demands made upon the Jewish community for various war funds, Liberty Loans, and other war activities, and despite the liberal manner in which these demands were met, the Federation succeeded in securing, during the past year, larger subscriptions than ever before, totaling \$30,461.10.

The President's message, in urging further expansion and extension of the activities and scope of the federation, quotes the experience of other communities, pointing out that in comparison, Buffalo has still a large task ahead of it. A list of the subjects which he pre-

sents for the consideration of the organization, indicates the thoroughly modern manner in which the Federation is undertaking its task. These recommendations include:

1. A Jewish survey with a view to increasing the number of subscribers to the Federated Jewish Charities.
2. The federation of all Jewish philanthropic and charitable activities.
3. Private housing of orphans or children whose parents cannot take care of them.
4. Paying out of the treasury a certain amount to National Institutions instead of by individual contributions.
5. A mass meeting of all subscribers.
6. The subject of authorizing outside institutions to take up collections in Buffalo.
7. A home for young girls.

Additional recommendations pertaining to improvements in the facilities and methods of the federation, indicate the same high standards of efficiency and co-ordination.

AMALGAMATION

The advisability of establishing a central national Jewish social service bureau has been particularly emphasized by the demands of the war and the realization of reconstruction needs. Plans for the development of such a service have centered around a definite step—that of amalgamating into one central bureau of research the New York Bureau of Philanthropic Research, the Bureau of Statistics of the American Jewish Committee and the research department of the Field Bureau of the National Conference of Jewish Charities. The tremendous possibilities inherent in this plan of amalgamation have fired the enthusiasm of those interested in the work of the three agencies to such an extent, that the long dreamed Central Bureau of Research seems now in a fair way towards realization. The matter is being discussed by Jewish social workers and Board Members, and the development of this national service seems now a matter of a short time.

At a meeting of social workers at the home of Felix Warburg a short time ago, the subject was thoroughly discussed and the consensus of opinion expressed in favor of the plan. Among those speaking in favor of amalgamation were Cyrus Sulzberger, Felix Warburg, Jacob Billikopf, Lee K. Frankel, I. Edwin Goldwasser, Boris D. Bogen and Ludwig Bernstein.

SUGGESTIONS FOR AMALGAMATION.

The proposed plan resolves itself into three main divisions, a Central Bureau of Research, a School for Jewish Social Workers, and a Central Bureau of Publications.

With the merging of the three research bureaus now in existence, two of which have already voted to amalgamate, it will be possible to centralize and focus the best research skill and standards in the country, utilizing the facilities of all three agencies, and offering to Jewish communities the highest type of service in survey, statistical or other

activities of a research nature. The planning of national Jewish social service programs, the evaluation of the value and efficiency of various activities and the establishment of community studies would be part of the work of this Central Bureau.

One of the interesting possibilities of amalgamation is the establishment of a national school for Jewish Social Workers, the faculty of which would be made up of the experts in the various specific fields of work, and the student body of which would be recruited from communities throughout the country. The necessity and desirability of this development is questioned on various grounds, among them the fact that established schools for this purpose are offering training opportunities which are not being utilized. Here the question as to whether the establishment of a new agency is necessary comes into evidence.

In the discussion of the developments from amalgamation it was suggested that a central publication bureau might be established, which would have charge of the publication of the official organ, or organs, of the various national Jewish social activities. Here again arises the question as to the necessity for the initiation of this new activity, and whether it is possible to effectively present, through a single medium, the varied phases of activity.

PRESENT STATUS OF AMALGAMATION.

That there is room for intensive co-ordination and consolidation in the national field of Jewish social service is little doubted. Social workers consider it a problem that is for them to adjust, a question of technique for whose solution they are responsible. The problem is a vital one in Jewish social work, and a real effort is being made by the social workers to get together on this matter and, out of diverging opinions and dissenting views, build a sound structure of efficient relationship throughout the field.

THE NEW SOCIAL ORDER IN AMERICA—A REVIEW

Last Spring, at Kansas City, Professor Kallen told the assembled Jewish social workers that their big job, as social workers in this war, was the bringing to their people of sound, vital thinking on the new social order. And another of America's younger thinkers has put into a clear practical study outline, the method by which the political and social ideals for which we are striving might be studied and brought fairly and thoroughly before us. "The New Social Order in America"* outlines a study and discussion program for individuals or groups earnestly desiring "to get at the bottom of this thing." In a brief introductory note, the author describes the manner in which the syllabus could be best utilized, as the guiding outline for a discussion course, preferably for groups of eight to twelve people, through which interchange of views, background and information could be developed. The syllabus is divided into ten large sections, each dealing with a specific topic for discussion, reading and study. Each section states its subject matter, questions that arise, arguments for and against the ideas presented, topics suggested for original thought and discussion and a list of suggested readings. This arrangement makes possible as intensive or as abbreviated treatment of each division as may be desirable, for study groups, literary or debating clubs, settlement groups, political science clubs, social service classes or informal gatherings.

The first division presents the Basic Principles of Social Justice, as generally agreed upon by various and opposing groups, such as the British Labor Party, The National Association of Manufacturers and similar elements. The second section outlines discussion on "How far does America fall short of Social Justice," on the basis of the principles laid down in the first section. The third division presents for discussion one of the "Conservative Remedies for Misery—Economy and Efficiency," which also includes the subject of intemperance. The questions for discussion in this section deal with various proposed remedies, such as thrift and temperance, family limitation, more effective utilization of national resources, conservation of human resources, scientific management of industries, and abolition of war.

The fourth section presents another "Conservative Remedy"—Social Insurance. Wage and Price Bargaining are the subjects of the fifth section.

The sixth division outlines the discussion on the topic of "Taxation as a means towards Social Justice," the various types of taxation involved being the Income Tax, Single Tax, and progressive Inheritance Taxes.

"Public Ownership of Land and Capital" is presented for study in the seventh section, while the eighth presents Industrial Democracy represented in Syndicalism, and Guild Socialism.

The ninth section presents topics for discussion of the war materials for the new social order, along the lines of social insurance, housing, education, recreation, regular employment, wage and price adjustment, health protection, efficiency and economy, taxation, government ownership, industrial democracy, and the Peace Settlement.

The tenth section emphasizes the problem that faces every citizen—"What can I do to help social justice in America?" The two methods of progress, revolution and evolution are impartially contrasted, and the way pointed to "work with evolution." The necessity for informed public sentiment and enlightened opinion are presented, and it is pointed out that "every person who is earnestly discussing social problems is helping to build the future."

"The characteristics of sound public opinion building are:

A. Impartiality—it should not be controlled by any economic class or interest.
B. Decentralization—each point of view should be worked out with the greatest freedom. The organization of propaganda should be for the purpose of stimulating, not controlling, thought.

C. Facts should take the place of theories as far as possible.

D. Broader and broader areas of agreement should be created.

E. Leaders of thought should be reached. To convince tens of labor leaders, editors, preachers, employers or legislators, is worth convincing hundreds of second-hand thinkers."

The final outline is on the question of whether one should try to work for social progress through one of the old parties, through the Socialist, or the new National Party.

The just manner in which both sides of each question are outlined, the well-organized, unified method by which the discussion proceeds and the evident sincerity with which the subject matter is presented bid fair to make this little contribution just what its creator desired it to be—a genuine thought producer for the new social order.

* The New Social Order in America: A Study Syllabus. Copies may be secured from Hornell Hart, 807 Neave Building, Cincinnati. (15 cents each, eight for one dollar.)

REGISTRATION FOR JEWISH SOCIAL WORKERS

The Committee on Social Workers' Registration has submitted a tentative registration sheet for Jewish Social Workers, which, it is hoped, will mean a great advance in the direction of standardizing and professionalizing social service. The information secured on these sheets is to be of permanent and basic value, and should eventually be of great help in developing a larger program of activity and efficiency for the Jewish Social Workers' Exchange, as well as tending towards the standardization of terms of employment, both for the worker and for the employing agency.

It should be particularly noted and kept in mind that the filling out of such a registration sheet is entirely voluntary on the part of the worker, who is at liberty to fill out as much or as little as he or she may desire. However, as a real service to social service in general, to Jewish social workers, and to the development of the profession, all Jewish social workers are urged to give this matter close attention, and do their bit.

Regular registration is to begin on January 1st. Those who are desirous of getting in their registration beforehand, are invited to send for their registration blanks.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF JEWISH CHARITIES, BUREAU OF REGISTRATION.

I. INTRODUCTORY DATA OF A PERSONAL NATURE:

1. Full name of registrant (family name first):
2. Date of registration:
3. Single or married?
4. Age of registrant:
5. Where born (town and country):
6. If not born in America, at what age did you come to this country:
7. Are you in good health?
8. Do you suffer from any physical defects or handicaps?
9. Are you orthodox or reform in your religious convictions?
10. Of what literary, civic and Jewish Organizations are you a member?
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.

II. PRESENT AND PAST EXPERIENCE IN SOCIAL WORK:

1. Full name of present organization in which you are employed:
2. Address of same:
3. Name of Superintendent or head worker of same:
4. Title of your position held; salary received:
5. Length of service with above organization:
6. Unless head worker or assistant head worker, state in detail the duties of your position:
7. State the last three positions held by you: (Name and address of organization; title of position held; salary received; length of service in each):
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
8. State positions held in religious, educational and community work not included above:
 - a.
 - b.

III. EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS:

1. State number of years of attendance at high school (give name of school and date of graduation):
2. State number of years of attendance at college (name of college and date of graduation):
3. State number of years of attendance at industrial or technical or special school (give name of school, date of graduation and degree):
4. If you have not attended any school of the types above mentioned, state what other education you have had:

IV. PROFESSIONAL TRAINING:

1. Were you a regular or a special student in a school of philanthropy: If a special student, mention courses you pursued:
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
2. If you have done graduate work in sociology, mention university of attendance, courses and names of professors under whom you studied:
3. If you have done graduate work in any subject bearing upon your present position, mention institution, dates of attendance, courses, special diplomas or certificates received, etc.:
4. If you have taken any special courses in Jewish philanthropy, state details in full, giving names and dates:
5. Do you attend your State Conference of Charities and are you a delegate to the National Conference of Social Work? (State details.)
6. State whether you have acted as Chairman or Member of any Committee in connection with these Conferences of Charities: (Give details.)
7. Mention titles of any papers read by you at any one of these conferences of Charities. Give dates, if possible.
8. Mention titles of any articles that you may have written for any magazine bearing on the subject of social work (state name of publication):

9. If you have published any books, mention title and name of publisher:
10. Mention the professional organizations of which you are a member. What office, if any, you have held in them:

V. SPECIAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

1. Do you know Yiddish?
 - a. Speak it fluently?
 - b. Can you write Yiddish with ease?
 - c. Do you understand spoken Yiddish?
2. Do you know Hebrew?
 - a. Can you read and translate it?
 - b. Are you a student of the Talmud?
 - c. Can you understand spoken Hebrew?
 - d. Can you speak Hebrew?
3. State other languages that you master (both in speaking and writing):
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
 - d. _____
4. State other languages that you understand but do not speak fluently or handle with ease in writing:
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
 - d. _____
5. Have you an interest in athletics?
6. Have you had experience in playground work?
7. Have you an interest in music?
 - Can you sing?
 - Can you play an instrument? (State which.)

8. Can you assist in publicity or journalistic work?
9. Have you any dramatic talent?
10. Have you the qualifications of a scout master?
11. Have you ever acted as big brother or sister?
12. Have you had any experience as vocational counsellor?
13. Can you assist in library work?
14. State any special attainments you possess not included above:

VI. AVAILABILITY FOR EXECUTIVE POSITIONS IN SOCIAL WORK:

1. What experience have you had in educational supervision and direction?
2. What experience have you had in business or financial enterprises?
3. What executive position have you held in any other occupation?
4. To what executive position do you aspire?

SUPPLEMENTARY SHEET TO BE ATTACHED TO REGISTRATION SHEET BY REGISTRANT:

(Add here any information that you desire to furnish to Bureau about your qualifications, not asked for or not already answered):

AMERICANIZATION—A REVIEW

The Department of Immigrant Aid of the Council of Jewish Women has just issued a "Study in Literary Americanization Program," which presents a comprehensive plan for Americanization work among the foreign population. Starting with the definition of Americanization as "a mutual giving and taking of contributions from both newer and older Americans in the interest of the common weal," the study emphasizes the fact that people who do not read and write English or are totally illiterate cannot intelligently share in the development of the democratic ideal. Literacy, therefore, is the fundamental unifying force.

Acting upon this assumption, the department has made an investigation of the facilities for increasing literacy in America, and presents the fact that there is a startling lack of such facilities. For this reason the Council of Jewish Women has undertaken the task of increasing literacy among the immigrant women and working girls.

Foreign born mothers in congested districts were found to be so overburdened with heavy home duties and overwhelming family cares that not even one per cent were attending night school, while the percentage of totally illiterate was usually found to be between 35 and 50 per cent, and the illiteracy in English was considerably greater.

The reasons for non-attendance at existing classes on the part of the working girl are given as follows:

- A. Long working hours and "speeding up" and overtime work.
- B. Physical fatigue after a full day's work, even when speeding up and overtime work do not exist.
- C. Worker's necessity of helping with housework after factory hours, and of sewing and laundering for herself at night.
- D. Normal need for wholesome recreation and fresh air to be secured only after the day's work.
- E. Eye fatigue due to eye strain in many occupations.
- F. Natural discouragement over slow progress in night schools where classes are usually ungraded and which are continuously open to newcomers of both sexes and of varying ages and varying degrees of previous education.
- G. Physical discomfort of class-room equipment often designed for young children and not for adults.
- H. Poor teaching conditions and standards.

The outline of work proposed by the Department of Immigrant Aid includes:

- A. Small group homogeneous classes for mothers in tenements and neighborhood centers.
- B. Small group homogeneous evening classes for girls.
- C. Classes in the factories conducted during and not after working hours.

CURRENT TOPICS

The National office of the Y. M. H. A. and Kindred Associations has received notice of the organization of a Y. M. H. A. in France among the Jewish soldiers of the 26th division. These young men held religious services on the various Jewish holidays; sometimes these were held in small synagogues in rest villages and sometimes in dugouts at the actual front. The members of this Y. M. H. A. endeavored to establish as much contact with each other as possible, when their units were divided.

Approximately 16,000 members of Y. M. H. A.'s in the United States are now in service.

The Children's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor has announced a "back-to-school" drive, the object of which is stated in the President's words: "That no child may have less opportunity for education because of the war." The actual work of the drive will be done through the Child Conservation Section of the Council of National Defense, which is organized into state, county and city units. In each school community, committees are being formed whose first duty will be to study child labor and school attendance laws, after which they will secure lists of children who have not returned to school. The next task will be that of establishing contacts with the children and their families, urging them to have the children return to school, making financial adjustments (through scholarships, etc.), where the reason for the child's entering industry was that of economic necessity, and explaining why it is important, not only to the child, but to the country, that he be well prepared for work before attempting it. The Red Cross has announced that it will help to keep in

school those children who have a brother or father in the service.

Congress has allotted one million dollars to be divided pro rata among the States, the money to be used by them in combating the spread of venereal diseases. Under the regulations, all states accepting their quota must, in accordance with State laws, require the reporting of all cases of venereal diseases to the local health authorities and where no such state laws exist, the State Boards of Health in those localities, co-operating with the United States Public Health Service, are expected to put into effect regulations that will have the force of law. The Official United States Bulletin reports that the first case of violation of this requirement, which is resulting in the prosecution of a physician for failure to report, foreshadows the prosecution throughout the country, of medical men who do not comply with state regulations.

An evidence of fine spirit of co-operation and mutual interest and helpfulness in Jewish social service is found in the response of Syracuse, N. Y., to the telegram from the Field Bureau, urging that medical assistance (doctors and nurses) be sent to Boston, where the situation was extremely serious. Mr. Benjamin Stolz, president of the Federation, writes that he was able to send one doctor and two nurses. "It was rather hard to do anything here, because we have a camp here at Syracuse and had quite an epidemic of our own; a great many of our nurses had been stricken and several of them have died. Our hospitals have impressed volunteers into service; women who have never had any experience have gone there and helped as much as they could. Our doctors too, were overworked, and a great many of them are sick, and I thought it rather fortunate that I was able to get one to go. I was glad to render whatever help I could, and to furnish the doctor and nurses available."

The Jewish Consumptive Relief Society at Denver reports that for the period between October 5th and October 22nd (the time of greatest prevalence of the epidemic), not a single case of influenza had occurred in the Sanatorium.

From all parts of the country come reports that the War Relief drive for Jewish War Sufferers is well on its way to success. North Dakota has raised a subscription of \$60,000 as compared to its last year's contribution of \$12,222. In West Virginia, which last year raised \$20,000, a subscription of over \$200,000 was secured. In North Carolina \$145,000 was raised, and Mississippi subscribed \$100,000. Among the states now planning drives are Louisiana, Alabama, Tennessee, South Carolina, Florida, South Dakota, Arizona and California. Campaigns will be held simultaneously on December 8th in New York, San Francisco, Chicago and New Orleans in a final effort to go over the top with \$15,000,000 in 1918 for the Jewish war sufferers, which is the goal that Jacob Bilikopf is striving for.

The Committee on War Problems of the National Conference of Jewish Charities is now to be known as the Committee on Reconstruction, and is to have charge of that phase of the program at the Conference meeting next Spring.

The National Farm School reports a year of unusual activity during which not only was assistance given to the government in the production of plentiful crops, but the idea of improved methods of education was uppermost. New methods of instruction were introduced, and new problems in agriculture arising out of the war were utilized in the instruction program.

About 200 girls of the Jewish Association House, Des Moines, Ia., recently formed themselves into companies of thirty, as an auxiliary to the Jewish Welfare Board, for the purpose of doing various war work. The girls have been supplying the Base Hospital at Camp Dodge and the reconstruction hospital at Fort Des Moines with hos-

pital bags, wash cloths, knitted blankets, magazines, records, joke pads, candy, etc. During the recent quarantine, the girls filled 500 boxes of goodies and cigarettes for the men confined to the camp.

In Cincinnati, Ohio, Jewish Social Service entered upon a new departure when the United Jewish Charities of Cincinnati, the Jewish Home for the Aged and Infirm, the Jewish Hospital and the American Jewish Relief Committee were made a part of the Cincinnati War Chest for 1919, which is to raise a total of \$4,250,000 for the United War Work agencies, six other national relief agencies, seven local war funds, and sixty local social service organizations.

The Baltimore Evening Sun, on Monday, October 28th, contained an illuminating discussion of the "Lesson of the 'Flu,'" by Dr. H. J. Moss, superintendent of the Hebrew Hospital and chairman of the Health Committee of the Conference. The epidemic has demonstrated two important community needs, according to Dr. Moss, firstly, popular knowledge about the fundamental principles and laws of hygiene, and secondly, a wider co-operative relationship between the city's Health Department and the various health agencies of the city. To help meet the first need he advocates a "health conservation campaign, inaugurated at certain periods of the year with a general thorough cleaning of streets, alleys, houses and yards," and to meet the second need he suggests "organization of representatives of every civic, health and religious institution in close co-operation with the Board of Health, working and planning for the common good."

Philip Seman announces that classes in Russian are about to be established at the Chicago Hebrew Institute.

Out-of-town members attending the Executive Committee meeting of the National Conference of Jewish Charities were Fred M. Butzel, Detroit; Max Herzberg, Philadelphia; Sidney Pritz and Max Senior, of Cincinnati.

GROWING INTO THE COMMUNITY

By WILLIAM M. BLATT, Boston, Mass.

Boston is making satisfactory progress along the true line of modern philanthropy, which, put into the form of a paradox, may be called the art of not giving alms to beggars. The social center is the incarnation of that art, for it



The Centre is weaving itself into the fabric of Community life.

aims to encourage dependence upon self instead of dependence upon others. The social center is not a social settlement and not a relief station, but that and something more. The relief of the destitute entails the constant vision of suffering, the medical and criminal relief have their own depressing features, but the social center work is stimulating to the worker and the workee and even to the worked.

We have seven districts directed from five Centers, with a house in each of the Centers. The houses, though still new enough to smell of fresh paint, are already important features of the local moral landscape. They operate according to the well-established principles of groups, health activities, music, drama

and domestic assistance with an additional element—the Jewish spirit.

One of the features of the Jewish spirit is the absence of religious propaganda. The social settlement idea, which from the outset consciously avoided proselyting, is peculiarly congenial to Jewish philanthropic activity. And even though our social centers are avowedly Jewish, the religious element is reduced to little more than a recognition of the foundation as a common moral, and historical basis of building up the modern educational and social ideal. It is therefore possible to work in complete co-operation with non-Jewish movement for the civic welfare. Indeed, a start in that direction has already been made.

Of course, a Jewish tinge, intentional, and for that matter unavoidable, may be detected in almost every detail, and



A veritable miracle in service of this type was developed.

that tinge is believed to be enough to appeal to the guests of the Center, to attract them and to keep their Jewishness from degeneration into indifference or aversion or from being electro-plated into something else.

The Centers are in charge of chair-

men and vice-chairmen, most of them men whose lives are filled and busy, but who find time to do their personal bit for the future citizen. Two are doctors with large practices, one the head of the advertising department of a leading newspaper, one the proprietor of a large department store, one a lawyer who is also the right kind of a politician, one a local banker, some are small salaried clerks. Hardly any are the dilettantes who play at philanthropy and

nurses in response to telegrams. Nurses were instructed, canteen service organized and food distributed. One hundred and nineteen persons volunteered for the work, mostly from the immediate neighborhood. The houses were open day and night. The epidemic has now passed, but the work of the Jewish Welfare Centers is still remembered and appreciated.

All in all, the social center is proving itself to be a fine instrument for the



Chicken broth and beef stew to the extent of 1283 quarts was prepared.

find their chief reward in being classed with the "sweet and lovely group."

Obviously it is difficult to recount the specific achievements of this sort of a movement. The results are too subtle for tabulation. They are expressed, if at all, in terms of character, for which there are no statistics. Nevertheless, as an indication of efficiency, it is interesting to note that during the five weeks of the influenza epidemic in Boston, the Jewish Welfare Houses were organized, practically over night, by the Executive Director and Supervisor into first aid stations. Nine cities sent doctors and

Jewish view of philanthropy. In its insistence upon the self respect of the individual, in its intellectual appeal, in its democratic form, in its patriotic background, it is so characteristic of Jewish ideals that it almost seems like a Jewish invention. Perhaps it is. What about the Temple at Jerusalem? Wasn't that a sort of a community welfare house? Didn't they have debates, music, pageants, lectures, health activities, domestic supervision? Of course they did. Wasn't the Sanhedrim the local committee? Certainly. I thought we could figure it out.

PERSONALS

H. Joseph Hyman, superintendent of the Federated Jewish Charities of Columbus, Ohio, has resigned in order to join the staff of the Jewish Welfare Board, and is at present stationed in Washington. Mr. Paul Karger is serving in his place at the Federation.

Miss Leah Kolker, for the past three years visiting nurse of the Jewish Educational and Charitable Association of St. Louis, has resigned her position in order to take up Red Cross service.

Oscar Leonard was chairman of the Fourth District Instruction Board in connection with the Registration Service.

Miss Lena Alliston, R. N., has accepted the position of superintendent of the Miriam Convalescent Home in St. Louis. She was formerly head of the Social Service Department of the City Hospital there.

Mr. Isidor Kadis has resigned as superintendent of the Jewish Educational League of Toledo, Ohio, in order to accept the position of superintendent of the Federated Jewish Charities of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Mr. Kadis secured his social service training in Cincinnati, with intensive practical service in the United Jewish Charities and the Jewish Settlement in that city. He then took up communal work in Savannah, Georgia, from which he was called by the Toledo organization. In Toledo he accomplished especially fine results in connection with Americanization work and only recently was appointed by the Toledo Chamber of Commerce to draw up an Americanization program for the city. Although especially experienced in communal work, his background and training will assuredly bring him success in this latest step, his first actual entry into the relief field.

Miss Elizabeth Suchman has recently been appointed as Associate Director of the Jewish Educational Alliance, of Baltimore, Md.

The sympathy of Jewish social workers the country over goes out to Philip Bookstaber (Cincinnati) in the death of his wife, Grace, who was a victim of the Spanish Influenza.

Jacob Billikopf, who was one of the seven members of Dr. John R. Mott's cabinet, which had charge of conducting the United War Work Campaign, spent a busy month, flying from one state to another, mobilizing the forces that were to do American Jewry's share in bringing the fund over the top.

Mrs. Sam Weinstock, Superintendent of the Federated Jewish Charities of Des Moines, was a member of the Executive Council of the Women's Division of the United War Work Campaign, representing the Jewish Welfare Board.

Judge Harry M. Fisher was re-elected as judge of the Municipal Court in Chicago. A notable feature of the campaign was the appearance in the public press of a statement signed by the leading social workers of Chicago, urging Judge Fisher's election.

Mrs. Amelia Morgenroth has been put in charge of the Dramatic and Festival Department of the Jewish Center in New York City.

Miss Ray Perlman (Baltimore) has accepted a position with the Jewish Welfare Board.

Mr. Sol. Witkewitz is now with the Chicago Hebrew Institute, as teacher of the Art and Clay Modeling classes.

Mrs. M. R. Vilkomirson has accepted the position of matron at the Denver Sheltering Home for Jewish Children.

The position of swimming instructor at the Chicago Hebrew Institute has been accepted by Mr. A. L. Fox.

In Memoriam



Twenty years ago, when Jewish social service was in its early stages of development and there was little relationship between the religious life of the Jewish communities and their practical social service problems, Moses J. Gries became a pioneer in the field of social service in the synagogue. To him, religion found expression in human service and the congregation was the unit for communal inspiration; the Temple must stimulate and further social service and the actual service should give outlet for the vital social energies of real religion. As Rabbi of the Tiferth Israel congregation in Cleveland, he expressed this ideal in the promotion of numerous social movements, among them the creation of the community center known as the Council Educational Alliance; every Jewish social activity could count upon his earnest and devoted support, and as synagogues throughout the country opened their doors to social endeavor, he became a social service, as well as a religious leader.

Rabbi Gries was born in Newark, N. J., on January 25th, 1868. He was admitted to the Hebrew Union College at the age of eleven, and attended the University of Cincinnati while pursuing his theological studies. Following his graduation he was called to Chattanooga, Tenn., and after a period of two years as Rabbi of the Chattanooga congregation, he was called to Cleveland to assume the spiritual leadership of the Temple, where he succeeded Dr. Aaron Hahn as rabbi. The congregation at the time had a membership of 125. It had not then the imposing structure that now stands as a monument to the pastorate of Rabbi Gries. One year later the new Temple was built, and there for twenty-four years the Rabbi served his people. On September 28th, 1916, he announced his intention of retiring from the ministry after twenty-five years active service.

He was a pioneer of the open temple, which included such secular activities as the well-known Temple course. In all of his activities Rabbi Gries emphasized his keen appreciation of professional social service, working side by side with the social workers. He was the forerunner of a new type of Rabbi, and he brought to the social worker a new vision and a new understanding. It is in his social endeavors that Jewish social workers throughout the country knew him and loved him and, now that death has taken him from them, cherish his memory as a precious heritage.

OUR CONTEMPORARIES

The October number of the Conference Bulletin of the National Conference of Social Work emphasizes the progress being made in the various states in securing new members. An editorial entitled "Day Dreams," points out the increased importance of the Conference in the light of the experiences of the war, and presents the problems that now engage the attention of the Conference, instead of the problems formerly centered upon. "Typical issues of the past—state supervision, the 'merit system' in appointment of public officials, co-operation between private charities, special institutional treatment of the heterogeneous population of almshouses—have been superseded by other problems that call for intelligent analysis and wide-spread propaganda. Nowadays we are striving to build up professional standards and spirit among a greatly increased and diversified corps of public officials; to apply case work technique to all problems involving the treatment of individuals; to determine the most effective relationships of communities—from neighborhood to nation—to specific tasks of social work; to apply modern methods of research in a re-examination into the causes of poverty, defect and crime."

The enormous increase of child labor, due to the war, emphasizes the necessity of preventive legal measures on the one hand and, on the other, of efforts to persuade the child to remain in school. The Survey for October 26th reports on the situation as it now stands. A recent investigation by the Children's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor indicates that in Wilmington, Del., for example, 61 per cent more children than last year have taken out working permits. From Massachusetts

reports have come of thousands of children leaving school—in some localities twice as many as in normal times. In this connection the Survey reports on the favorable action of the Committee on Labor of the House of Representatives, in reporting on the Keating federal child labor law, which aims to have Congress, through its "war power," render effective for six months after the end of the war, the standards of the former federal child labor law recently declared unconstitutional by the United States Supreme Court. The issue of the Survey for November 2nd, reports on the announcement by the Children's Bureau of the Department of Labor, of a back-to-school drive, as described elsewhere in this issue of Jewish Charities.

The American Jewish Chronicle, with its issue of November 2nd, appears as a monthly instead of a weekly publication, and will continue to do so until conditions obtaining in the printing and publishing industry are improved.

The Sentinel, the official organ of the Jewish Welfare Board, blossoms forth in its November issue into a full-fledged magazine, with attractive poster cover-design and vitally interesting material, well arranged. As a special War Work Campaign Number, it contains matter particularly relating to the national war work campaign, vivid descriptions of the work being carried on, reports on the work "over there," a page of appealing drawings from Camp Upton, human interest documents sent by welfare workers overseas, and entertaining stories of camp life. An encouraging indication of the J. W. B.'s intention to continue the high quality of its publication is evident in the appeal for stories, photographs, anecdotes and other material concerning camp life, for the December issue, which is to be a special camp number. The Sentinel bids fair to be a real connecting link between those at home and their boys in camp.

The Joint Distribution Committee reports that requests for assistance from relatives in America have been received from the following list of individuals in Warsaw, and have been unanswered because the addresses of the American relatives were incorrect.

Inquirers in Warsaw.	Incorrect American Address.
Chudes Agzenstark	Mr. Eisenstark, 11 Pitt St., New York City.
Gedalia Blufstein	Max Bluestein, 632 Wales St., Bronx, N. Y.
Chaim Berstemann	M. Brodacz, 266 Prime St., New York City.
Rosa Baumel	Emanuel Moitelka, 192½ Greene St., New York City.
Berek Brajtman	S. Brajtman, 46-48 Avenue B, New York City.
Chaim Berger	Max Berger, 119 Broome St., New York City.
Sch. Borenstein	M. Borenstein, 115 East 104th St., New York City.
Balbina and Hela Brams.....	Sam Brams, 55 East 95th St., New York City.
Fagga Cygle	Sam Sigler, 27 East 3rd Street, New York City.
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