# Settlement Bulletin



VOL. III.

JUNE, 1909.

NO. 4.

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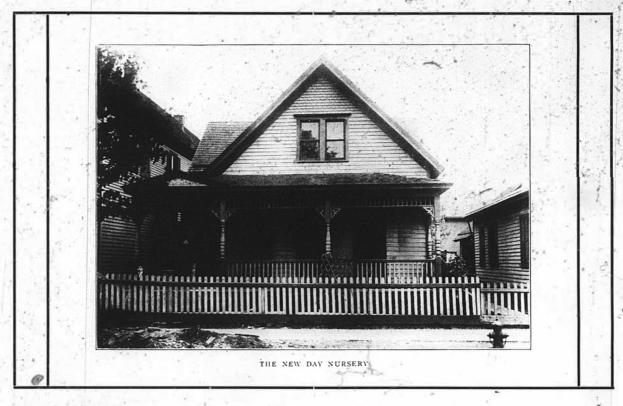
## Settlement Bulletin

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

Vol. III.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., JUNE, 1909.

No. 4.



#### THE HOUSEKEEPING CENTER

The Housekeeping Center is glad to receive greetings from its neighbor. The Social Sculement, in your invitation to write something about our work for your Bulletin. We are glad to accept the invitation, for it is a chance for us all to become better acquainted.

In the first place, we are very near you, only eight or ten minutes' walk "across lots" to North St., then Davis St., where our house is at No. 227.

We have not a large house like you, nor a hall, nor a day nursery, so we cannot do nearly as many things as you can. We do mainly one thing, and that is, teach and learn housework.

You see it is our firm belief that many homes are not as healthy and happy as they ought to be, partly because the mother and daughters do not understand how to keep house. To keep house well is an art, to be studied, and demanding constant progression like any other profession. You cannot expect every woman to know how to keep house by intuition any more than you can expect every man to know how to build a house by intuition. In each case the person must be taught. But it is a strange thing that most people expect women to know how to do housework by intuition.

In their rearing of children and doing of housework, women have the most difficult and most unportant work to do in the world; it is the work of home-making. Yet many women make no preparation for this most difficult and most important work in the world. Boys serve long apprenticeships to be carpenters and plumlers; they spend years learning law and medicine; girls work months to become milliners, and years to become school teachers:—but the art of homemaking, the profession of keepinghouse and rearing children, these greatest things

in the world, many women work at by guess and experimenting, not with the aid of scientific knowledge.

All of home-making is not house keeping. The home depends largely on the nother's tine spirit of love and her wisdom in managing her household affairs. But even her love cannot always overcome impleasantness in the family when she cannot manage wisely. If she feeds raw fried potatoes to her daughter who sits not exercising at her work in the factory, the girl will have indigestion and perhaps a had temper. Her little children must not only be washed and their hair brushed but must be fed nourishing food for breakfast or they cannot study well in school. Untaught mothers in their ignorance sometimes kill their babies through giving them the wrong food. If the mother wants her husband to stay away from the saloon, she must have a clean shining table, brighter than the

Continued on page 6

#### Settlement Rulletin

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

ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

SUBSCRIPTION Annually (Postage aid) TELEPHONES Social Settlement, 3316 Printer, 36 152 Baden Street. No. 4. Vol; III. June. 1909. Editorial

Anyone who has been accustomed, in visiting some big city, to stay on one of its crowded, noisy streets, and one day tries the experiment of making his temporary residence on the edge of one of the city squares, knows what a joy these open spaces can be. It is still the citywhich means so much to us with the town habit strong upon us, but it is a place to catch your breath, look at your surroundings with a fair perspective and listen to the throbbing life as a whole.

Just to pass through these green squares makes one's walk through town varied and tolerable. How much more it must mean to the people who live all the year around in the dingy, stuffy sections of the city! Notice sometime how the benches are filled with tired workers or would-be workers in Madison Square or in our own Franklin Square, if you would see for yourself how much these parks are

And the children with no back-yard of their own to play in love them. Every day May walks are taken here, and the babies, too little to go to the big parks on the edge of the city, will visit every day the little plots reserved among the houses and pavements for Spring to show itself in.

As the city grows or changes we hope that it will be laid out with an eve to increasing the number of these little squares. We hope that those we have will be increasingly open to public use, with the remoyal of the "keep-off-the-grass" sign where this is possible. Public money is never wasted that is spent on the things of common use-the public buildings, parks, boulevards, libraries, play-grounds and the public breathing spaces.

Thoughts of vacation are becoming more real every day. Vacation has so many-different meanings that it is hard to attempt to define it. But there is happiness in the anticipation, happiness in the realization and happiness in the after thoughts. The vacation plans for the summer at the Settlement are being anticipated "because last simmer it was so How our children love "The Home." There are to be classes in the morning in sewing, crocheting, garmentmaking, cooking and basketry, games and then every Eriday a whole beautiful day in one of the parks. The kindergarten children spend every morning out of doors, playing their games and cating their little lunch ont in our yard, and sometimes taking a walk to Franklin Square and back. The Vacation School at the Home will open the sixth of July. this year.

Too much cannot be said of what their visits to the country home did for the children last summer. The Vacation Honse had no advantages of lake air or a cool location last year, but just the week or more of outdoor life made a noticeable change in every child who hada chance to benefit by it. Children that had had a serious illness during the winter grew plump and strong again, for the first time since their recovery. All the pale, lengthening-out ones, who needed fresh air and country cooking to grow up on, began to straighten up and look chesty. It is hard to realize how much it meant to them unless you saw them before, during, and since their visits, but it was really wonderful-

Now if just the country could do all that, how much more country plus lake air and lake bathing could do. This has been a year of big undertakings for 152 Baden Street, but the more great things we undertake and the more alive we show ourselves to be, the more friends we will find to help us along. Just because we have initiated a new and splendid Branch of usefulness, we must not let our older branches wither up and fall away. To put the matter quite plainly, wouldn't it be fine if we could take a cottage at the lake through July and August. Perhaps it could not be on the Charlotte side because that is too crowded, and probably not too near Smmnerville because the water is not clean enough there. But a little further along would be ideal.

Some of the teachers would have to take turns at living at the cottage and having charge there, so as to show the children how to get the most possible out of their vacation time. It would be nice to have the mothers think that their children come back neater and sweeter in their ways than they went away. Then there must of course be a cook so that no one will have so large a share of house work as to spoil the fun. The house will be easy to find; once found, teachers will pop up everywhere only waiting to give their help. Doesn't it sound attractive?

Andrews School is open for the summer term from July 6 to August 13. Last year, in its first session, proof was truly evident of its success and usefulness. New plans are in progress for even a better and more helpful six weeks during this summer. The registration the first year was 529, with an average daily attendance of nearly 300. This is the largest of the three vacation schools in Rochester, and yet the capacity for giving instruction (i. e., the teaching force) is so limited that many eager children will have to be refused admission. Already over 500 boys and girls have applied. The names of those for whom there is not room will be kept on a waiting list to be looked up should a vacant seat be found.

The kitchen at the Day Nursery will be ready for the cooking classes in a few days. The Day Nursery will be open for the children in a few weeks. Think of

#### "SNOWWHITE"

On Saturday, May the twenty-ninth, the Friday afternoon girls gave a per-formance of the fairy play "Snowwhite", before an audience composed of their mothers and friends and friends of the Settlement. The program was as follows:

PRINCESS SNOWWHITE, Fanny Pokofsky PRINCE FLORIMEL, - - - Ida Levenson Bethrothed to her in childhood

THE QUEEN. - - Hattie Rabinowitz Snowwhite's stepmother

PIPPO / - - - Lillian Aronson Morsa The Dwarfs - Bella London Morsa --- - Esther Saks ZEPPA

SCENE:

The Dwaris' house in the woods.

The scene was a cosy little interior, very simply arranged, and the costumes were more brilliant than elaborate. Fanny were more brilliant than elaborate. Fanny Pokofsky made the little lost princess Snowwhite a very sweet and winning little girl. The portrayal of the wicked stepnother by Hattie Rabinowitz was strong and definite. As to the little dwarfs they kept their three funny little characters well differentiated: the motherly Pippo being quite distinct from the practical materialist Mopsa and the sentimental Zeppa. The Prince had a fine voice and was a splendid cavalier. All the girls did well and showed some little natural talent.

The cast had a picnic at the lake the day

following the play.



#### THE NEED AND VALUE OF THE PLAYGROUND

Jacob Riis has well said: "To play in the sunlight is a child's right and he is not to be cheated out of it." If this natural law, as it were, is to be fulfilled in the case of the child living in the crowded tenement of the congested section of our city, how is it to be done without our playgrounds.

Then too, quoting from Luther H. Gulick, "The playground alone affords to children the one great opportunity for cultivating those qualities that grow out of meeting others of like kind under conditions of freedom, it develops progressively from babyhood on, the sense of human relationships which is basal to wholesome living." From personal experience I-know this to be true, and here too, the child mingles with those above and below him in the so-called social scale and learns perhaps for the first time those feelings of brotherly love and ethical equality which are doing so much, times, and since they are never contented to uplift our civilization to-day.

the playground is of unmeasured value to craftia and basketry classes? Only re-

the child because it first, removes him from the temptations of the street, and gives to him an invaluable place where he is free to work off his surplus energy unmolested, and be quiet when he wills without being told to get out of the way.

Then the games themselves have a great influence in over-coming race prejudices and cementing friendships among children, while they also give place for inventive genius and develope such qualities as leadership, patience and regard for others. In the group games the Loy learns citizenship for here if he be a true player and loyal to his game his efforts are put forth not for himself alone, bm for the good of all.

Again personal contact with qualified instructors bears fruit in a copied politeness, gentleness, and a most essential qualification-justice.

An important factor in the playground and one which ought never to be neglected is the industrial work. Just what this means to some children who have no other opportunity for acquiring such arts we may perhaps never fully realize, for ves, children do get tired of playing somewith just passive idleness, what should we From an everyday practical standpoint do with them were it not for our sewing,

cently have I heard this side of our playground work severely criticized, the criticizer saying, "What are playgrounds for latt to play, why worry the child with manual work? But perhaps our friends who take this view have failed to appreciate, that when a child is not forced to perform such labor, but does it from a spontaneous desire to do something for another or have something which he has made with his own hands, it is not work but another form of play to him.

ETHEL F. THOMPSON, Supervising Instructor Brown's

When Its J'une And a tune From each bough seems to ring, And each bird Ever heard Flashes past on the wing

Young things all. Great and small, Yearn to shout and to sing And to dance And to prance Through the green fields of Spring,

#### THE HOUSEKEEPING CENTER

#### Continued from page 3

saloon mirrors, with the kind of food that will give him strength. Many of the most strengthening foods are the cheapest. If she wants her family to keep well, all the corners and cupboards in her house must be clean. Tuberculosis germs prefer corners and cupboards to live in. Scarlet fever germs like plush furniture better than mission or willow furniture.

You, see a mother has the greatest task in the World, to bear her children, to teach them to be good, to keep them well, and through all her family to instill a spirit of love and helpfulness. Many women do not succeed well in this great undertaking. They become tired, and sick, and disconraged. They need a better system of house keeping; they need to know methods of work that will lighten their labor. They need to learn to choose between what is really important and what is not important. For example, it is necessary for good headth for children to wear rubbers in cold weather and on rainy days. White kid slippers were intended for babies in arms and ladies who ride in carriages, but never to be worn in walking on, the street. But the unwise mother buys the white slippers and says she cannot afford the rubbers.

So in teaching house keeping and home making, you readily perceive that our Housekeeping Center has a large field of work. In our little home, which comprises a good-sized living room, a kitchen a bedroom, and a bathroom, younger and older girls come in for daily classes in housekeeping, sewing and cooking. In the sewing classes the girls learn that face towels must not be used for dish towels, and vice versa; in the cooking classes they learn that good food must not be made indigestible in the cooking, and in the housekeeping classes they learn that a clean and orderly house makes work both light and pleasant, and that order and cleanliness, their lack of which so many housewives ask you to excuse, can be obtained readily by following certain rules and methods.

We cordially invite you to come and visit our little home any day. We are not able to realize all of our ambitions but we are trying.

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