

Settlement Bulletin



VOL. II.

JANUARY, 1909.

NO. 8.

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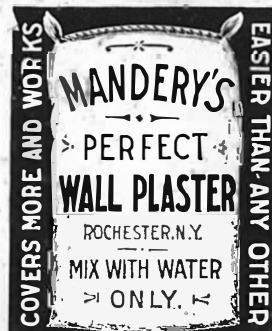
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Settlement Bulletin

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

Vol. II.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., JANUARY, 1909.

No. 8.



SETTLEMENT TRAINING

There are several ways in which a Settlement is a benefit to the community to which it belongs. The fundamental ways seem to us at once. It gives an opening for community feeling and also in consequence for neighborly feeling, and neighborly acts. It brings the community into touch with other communities, or rather the larger community, making opportunity for larger interests, larger friendships and a larger interchange of neighborly help.

These are the big underlying reasons for the Settlement's existence. But it is of benefit in lesser ways too. The training that the children receive there in various kinds of work is a matter of no little importance. Little girls are taught to

cook and sew at the Settlement at a much earlier age than they receive the same instruction anywhere else, yet none too young for them to feel great pride in their achievement and to put it to use in helping their mothers at home. Classes are drilled in housekeeping which points to clean, orderly homes in the future, as well as immediate lightening of the mothers' burden.

Then there is instruction in lines less essential but equally practical. Garment-making is especially valuable to the girls. Crocheting is an art that a girl would not be likely to pick up through the ordinary channels of education, yet that it can be a joy to herself and her friends is easy to perceive. Dancing as a recreation, an art and a means of self-expression has long been recognized even by the most

sober-minded.

All this practical study stands for more than the acquirement of useful knowledge—an important matter in itself. It means a training of hand and brain; a gain in dexterity and facility that makes it easier for all time to teach the hand new kinds of skill and to center the mind on concrete things. And the effect on character of work with the hands and of carrying out a purpose with stubborn and difficult matter is a large factor in the good results of the work.

Those who wish to judge for themselves what the manual training of a Settlement can do for its students should visit the house of some Settlement taught girl. The neatness and comfort that she can bring into her home would be a revelation to them.

Settlement Bulletin

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of the Social Settlement of*

ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

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Social Settlement, 3316
152 Baden Street.

Vol. 11. January, 1909. No. 8.

Editorial

A Happy New Year To All

We have another word to say about something we need very badly; and as this is the season when expressing one's desires seems to be the proper thing to do we hope that another plea for a Day Nursery won't be unbecoming.

All of us have heard of throat-ease, foot-ease and even heart's-ease and we should like to be the author of a new panacea, mother's-ease, for some mental pangs which are common to most mothers i. e. the feeling of anxiety unless they are with their children or are assured that they are well protected against the great allurements of the kitchen stove, matches and other dangerous toys.

Now all's well when the mother is in good health and needn't go out to work; but there are those unhappy times when the poor Mother, over-weary and perhaps under nourished, is an easy victim to some disease. The odds against her quick recovery are all too heavy in a room where there are more heirs than air, more noise than many a strong person would enjoy.

It is very easy for the doctor and friends if there are any, to say: "Go to the hospital!" How can she go away and leave her children, those who are too young to go to school? Her mind cannot be at ease and she refuses to go. Who can blame her?

We know of a case when despite her objections, the Mother was moved to the hospital and the children scattered, two in a kindergarten and the baby, carriage and all, was transported with its sister to school where it furnished more of a sensation in the class room than the renowned Mary's lamb! This is just one of many cases that could be cited where our new panacea, Mother's-ease would give untold comfort and relief.

It only remains for you, our friends, to mix the ingredients of this new remedy, furnish the brotherly and sisterly love, the sympathy, the energy and—the money.

"The god of fair beginning" smiles on all of us this month, for January is his special province. What we undertake will prosper, wherefore we must show ourselves worthy of this unusual favor. If we work complacently on in our well-worn ruts, content to follow methodically our old vision and our usual plans, then will the month of beginnings lose all its opportunity for us. We must look at our world with new eyes, seeing new chances for our energy everywhere, if we would taste its full flavor. The teacher will discover new possibilities in the pupil and use her ingenuity in new methods to develop them. The good citizen will open his eyes to new needs in the community and set about to fulfill them to the greatest common good. Some of the needs will not be so hard to find either. Now the need for a Day Nursery for instance— So let us all give great praise to the god of open chances.

THE NIGHT WIND.

The softening brightness of moonlight
Caresses the light-drifting snow;
The pine-trees stand straight and solemn
With their fathomless shadows below.
The sound of the wind in their branches
Sinks and swells on the silent air—
The sound of an endless sobbing
For a grief it can scarcely bear.
For the night-wind takes from each one
His burden of sadness away
And, laden itself with our sorrow,
Leaves us peace for another day.

GOOD TIMES.

On November twenty-ninth the afternoon classes had one of the nicest parties of the year. Mr. and Mrs. Present gave this party for the children and gave them each a pretty and attractive souvenir to take home, which pleased the girls very much indeed. There was a game of "Pin the Turkey's Head on," apropos of Thanksgiving, and the winners received carnations as prizes. Dancing and ice cream followed, as in all well-regulated parties, and they sang and played games until almost supper time.

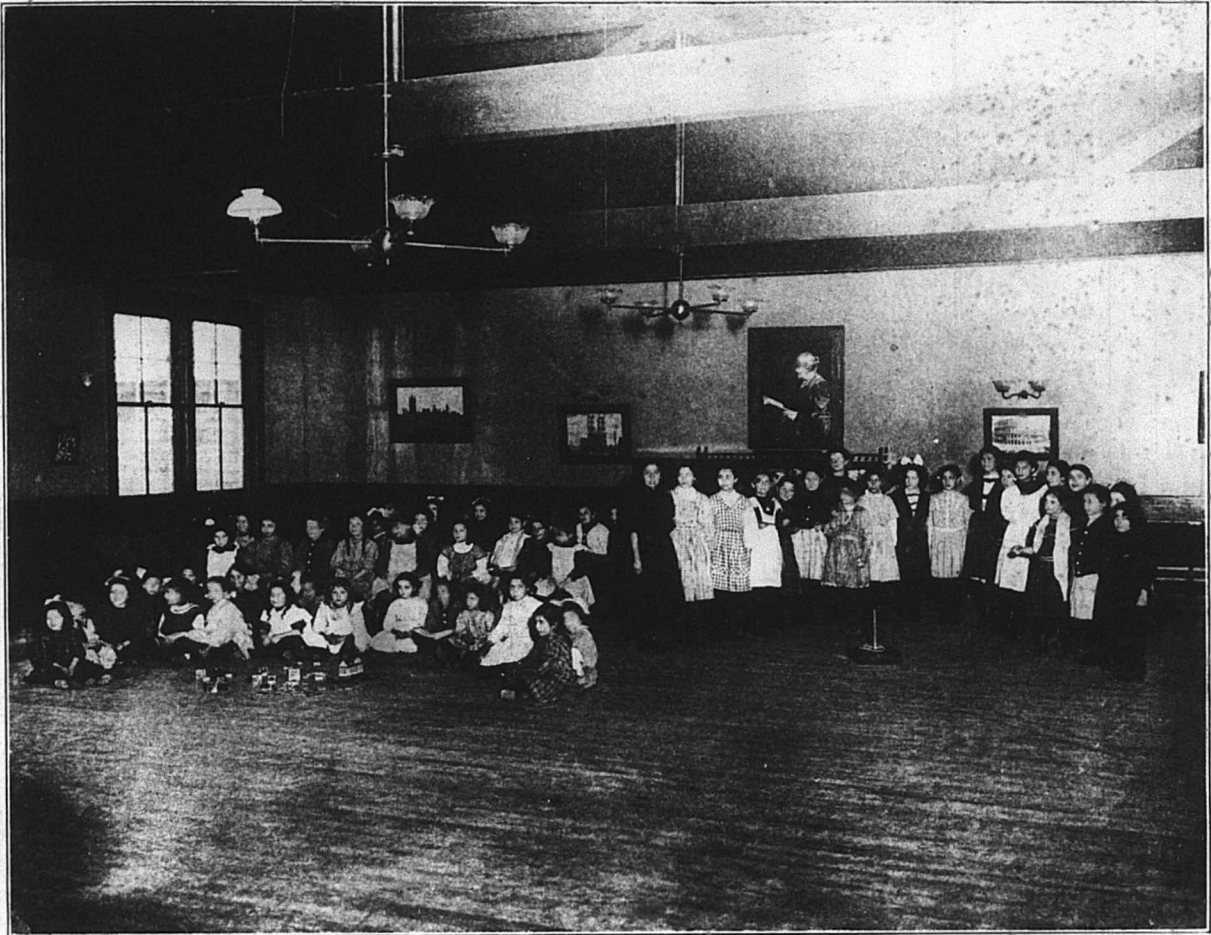
Several girls have organized themselves into a new club which will meet at the Settlement Saturday evenings. We will probably hear a great deal of their doings later but just now the club is not quite under way, and we can say little of its name or purpose.

Mrs. David Brickner gave the afternoon girls a very jolly time one Saturday in November. Games and dancing, candy, ice cream and cake all added to the fun and made it a great success.

Mrs. U. J. Hecht has planned that the girls shall have another good time some afternoon in Holiday week. No one knows just what will happen yet, but everyone knows it is sure to be something nice.

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A NEW PHASE OF GROWTH.

It is with great gratification that we note the first burst of pride on the part of the Italians of our city in showing what they can contribute to the religious, artistic life of the community.

In our American civilization we can boast of nothing in the way of national individuality which is so evident with marked variety in the foreigners who live here. If, instead of doing our best to crush this individuality, we should encourage it in every way, not only by our interest and patronage, but by furthering any scheme to perpetuate it in the children we should have in our make-up the greatest source of strength in our national life. I mean by that, that anything which contributes to the legitimate pleasures of the masses adds to their enjoyment and contentment and therefore contributes to the welfare of the nation.

The various national institutions of festivity all lend to the joys of life in New York City and should be spread over all the cities where foreigners live. More-

over, the children should be filled with a wholesome respect and love for these customs in order that they may take pride in them and perpetuate them.

Aside from the pleasure these old-country customs bring to those participating in them, is a cultural influence, i. e., eagerness to prove that they are capable of doing more than mere mechanical toil, and also a bringing together of new elements along the line of sentiment and joviality which are so sadly lacking in most Americans. Let us wave a bright green flag on the 17th of March; let us look with reverence at the Russian-Jewish family "bringing in" the Sabbath with prayers and candles; let us listen, if we can, to the Hungarian as he enthusiastically waves his accordion; let us get acquainted with the Italian who has laid aside his shovel long enough to sit through hours of grand opera, not because it's the fashionable thing to do, but because he loves it. In other words, let us allow the new-comer to give expression to the best there is in him, and by encouraging him let us absorb the qualities we need so badly. Let us grow.

WHAT A TEACHER SEES.

Have you ever seen that almost indefinable look of joy in the face of a boy or girl who watched you as you examined a finished article that had been made with his or her hands? It may have been a basket, a chair that had been cased, a book rack, a magazine holder, a woven rug or pillow. The meaning of such an accomplishment, which had proven in the young mind a new found ability, is something so worth while that every possible means for such development should be used.

A question asked by Judge Lindsay of Denver is just to the point, "If a certain kind of education—such as work with the hands in an industrial school—helps to prevent a recurrence of an act called criminal why not supply that kind of education in the first place?"

This shows one view of this many sided subject which is being felt and considered throughout this country and others.

NEW YEAR'S THOUGHTS.

I.

Let us remember that
 "Well begun is half done,
 Beginning is not ending,
 Great contentions ne'er were won
 By only wishing and intending."

II.

Let us not forget that
 "Who gives of himself feeds three."

III.

Remember that the strongest cables are
 made of the greatest number of fine fibres
 and each small part contributes strength
 by its relationship to the others. Do your
 share.

IV.

When coal is high
 And the days are cold,
 When the fire's low
 And your bones feel old
 A greeting warm for a friend or two
 Is good for the friend and not bad for
 you.

V.

Think about our new panacea (see Edi-
 torial) and ask yourself which one of the
 ingredients you can and will furnish.
 Perhaps you are the chemist who will
 do the mixing. Think it over!

VI.

"Resolved: That inasmuch as there is
 great demand for a comfortable, safe
 place for children under school age in the
 7th and 8th wards of our city, that the
 Directors of the Social Settlement equip
 and maintain a Day Nursery to meet this
 demand." Are you ready for the ques-
 tion?

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 Vice-President—Mrs. A. J. Katz.
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ward, and below
I count---as god of avenues and
gates---

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portals come and go.

I block the roads and drift the
fields with snow.

I chase the wild-fowl from
the frozen fen;

My frosts congeal the rivers in
their flow.

My fires light up the hearths
and hearts of men.

—*Longfellow*