

Settlement Bulletin

ISSUED NINE TIMES A YEAR IN THE INTEREST OF THE SOCIAL SETTLEMENT

Vol. I. No. 4.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., MAY 15, 1906.

ONE CENT.



THE SOCIAL SETTLEMENT AND SUNSHINE ASSEMBLY ROOM

ACQUIRE HOPE, ALL YE THAT ENTER HERE.

"What, took her bag and left a note!" It surely is discouraging. Where are the maids of yesteryear? And if you listen to the word of the little brighteyed, winged Hope, listen very carefully and you'll hear the faint but clear and encouraging answer: "They'll be here to-morrow." What authority has the cheery little god for making such a statement?

"Come with me. It is Wednesday and I can show you something which I know will interest you."

"Yes, we do have to wait sometime for a car but fortunately we need not catch a train as some of the people who are waiting for the same car hope to do."

"Yes, here it comes: Joseph Avenue. We'll get off at Baden Street and go to the Settlement where I want you to see the classes in kitchen gardening which are held to-day."

The children assemble in the large airy hall and are ready to learn how to be first-class housekeepers, dainty waitresses, good cooks and practical dirt eradicators. The teachers come armed with cheerfulness and peculiar omniscience in the work

that they are to direct and soon everybody is learning.

See the miniature bedroom, established on a table. The children are learning to make the bed. It looks like play but it's really very-serious when you have to learn that sheets have wide and narrow hem for certain purposes which you must remember and even if pillows do seem to fit the bed better when they stand on end you must not make them suffer for it. But here, you're tired! Let's refresh ourselves with dinner which I see is being served by the dining-room class.

Well, this is a happy family! Father, mother, sister, brother, auntie and cousin all sitting around the table waiting for the meat and potatoes. How nicely the table is set. "Yes, thanks, we'll be very glad to take a bite with you." We sit down. Presently, at the request of the mother the little maid brings in a platter on which I am told there is a nice, juicy roasted chicken. This is put down in front of mother (teacher), who slicing the air asks each member of the family for her preference and as the maid then brings in a vegetable dish she helps each one to some good mashed potatoes. There

is a bread dish on the table and sister serves the apple sauce while each one helps herself to pickles, being very careful not to reach across the table and to ask for everything with the usual formula. Good humor is satiating and soon this course is taken from the table, crumbs are swept away and as the day is brother's birthday, the maid is told to bring in the ice cream and cake. Imagination runs riot perhaps and yet there is much to be digested. We carefully fold our napkins in the creases of yesterday (last week), the maid puts away all the dishes and folds the table cloth and under cover so that we are ready for another maid and meal. Notice too, that mother insists that her family should know the why and wherefore of everything on the table. This sometimes demands a history of animal life or a dissertation on the use of forks or abuse of knives; but it helps do away with some of the seeming arbitrariness of table etiquette."

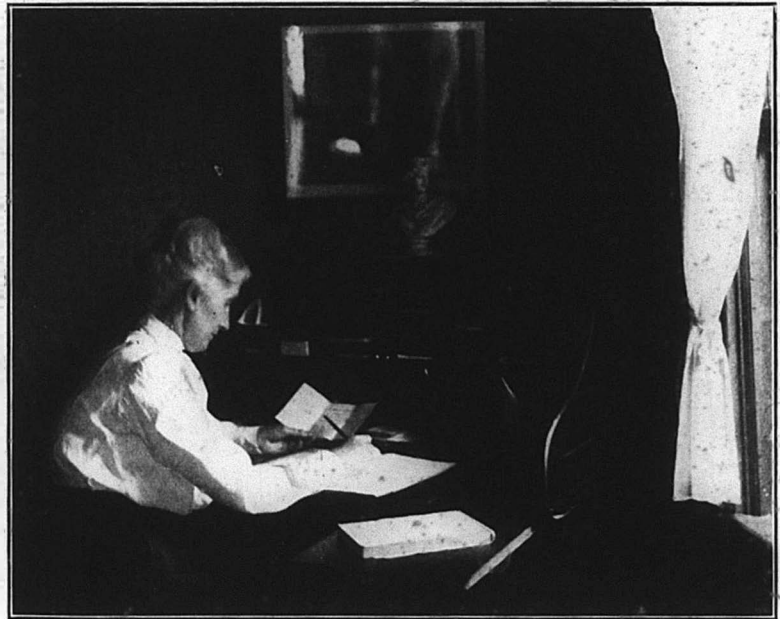
"See over there they're darning stockings and there they are making sewing-boxes. In the kitchen downstairs they are cooking. But come away now it's late. I'll bring you again next week."



MRS. J. L. GARSON

Mrs. J. L. Garson has been president of the Social Settlement during the five years of its existence. Any detailed account of her work would be a history of the institution itself, with every side of which she has been so closely associated and whose present success can undoubtedly to a large degree be attributed to her ever patient and intelligent devotion.

The Social Settlement has been unfortunate in many ways but the greatest good fortune that has fallen to its lot was the co-operation from the very inception of its



MRS. SARA VANCE STEWART, HEAD WORKER

work of Mrs. Sarah Vance Stewart. Coming to the new undertaking with several years experience along similar lines of work she was well fitted to fill the position of head resident worker, the most important as well as the most difficult of all settlement positions, requiring infinite tact, patience and self-abnegation. All these qualities Mrs. Stewart was able to bring to

her work, but it has been by means of a greater that her chief measure of success has been gained—that of inspiring the love of all associated with her. She has made her influence for good felt primarily by this one quality, through which she has become a veritable "Fairy God-mother" throughout the Settlement's sphere of influence.



A CORNER OF THE RECEPTION ROOM

Settlement Bulletin

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Vol. I. May 15, 1906. No. 4.

Editorial.

An anniversary number should, according to custom, have a history, description, etc. of the institution whose birthday is being celebrated. The Bulletin, however, does not feel itself justified in printing such material owing to the fact that very recently in its first issue this ground was covered in more or less detail.

The most satisfactory birthday present for the Settlement would be the acquisition of new workers.

If you have ideas on any phase of Settlement work that you think might do more good out than in your head, the Bulletin would like to get ahold of them.

It is greatly to be regretted that the supply of towels is not sufficient to allow all the boys to enjoy a cool bath during these hot summer days. A few additional towels could be much appreciated.

A picture recently taken of the Sunshine Assembly Room, though, it is regretted, not sufficiently clear to allow of publication in the BULLETIN, showed one fact very clearly. There were seated some thirty or forty small girls just out of school, and a half dozen or more teachers all busily engaged in pursuing the elusive hem or button-hole stitch in complete ignorance or at any rate indifference to the fact that every one of the dozen windows was as closely shut as any draft fearing crank could wish! On being questioned as to this state of affairs, one of the teachers exclaimed indignantly: "Why you wouldn't have us sit in a draft!" Ever so much rather, my dear lady. It is a case of a most decided evil (impure air) versus a most doubtful one (a draft).

"The fear of fresh air except in very moderate and well warmed doses, is a relic of mediocrity just as is the fear of pure water. We are trying to show our boys and girls that water is really one of dear old Mother Nature's chiefest blessings, that to be clean is second only in importance to being good. To this end exist the Settlement's excellent bathing facilities. Let us not, in our crusade against uncleanness emphasize the minor and forget the major form. The need of the body for outward cleanliness is imperative; but it is as nothing compared with its need for inward; for a constant and ample supply of germ-destroying, life-giving oxygen. If we can have pure air without that chimera "drafts" let us have it, but with or without drafts we must insist on having it. Let us keep before us that great Trinity—Clean minds, clean lungs, clean skins.

A FEW NOTES on the NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CHARITIES AND CORRECTIONS.

The National Conference of Charities and Correction does not meet at The Hague, but it speaks peace more surely than all the fine conventions held there under the auspices of the sovereigns and rulers of the great nations; it does not preach love, but it sets forth the results of the practice of love and justice to one's fellowmen, which is of deep significance and far-reaching consequence.

From all parts of this country, and from some centers in Canada, men and women gathered in Philadelphia, the place of meeting, May 9-16, to consider and discuss the problems of the needy, the neglected, the delinquent members of society, to interchange experience in methods of work; to become wiser in the application of principles of relief.

The National Conference of Jewish Charities, which meets every two years, was held in Philadelphia three days before the National Conference of Charities and Corrections; delegates to the former had therefore the privilege of attending sessions of both conventions.

The Jews of this country have taken care of their own poor so many years, that they have become experts in the treatment of some problems with which their neighbors are still struggling. Co-operation has been found indispensable to the success of their work, especially in the handling of the large number of immigrants who, owing to the persecution in Russia and its Provinces, have lately swarmed to these shores, and of whom more than twenty-two thousand (22,000) have been transferred by the Industrial Removal Office, from New York to various parts of the United States and Canada.

Miss Rose Sommerfeld, of the Clara De Hirsch Home for girls, in New York, read a very interesting paper on working girls homes. She spoke of their great need in all cities, and the ability to make them self-supporting. Substantial proof of this was given in data gathered from several cities where such homes are in successful operation.

We visited a very attractive Settlement maintained by the Jewish residents of Philadelphia in a crowded Jewish district. A crèche takes care of the babies and young children of working mothers during the day. Some of the infants were sleeping in snowy cribs, while older children, outside in a court, were playing in a sand pile. The millinery department displayed some stunning spring hats, and the walls of the library and reception hall were covered with splendid pictures—drawing in crayon, oil, charcoal and water colors—the work of an art class composed of boys (under the leadership of a young man), who have made such remarkable success in their application of this art to industry, that many of them are now earning very high wages.

The two programs treated about the same class of subjects, that of the National Conference of Charities and Corrections being ampler, and more varied, as it concerned a greater body of people.

In order to facilitate business there were special sessions almost every morning and afternoon before the general conference began. These were held in some of the smaller rooms of the same building, and were attended by members interested in that particular work. Very often these meetings were so crowded that it was necessary to transfer them to the larger hall, especially was this the case when the subject touched upon work for children. This proved to be the most absorbing topic brought before the convention, and unusual space was given to it upon the program. Distribution of Relief to Needy Families, Working Girls Homes, Immigration, Co-ordination of Charities, the Tuberculosis Problem, Orphan Asylum versus Homes of Adoption, Truants and Delinquents, Juvenile Courts, Probation Work, Street Trades for Boys, all followed the regular order of the calendar, but by far the greatest interest centered upon the work of the Juvenile Courts in their relation to the truant and delinquent child.

Judge Mack of the Juvenile Court of Chicago, and President of the Jewish Conference, was one of the favorite speakers at both conventions. In the course of one of his addresses on Juvenile Courts, he deplored the necessity of sending young boys and girls to institutions for reform. The parole system, which places a child under the supervision of a friendly visitor has already proven a great help in restoring him to his normal relation with school and his family. This system should be extended so that every child requiring it may have the help of some special friend and advisor during his time of probation. This friendship should include the family, and may often be the means of overcoming causes which have led to the delinquency of the child.

"Not palliative, but preventative work is the dominant note in modern philanthropy" said Edward T. Divine, and interest is now centered in studying conditions which underlie these social problems. It may be that the Public Schools are not doing what they could for this class of children.

Some of the manual training and industrial work which has been found so effective in reform schools might be introduced in the regular schools with just as wholesome results. This has become one of the leading question of the day and we shall hear more about it in our own State Conference, which will be held in this city next November.



A GROUP OF THURSDAY HELPERS

MUSINGS.

It is good to live in a land where speech is free and the repressive influence of a censor is not known; where every person may be informed about matters of public importance, and has the right to express an opinion. The cause of education goes hand-in-hand with that of free public speech; and the Americans are an enlightened and progressive people because here, more than in any other country, the general public is brought into direct contact with the news of the world and the educating influence of literature, the drama, the lecture hall and the institutions of learning. Because of this democratic environment most Americans feel privileged to have a voice and to exercise an influence in the public affairs among which they live and some even feel that it is their duty to exercise that privilege. Recent developments in great public institutions have brought home to us the fact that we have neglected to exercise such privileges and duties, and we are now in the midst of a periodical outburst of public introspection. We are rapidly nearing a proper realization of the fact that affairs of state and the public service should receive the attention of all citizens equally with those of the individual household or business.

People are now grouped in great centers of civilization, and living assumes a different aspect than it did in ancient times when families lived isolated and

self-centered, forced to be self-dependent and self-governing. We all realize that the ordinary conduct of business now compels us to barter and exchange, to serve many with our commodity and to seek the things which we need at the hands of many others. As we apply this idea to our own business affairs, so must we also apply it to our social and political relations. Most things in modern life are governed by exchange. The old adage, "Nothing venture, nothing have", applies to a man's business, and we can not receive social benefits unless we exchange. The stream will not rise higher than its source, and a government usually reflects that which is good or bad in the majority of its constituents. If the government be defective it is only because many citizens to whom we might look for better things, do not take that broad, public interest which attends civic duty. We cannot hope to derive benefit from a society to which we bring only a sickly, blasé interest or no interest at all.

As the exigencies of modern living have made it necessary that we form associations for matters of business and political benefit, so has organization become a necessity in the social world; and, next to our own family circle, we find in the Settlement movement a social training school and clearing house. Our work and interest should not, however, be confined to the Settlement house. The same good motives and resolves which are carried into that house should be taken also

into the days work and into our civic relations. The development of Settlement spirit is the first and most important step towards ideal citizenship. If a thing is worth having it is worth working for. Materially successful people are now commonly asserting that the joy of living is not so much in the possession of good things as in striving for them, and that character is determined, not by the laurels which we wear, but by the manner in which we win them by the wayside. The progress of the world has not been aided or affected by neutral men, however well-behaved such may be. Better one who is troublesome, who has ideas for progress, even though they may be ill-founded than the easy-going individual who never has an idea of any kind. Existence in sleep is neither life nor the fulfillment of duty, and we can feel with Edmund Burke when he says: "He that sleeps at his post is guilty of treason equally with him that goes over to the enemy."

△

Gladness of woods, skies, waters,
all in one,
And Bobolink has come,
And like the soul
Of the sweet season vocal in a bird,
Gurgles in ecstasies
We know not what
Save June! dear June!
Now God be praised for June!

—J.R.L.

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The Thursday evening Boys' Club will hold its annual outing and field day at Maplewood Park on Saturday afternoon June the sixteenth. This occasion always arouses the greatest enthusiasm among the boys and has been looked forward to for some time. The events are many and varied including high jump, hundred yard dash, sack race, shot put, fifty yard hurdle, potato race, and three-legged race. The winners in the prizes awarded in the above contests are not permitted to enter the consolation races. Later in the afternoon refreshments will be served.

If there are any among BULLETIN readers who take special pleasure in seeing other people enjoy themselves, we would suggest that they come out to Maplewood Park on the afternoon of this event.

DONATIONS.

Miss Sayre Seldon, sewing material, crochet hooks; Mrs. Van Veen, 2 pairs shoes; Mrs. Schreiner, clothing, books, magazines; Mrs. M. A. Stern, clothing, books; Mrs. Goldwater, magazines; Mrs. J. F. Garson and Mrs. Abram Katz, 1 bunch bananas; Mrs. W. J. Hecht, clothing, books, pictures; Mrs. J. L. Garson, books, magazines; Mrs. J. M. Ingersoll, 13 library books; Mrs. S. Sloman, 9 library books; Mrs. J. M. Wile, 3 pairs shoes; Mrs. M. Van Bergh, suit of clothes, hats; Mrs. I. A. Baum, 2 plaques; Miss Fannie Benjamin, clothing, curtains; Mrs. F. J. French, children's clothing; Mrs. J. L. Garson, rubber plant; A few friends, Cutter desk.

SCHEDULE OF WORK.**May-June.**

Neighborhood Work—Every day.
Neighborhood Baths—Every day except Sunday—Women, Children.
Neighborhood Baths—Wednesday, Thursday evenings—Boys.
Kindergarten—Every morning except Saturday and Sunday.

P. M. MONDAY.

4.00 to 5.15 Eleven Embroidery Classes.
7.30 " 9.15 Shirtwaist and Garment Class.
7.30 " 9.15 Foreigners' Club.
7.30 " 9.30 Clothing Sale.

P. M. TUESDAY.

4.00 to 5.15 Nine Crocheting Classes.
4.00 " 5.15 Circulating Library.
7.30 " 10.30 Dancing Club.

P. M. WEDNESDAY.

4.00 to 5.15 Darning, Mending, Story Classes.
4.00 " 5.15 Bead Work, Sewing.
4.00 " 5.15 Housekeeping, Kitchen Garden.
7.00 " 9.00 Willing Workers, Boys' Club.
7.00 " 9.00 Circulating Library (Boys).
8.00 " 9.30 Basketry Class.

P. M. THURSDAY.

4.00 to 5.15 Twelve Sewing Classes.
4.00 " 5.15 Penny Provident Bank.
7.30 " 9.30 Social Settlement Guards, Boys' Club.
7.30 " 9.30 Circulating Library (Boys).

P. M. FRIDAY.

4.00 to 5.15 Sewing.
4.00 " 5.15 Picture Class.
4.00 " 5.15 Basketry Class.
8.00 " 9.30 Lecture Entertainment.
8.00 " 9.30 German Class.

P. M. SATURDAY.

2.00 to 3.00 Physical Culture Class.
2.00 " 3.00 Elocution.
3.00 " 4.00 First Dancing Class.
4.00 " 5.00 Second Dancing Class.
8.00 " 10.00 Sunshine Club.
8.00 " 10.00 Shakespeare Club.

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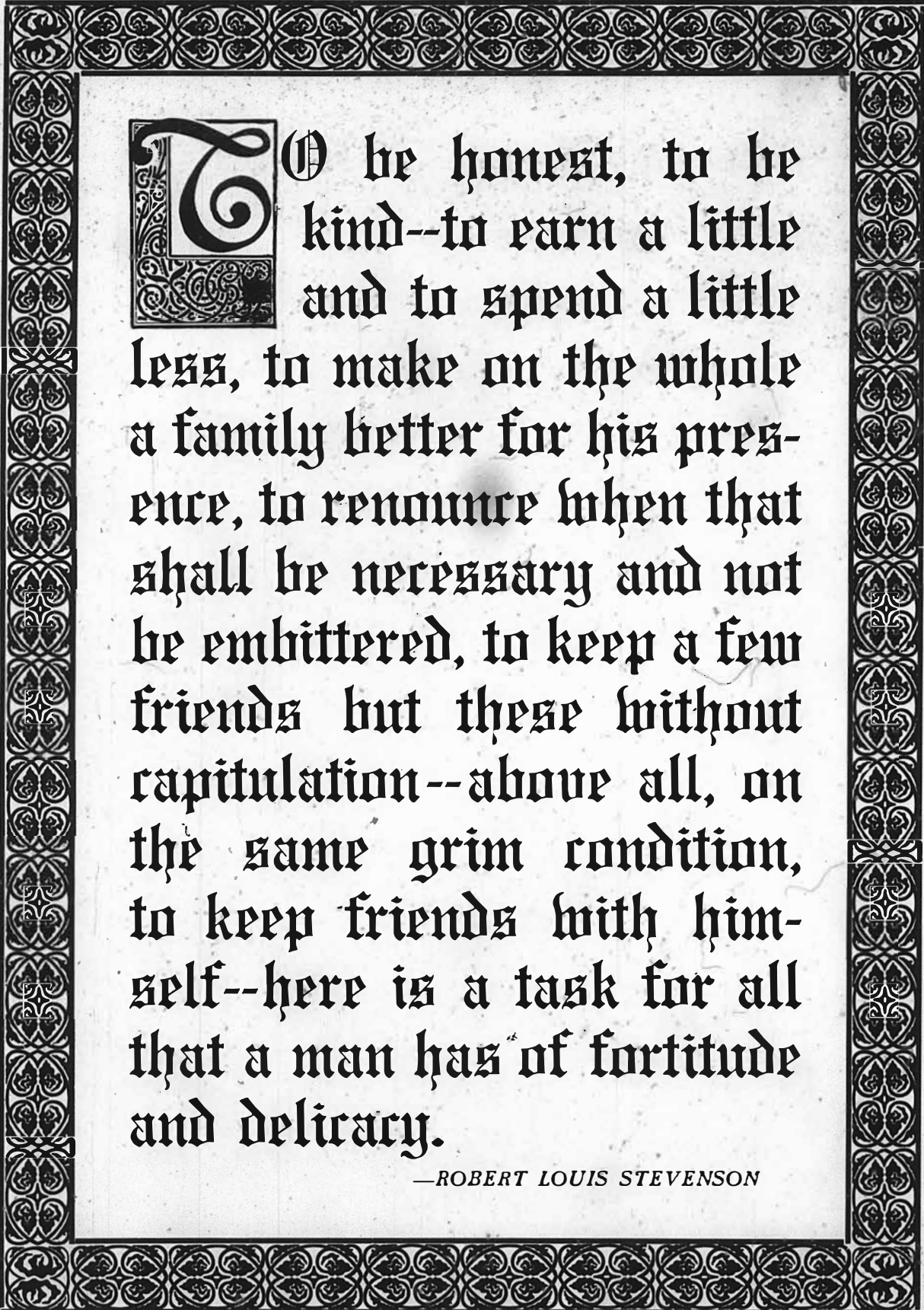
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Be honest, to be kind--to earn a little and to spend a little less, to make on the whole a family better for his presence, to renounce when that shall be necessary and not be embittered, to keep a few friends but these without capitulation--above all, 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