

Settlement Bulletin



VOL. II.

JUNE , 1908.

NO. 4.

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Settlement Bulletin

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

Vol. 11.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., JUNE, 1908.

No. 4.



FOLK DANCES.

We old residents have a great deal for which to thank our new neighbors from across seas, just as they have a lot of useful inventions, unknown in the old countries, for which to thank us. If left to ourselves we fall into such a mechanical way of life: buying ready-made what we need, consigning all manufacture to the great factories, and even allowing our dancing, which should be the freest expression of ourselves, to become conventionalized into a simple circling process. There may be a tradition of home-spun garments and beautiful hand-made articles, of minuets and schottisches danced many years ago, among our grandmothers and great-aunts, but it is only a tradition. But you come from lands where lace-making is a regular industry! If you will only continue it here you don't know how we will value your products. And when you learned to dance, it was one of the graceful, varied folk-dances that em-

bodied the very life of your country; it will enrich the life of ours so if your accomplishment is only not allowed to pass unheeded here.

We are the newest of countries; an agglomeration without a historical past, except in the history of its various elements. So we have no national historical dance, but must learn and construct from the national dances of the peoples we are drawn from.

Every primitive people finds expression for its emotions, personal and tribal, in dancing. Love of rhythm is the most rudimentary musical taste since a division of sounds or motions into rhythmic groups must be naturally pleasant to biped, two-armed creatures like ourselves, who move always to some kind of rhythm willy-nilly. As the tribes change and develop into nations the dancing assumes the national character. It is still spontaneous dancing, in which the whole body is active, and in which the accent is marked by clapping or stamping, following the natural rhythmic impulses. It

is still to the accompaniment of simple and lively music. But the folk-dances have become more intricate than the old primitive dances, as the people have developed and become more complex. Perhaps the music has assumed a weird mournful tone as it has in the oppressed and divided country of Poland; and then the dancing does not have the gay, luxurious freedom of movement of the dances of Spain and Italy for example. The Swiss dances have the character of a mountain people, the German a slower, heavier motion.

It is among the granddaughters of the older nations that we can most easily revive the national dances here. It is a great treat when these grandchildren will put on the quaint peasant costumes and go through the graceful swings and turns that recall their mothers' girlhood. We have no beautiful national dance in America, but if we preserve carefully those that are brought to us, who knows but we may someday evolve one.

Settlement Bulletin

Issued nine times a year in the interest
of the Social Settlement of

ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

SUBSCRIPTION

Annually (Postage Paid) .25

TELEPHONES.

Printer, 35 Social Settlement, 3316
152 Baden Street.

Vol. II. June, 1908. No. 4.

Editorial

The piano recital given by Mr. Frank Deane on the eighteenth of May was one of the most interesting in a series of social events that have been taking place at the Andrews School this year. Since the formal opening of the Assembly Hall last fall, almost every week has seen some pleasant social occasion within its doors. Everyone of the gatherings has represented a different interest, a different group from our neighborhood, and each group has felt itself drawn closer in better understanding to the school to which we have entrusted the education of our children.

The first meeting was of the Alumni Association of the School. Most of us are alumni of something and we know how we have its interests at heart and how much our interest means to that "something," whatever school or institute it may be. The next week occurred one of a projected series of men's meetings, to discuss neighborhood problems. The meeting of the Mothers' and Teachers' Club the week following, addressed by Dr. Goler on the subject of the physical side of school work, made a beginning of "open meetings" to which men and women, all who are interested in the subjects discussed, are invited. Then came the fair, for which so many of us in the neighborhood made articles to sell, in order to raise money for pictures for the decoration of our school. The fair was a great success as a "party" as well as financially, and it led to an Art Evening when the hall was open both afternoon and evening and many could enjoy the new pictures we had all helped to procure. These occasions have drawn us closer together and have brought the school with its answer to social demands, nearer to the Social Settlement, with its own peculiar response, until they seem really to be allied as the center and promoter of our social life.

The Piano Recital the evening of the eighteenth was interesting not only for the great pleasure of hearing Mr. Deane play, but especially from the fact that the performance was given under the auspices of the School Improvement

Association. In the intermissions, portions of the constitution of the Association were read and its aims explained to the audience by some of its members. The president of the society presided. It is an association of the pupils of the school for the purpose of keeping the school-rooms neat and in order, of maintaining quiet and of beautifying the surroundings of the school. These are the aims for which the association is striving. Think how much self-government the children will attain as they grow capable of really realizing these ends. They have made a beginning in their keeping of order and quiet, and the three little elms, planted on Arbor Day on three vacant spaces along Baden Street, are witness to their efforts toward beautifying the school's surroundings.

On Decoration Day the flag will be raised for the first time at the new Andrews School. The flag was raised over the old school at the time of the Civil War and it is hard for us to imagine the enthusiasm that such an occasion caused in those days of war-time. This is a flag of peace that we raise over the new building: of peace and freedom and prosperity for those who dwell in our land and those who come to it from a great distance. It is no less great a moment, this ceremony of our new era of school life, than was that former one, and we will all gather together to give it the dignity and the enthusiasm that it deserves. The big flag will be filled with hundreds of little flags that will shake from its folds into the hands of the children, as the flag is raised.

GROWTH—WHO WANTS IT.

Reader, sit still a minute and keep awake. I want to talk with you about a subject that some people think is dry and uninteresting, because it isn't among the curiosities or attractions exhibited at Glen Haven or Ontario Beach.

My subject is Education. It's the greatest and most important business in creation. Getting money or wearing fine clothes or killing time with mere fun can't hold a candle to it. Dear old Professor Mixer of our University died a few months ago. Among the good things he said—and he said many—is this: "Education is the complete symmetrical development of all the powers of our being, physical, intellectual and moral, with a view to our whole existence, time and eternity: for we belong to both and both alike are ours." We have three sides that need attention forever, body, mind and soul; and whoever develops one side only, or even two sides, is falling short of God's desires for his children, is robbing himself and the world, too.

So, then, let us go into the education business and stay there.

When is one's education finished? Never! Show me a person with a finished education and I'll show you a monstrosity. Even a fool can learn more. Much more a normal man or woman.

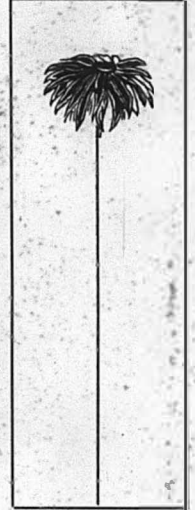
Is an education possible without attending College? It certainly is. Ask Lincoln. Can you acquire a good education and win real success without a College Education? Just as surely as every day begins a new year. Is it then time wasted for boys and girls to go to college? By no means. If they go there to learn and to grow, to develop power for use in life's work, then a college education is a great good, a vast help. If they go to college just to "sport" or to pass away the time, or just "to be in it," then it were better they had gone at once into life's serious labors.

Since many cannot go to college to be educated, the natural question arises, what can such a one do in order to acquire an excellent education?—for the thing is undoubtedly possible. Night school can help. Correspondence Schools may be of service. Study by the home lamp—that's the great thing. This is the day of books and papers—the day of print. This is the day of gymnasium and of outdoor living. No excuse for anybody who has a hunger for education and growth. Self education takes time and grit and strength of character. It requires self-sacrifice. The boy or girl after such an education must say "No" to multitudes of attractive things. Must do less gadding, less hanging on the corner; must do more thinking, more working, more giving up of things that don't count. It is easy to go down hill. It's hard to go up. It's easy to kill time. It's hard to make the best use of it—but it pays big interest!

Reader, are you hungry?—hungry for growth, development, education? Do you want to improve? Have you a longing for something more worth while than mere clothes or money or sport? Then there's hope for you. You have some good stuff in you. You are worth educating; and you can be well educated in spite of every obstacle. Just try it. Go to work at it today. Make the hours count. You needn't stop all fun, but stop some of it. Give an hour a day—better three—to the business of learning things worth while, of extending your vision, of developing the powers latent within you. You can do it, college or no college. The secret is, not only to begin, but to keep on for a long time, and to hope while you work, with your eyes set straight ahead toward a goal that you mean to reach. Reader, try it. It can be done.

A friend of yours,

ED. U. CATION.



THE SWAN BOATS AT SENECA PARK

VACATION SCHOOL AGAIN.

Everybody who lives near the Andrews School will be mighty glad to hear that the Vacation School will be open again this summer. Everybody felt it was such a success last time that we had it. There will be manual training, sewing classes for the girls, Mothers' clubs and sewing circles, gymnasium, dancing, and everything we like to learn to do when summer comes. The Social Settlement will have its school also. It opens the sixth of June. Between the two we should certainly all have a profitable and pleasant vacation.

OUR SUMMER HOME.

The summer home is found. There is a darling little farmhouse—not too little—set among green trees out on the Rochester & Eastern car line near the first station this side of Pittsford. It has seven rooms inside but outside—well, it has a brook and a well and lots of room for a garden and lots more to play in. From the back windows you can see the boats passing on the canal. It is quiet and peaceful and green and shady and cool. It is just what we want for our house-parties of children from our neighborhood.

My first is in red.
 My second in green.
 My third is in bed.
 My fourth in screen.
 My fifth you will find at the end of fall,
 My whole was opposed to the North,
 —that's all.

OPPORTUNISM.

It's all very well to be theorists about the distant future, because it is the nature of man to have to have a landmark to travel towards, and because distance can't suddenly pop up in front of you to prove you were all wrong. But theories are theories and are to be cherished as our private expectations of what is going to happen, and not to be allowed to interfere with our vision of what is really happening. We can't see our present pathway illumined clearly before us as we sometimes imagine our future to be. And so we have to stumble in darkness by the light of the best sense heaven has given us, and that is what is called opportunism.

Every time we discover a need in our neighborhood and unite together to get it supplied, that is opportunism. Every time we discover a need in our city or state or country and vote for the right man to bring things about, that's opportunism too: Every time we manage to send a child to school and keep him there, that is as above. Every time we discover an easier method or an easier division of our housework, that is the same likewise. Every time we show ourselves friendly, especially to the man on the other side of a question; everytime we show ourselves neighborly, that is—you know what. If the millenium ever comes it will be through opportunism.



THE CLOUD MOTHER.

The rain was the great cloud's children
 And she sent them down to the earth,
 Each drop with its touch of healing
 To cure the drought and the dearth.
 They fell and the brown earth blossomed;
 The glad leaves burst from their shrouds
 And the grip of the dry foe loosened
 For the soldier boys from the clouds.
 The rain was the great cloud's children,
 With their life the dead earth awoke
 But when all with their hopes, had left her
 The heart of the great cloud broke.

Business, thou plague and pleasure of my life,
 Thou charming mistress, thou vexatious wife;
 Thou enemy, thou friend, to joy to grief,
 Thou bring'st me all, and bring'st me no relief,
 Thou bitter, sweet, thou pleasing, teasing thing,
 Thou bee, that with thy honey wears a sting;
 Some respite, prithee do, yet do not give,
 I cannot live with thee, nor without thee live.
 Poor Richard's Almanac.

THE GAY GIRL OF GENEVIEVE.

I love a gay girl Genevieve,
 She can laugh like the dence in her sleeve,
 And the cause of her mirth
 Is the marvelous girth
 Of her funny-bone, so I believe.

GOOD TIMES.

The Sunshine Club went to the Newport House, Saturday the twenty-third, for their annual May walk. It was an ideal day for their outing.

Groups of children from the neighborhood went to the different parks on kite day, the twenty-third of May, and had a splendid time. There was music, singing, tree planting and a May-pole dance in one of the parks and it was a great day in all of them.

The kindergarten had a party Decoration day: ice cream and cake and candy, white dresses, dancing and singing, and a few guests to watch the fun.

Saturday afternoon May 9th and the following Monday evening the physical culture class, under the direction of Miss Phillips, gave an exhibition of folk dances in our hall. The dancers wore simple but becoming costumes which carried one over to the gay villages of Sweden and Denmark, and as they danced in splendid rhythm and with enthusiasm they looked like jolly damsels celebrating a festival.

The dances, especially the Swedish Singing game, the Russian dance and Danish Ring dance were very attractive and the little girls went through the intricate parts with grace, accuracy and evident pleasure. The children presented Miss Phillips with a bouquet of lovely carnations to show their appreciation of her patience and diligence in teaching them all winter.

The audience thoroughly enjoyed the exhibition and were sorry when it was over.

The Kindergarten walked hand in hand to Franklin Square, the only sunny morning in the past three weeks, and having arrived there it picked dandelions to its heart's content and enjoyed itself hugely. Subsequently it walked hand in hand back to "the Home" again and partook of the hearty repast that is customarily served there about 11 A. M. The occasion was a great success.

THE KIDDIES.

You think they're good as angels and they've rigged up some surprise That'll take you unsuspecting, never fear:

Then they stand as meek as lambskins, just watching you with eyes That giggle while you try to be severe.

They're mischievous and their naughty and you're only justly cross And you don't care if a couple of them cry,

But they come to you for comfort and you find you're at a loss

And you'll kiss one sure, however hard you try.

Oh they're wearying and wearing and you'll leave them for a while—

Then you spend your time in wishing you were back.

Here's to you little kiddies with your angel-impish smile.

At working grown-ups you're a cracker-jack!

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HE ways are green with
the gladdening sheen
Of the young year's
fairest daughter.

O, the shadows that fleet o'er
the springing wheat!

O, the magic of running
water!

The spirit of spring is in every-
thing,

The banners of spring are
streaming,

We march to a tune from the
fifes of June,

And life's a dream worth
dreaming.

—*W. E. Henley*