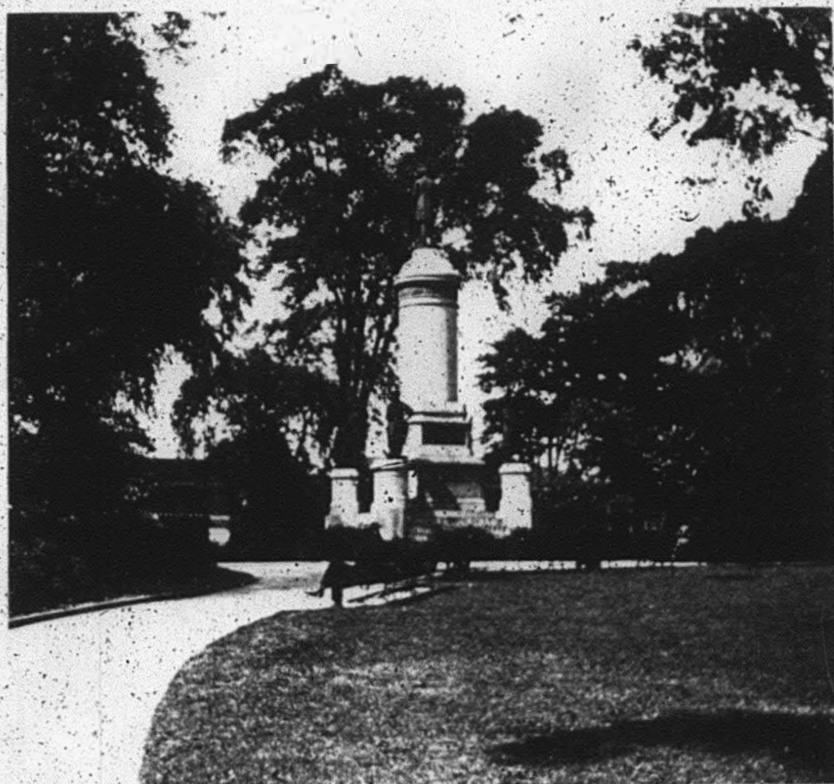


THE COMMON GOOD OF CIVIC AND SOCIAL ROCHESTER

KNOW YOUR CITY



TEN CENTS
A COPY
VOL. V.

NOVEMBER

ONE DOLLAR
A YEAR
NO. 2



"D'ARTAGNAN"

Pronounced (DART-ANYAN)

A Delightful, Fragrant,
 Fascinating
PERFUME

SOLD ONLY AT OUR STORE

B. M. Hyde Drug Co.

J. B. Keller Sons

FLORISTS

25 Clinton Ave. North

**PRACTICE A WISE ECONOMY
 PROCESS, EQUIPMENT, ORGANIZATION
 AND EXPERIENCE ENABLE**

1828 LEARY'S 1911

to Clean, Refinish, Press, or Dye
 your everyday Clothes and your
 very best, your Lace Curtains, Rugs
 and Textile Hangings to rival new.

All the operations of dyeing and clean-
 ing continuously carried on under its
 own roof for 83 years.

EDWARD B. LEARY
 MILL AND PLATT STREETS

Consulting Phones, Home 1767, Bell 4741 Main

Henry Likly & Company

TRUNKS

TRAVELING BAGS, SUIT CASES

POCKET BOOKS

SMALL LEATHER GOODS AND

UMBRELLAS

155 Main St. East, Rochester, N. Y.

McCurdy & Dorwell Co.

Choice Merchandise
 at prices that appeal

**THE STORE THAT IS
 FIRST WITH NEW THINGS**

ADDRESSING FOLDING MAILING

When you want

REAL TYPE WRITTEN LETTERS

Phone 6190, Rochester

CHARLES G. LYMAN

617-19 Livingston Bldg. Rochester, N. Y.

Succeeding The Wilson Letter Co.

Telephone 444 and 1908

Egbert F. Ashley Co.

Insurance

FIRE — LIABILITY — MARINE

BONDS — STEAM BOILER

TRANSPORTATION — BURGLARY

AUTOMOBILE

Insurance Building, Rochester, N. Y.

**The New England
Furniture & Carpet
Company**

117 Main Street East
Rochester, N. Y.

L. A. JEFFREYS CO.

UNDERTAKERS

33 Chestnut St. Rochester, N. Y.

MARCUS KOCHENTHAL & CO.

CLOTHIERS'
TRIMMINGS

84-90 ST. PAUL STREET

Henry Oemisch

Jeweler

Triangle Building

N. Erlanger Blumgart & Co., Inc.

IMPORTERS

New York.

NATE NEWHAFFER

Representative

Frank W. Fischer

Tailor

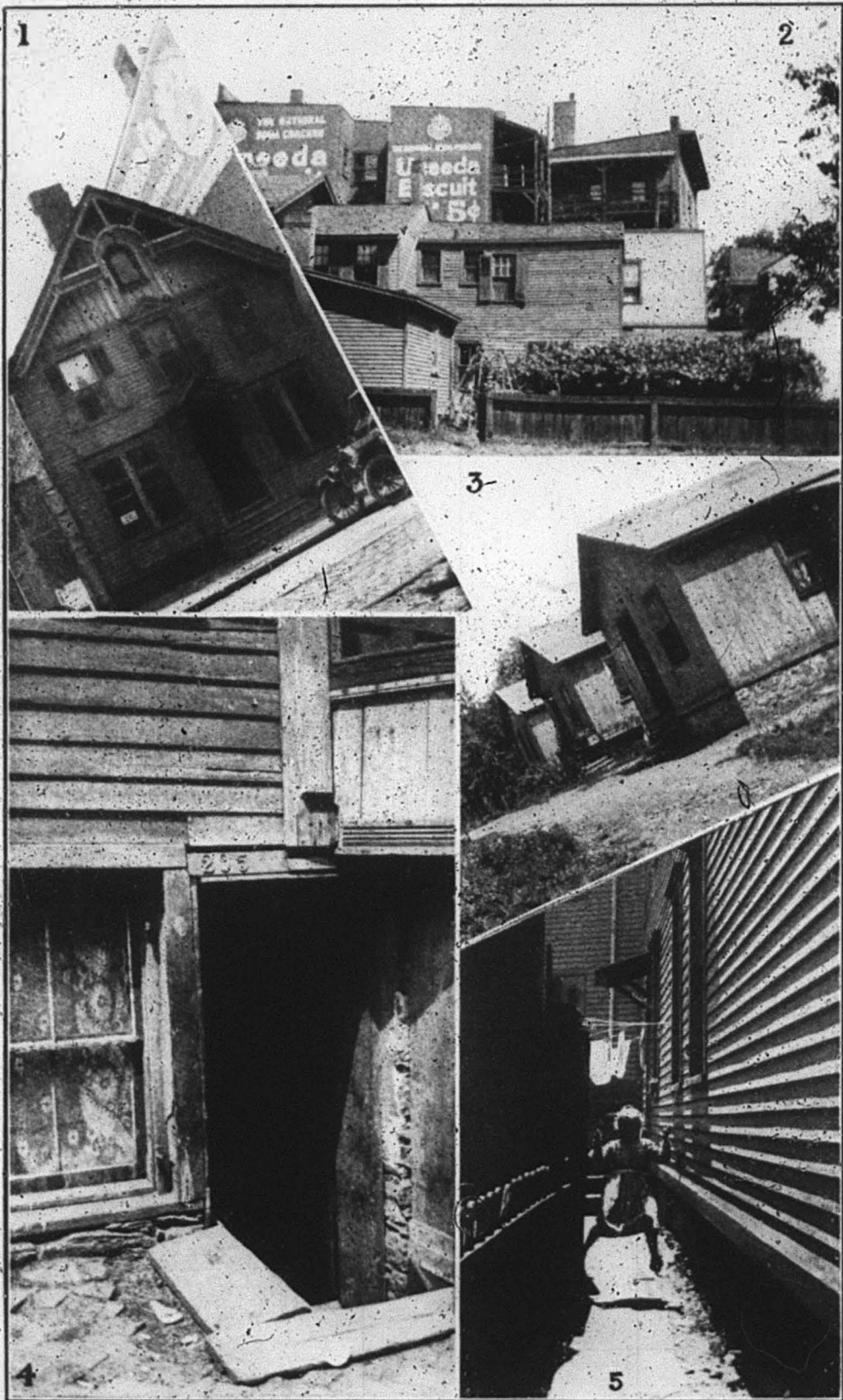
109 Main Street East

**The Edwards
Store**

White Binding Co.

Bookbinders

AQUEDUCT BUILDING
ROCHESTER, N. Y.



FIVE EXHIBITS OF HOUSING CONDITIONS IN THE FOURTH WARD

The COMMON GOOD

AN INDEPENDENT MAGAZINE OF CIVIC AND SOCIAL ROCHESTER

NOT COPYRIGHTED—The articles in this publication are for public use and service

EDWIN A. RUMBALL
President & Editor

FRANKLIN W. BOGK
Vice President & Associate Editor

ELMER ADLER
Secy. & Treas.

BOARD OF EDITORIAL CONTRIBUTORS

RALPH BARSTOW
JANNIK R. BIGELOW
PAUL B. CRAPSKY
MRS. HENRY G. DANFORTH

CHARLES E. FINCH
CARLETON B. GIBSON
HERBERT W. GATES
FLORENCE CROSS KITCHELL
HOWARD T. MOSHER

NATHANIEL S. OTIS
CHAS. MURPHY ROBINSON
SARA VANCE STEWART
FRANK VON-DER LANCKEN

VOL. V.

NOVEMBER 1911.

No. 2

EDITORIAL

HOUSING REFORM BY SAVINGS BANKS. Apropos of the leading article in this number we think it well to call the attention of our readers to the following interesting reform. The President of the Worcester County Institution for Savings at Worcester, Mass., recently gave notice to all who wish to make building loans; that the bank will not encourage the development of three-decker, or three family frame tenement houses. The bank will only lend money on single houses. The New York Survey commenting on this action says that "if similar action were taken by banks generally, it would mean nothing short of a revolution in the housing development of small and medium-sized cities." Our word is this: would it not be a better proposition also, for the bank to deal with the man who is putting his savings into such a single house than to deal with the speculator who sometimes gets his loan on exaggerated values?

HEALTH BUREAU APPROPRIATION. We wish that some citizen who loves his city would spend some time freely by enquiring from such cities as Seattle, Kansas City, Indianapolis, Providence, R. I., Louisville, St. Paul, and Denver—all having about the same population as Rochester—as to the amount of money which they appropriate for the health of the city. It may be difficult to obtain a basis of comparison, as some appropriations will include removal of garbage, care of hospitals and so on. But we believe that a careful painstaking search might show the expenditures that ought to be compared with Rochester. We would like to know this in order to see whether our own Bureau is getting what it ought to have to efficiently care for the health of the people of Rochester. Who will do it?

THE MENACE OF THE IMMIGRANT CHILD. Put it into your memory, ye who speak of the menace of those boys and girls who have come to our city with no rooted love for it, because their eyes turn across the seas to another home; never forget it; this fact: that 91 per cent. of the school children of Rochester were born under the Stars and Stripes! This is significant in a city having nearly 60,000 foreign born citizens.

A WORD TO THOSE WHO FEAR THE FEARFUL. One of Rochester's civic prophets—Dr. Crapsey—said a great word of late, which must strike the soul and thrill the sense of right in every man and woman. He spoke of young men in our city who, after they had given forth some bit of political information,—supposed to be only known to those on the inside,—prayed that their name be not mentioned in its connection. They were afraid. The Doctor, quoting Emerson's sage aunt, said "Do the thing that you are afraid to do"; and added, the men you fear are also afraid of you. Never take the courage of wrong for granted. There is not a wrong thing in this city but trembles at the approach of the man who is not afraid. Pass the word along, tell everyone, the social and political wrongs in the City of Rochester to-day are the weakest, frailest of all our impotencies. Our fear of them alone makes them strong.

The Fourth Ward Survey

II.—*Housing and Homes*

By Edwin A Rumball

The ownership of property which can be rented as homes for the people is one of the greatest social burdens which can be put upon the men and women of our community. To the proverbial "landlords troubles,"—which many landlords bring upon themselves,—there must be added the grave obligations which come upon them as the custodians of the home and its power for good and evil. A master of industry may hurt society by the payment of low wages and unfit conditions of labor; a politician may demoralize a community by graft and civic treason; but the landlord has it in his power to hurt deadlier than all, for he may strike at the home and destroy the institution upon which all the other institutions of our civilization are founded. This may be a new thought for many landlords, but "a man has just as much right to kill another man in the street with an ax as he has to kill him with a house." Rent can be and often is, blood-money.

Of course many bad landlords are unconscious sinners even in this day of social enlightenment. Their conscience is in the keeping of house agents and rent collectors, and the conditions surrounding the real source of their income are unknown to them. Or, and this is perhaps more often true, their eyes are yet blind to the great social wrongs which bad housing can inflict. They have looked at their old houses and other people's old houses, and while seeing that they were the places where poor folk lived, they have not seen that they were slums. We all forget that there are different kinds of slums, that each city has its own type of slum. There is the London slum, the Berlin slum, and the New York slum; the San Francisco slum and the Rochester slum. Even our villages have their slums. And because there does not seem to exist in Rochester a slum like a London slum we have no right to say that our city is slumless. That we are only just beginning to learn this, may not be against us. The very best landlord had to learn, and his social awakening and social virtue doubtless came gradually. That a lot of our poor men's homes are in the hands of people who are counted among the most honored of our citizens, that some of the worst are owned by good church members, should not lead us to sarcastic remarks but rather to show them the next step in their religion. We had to be shown, and it is their due. What is bad housing? If a house imperils the bodily or moral health of the tenant in any way, it is a bad house. If it is unsafe and unsanitary and thus unfit for home-making, it is a bad house. If it in any way hurts the community, it is a bad house. The old idea—let's call it old, though it is still with us,—was that a house or room to rent, was a financial proposition, something to make money. The new idea—let's call it new, though it has hardly yet dawned,—is that a place to rent, must be first of all a place in which to live. It must be an ethical and physical proposition, something to make citizens.

Perhaps the first thing to say in writing of the housing conditions of the Fourth Ward is to state the kind of houses that we found there. This

must of course be largely a description of outsides. If we had had time and opportunity we could have noted the interiors, but the American is lord of his castle, and however much we may have desired to measure, in some of the houses, the strata of dirt on the walls and floor, or to note the cracks and loose plastering where germs can breed at leisure, we should have been refused.

Originally, the one family house was the universal type. Our street sheets of the Survey show that there are only 321 houses in the Fourth Ward with but one family in them. Every man and woman has, or ought to have, a feeling of everlasting sanctity for the place which through all childhood days was known as "home." Seventy per cent. of thereabouts of the families in the Fourth Ward will never be able to claim one house there with the joy of sole rentship,—not ownership,—for upstairs and downstairs and in a few cases even the cellar, is somebody else's home. Nearly a hundred houses—not flats—had two families in them, twenty-one had three, ten had four. Hundreds had roomers.

Some parts of the Ward, notably East Avenue, Alexander, William, Lawn, Griffith Streets and a few others had houses with which no fault can be found in this Survey. An odd house here and there on these streets might be found which could be criticized, but on the whole the housing was good. We do not wish at any moment to give the impression that we found anything sensational. Conditions usually have to grow a great deal worse before they are thought bad enough to remedy. Our hope is, that we may act before that time comes. That some things that we found were bad enough, we leave our readers to judge. Let us not imagine,—this is the continual warning of Lawrence Veiller, the great housing expert of New York,—that there is no necessity for action, because conditions in our city are not as bad as elsewhere.

Bad housing does not always mean old or poor looking houses. We found recently built houses and expensive looking houses that deserved to be included in our charge of bad housing. The expensive and uncrowded, well-kept flat may find itself in the same category as the slum. This is certainly true if children are allowed to live there. Of course in a ward so near the center of the city, there are a large number of modern apartment houses. We found 27 such buildings and in them some 200 families. In most of them be it said, to their credit, children are not allowed. In some, children are theoretically excluded, but find their way to them. We can believe that landlords are so kind when the stork finds their flats that they have not the heart to evict. But no landlord is kind and no parent is kind who tries to make home for a child past babyhood in one of these flats. This same reasoning applies to the many rooming houses that we found. In this Ward are about 1,300 roomers. The street which had the heaviest count was Chestnut Street, where we found 331, though there are only 71 houses on the street. Some of these houses were well cared for and in them no children. In others it was a puzzle to see where they all slept. One old man said that his house had eight roomers, including the kitchen, and that while they had five roomers, he and his wife were very anxious to obtain three more. Of course the query is, where would he and his wife sleep? The best that we can hope is that like a house that the writer once found in a London slum, where the beds had three "shifts" of sleepers every twenty-four hours—eight hours each by the clock—that the old couple at least had day sleepers among their roomers. The rooming business is more than a business of convenience. Love of profit, high

rents and heavy taxes are all reasons for the rooming business. The New York City Commission on the Congestion of Population, which recently made its report, found rooming houses a great cause of overcrowding. In this section of the Ward the population is planted at the rate of 63 to the acre. This is one of the thickest in the city of Rochester.

One of the worst conditions that we found in the Ward in more than one place is illustrated in Exhibit 3 of the composite photograph on another page. These houses—three only of five are seen—are in the back garden of a Griffith Street house. The little lane which runs between the houses, is called Lauer Park. They do not appear to be of recent construction, but there is no indication on the map of Rochester that such a place exists. To come to it, one has to travel the Canal tow-path and turn from it a little before reaching Denning Street. Of back-garden or rear-lot houses we found some twenty-five in the Ward. Monroe Avenue, South Street, South Clinton and James Street all have them; Gailley Place, Martha Place and Morley Place should also be included in such counting. Broadway seemed to have the largest number of such houses. Meyer Place, which turns off from Broadway, can show as good a lot of houses of this kind as appear anywhere in the Ward. We mean good in the best sense. They are well-cared for and the tenants seem to be of a choice kind. We feel sure that one good reason for these better conditions is the fact that the rents are comparatively low. It pays to ask a low rent. We shall see this again presently. In one of the rear-lot houses on the Canal side of Broadway, we were told of three families inside. Many of these places have no sewer except as we may so denominate the Canal. Meyer Place might have one, if the level on Broadway allowed it to be received; that is to say, the street was made without any thought of other homes being built in back-gardens. If the law had corresponded with such short-sightedness, limiting the number of houses which could be built on a given area, much of the congestion and preparation for congestion that we have, might have been spared us.

Compared with the congestion in larger cities, there is not on the whole any terrible congestion in the Fourth Ward. But note what there is. Only three other Wards in the city have more congestion, namely, the 7th, 8th, and 16th. These have 55, 51 and 48 persons to the acre respectively. The Fourth Ward has 45. But there are places in the Fourth Ward which register much higher than that. For example, the district bounded by Court, Chestnut, George, William, Monroe Avenue and Clinton Avenue South, has in it 702 persons. It is one of the smallest enumeration districts which were taken in the last census, yet these 702 people are living at 63 to the acre. It is demanded that 25 people to the acre alone gives really healthful environment. This is often hard to get in our cities but the good residential sections of our city manage to get it. The density of population in the 10th Ward is ten to the acre, in the 12th Ward it is nineteen, in the 14th Ward it is only fourteen; if air and sunshine are more necessary for the poor than the rich, why are we so content to let them have less of it? The pity is that, if we get such human conditions for the poor to live in, it may make their living harder, for up will go the rents. We found that one landlord,—we ought to write LORD in capitals,—even had the audacity to charge extra rent for God's sunshine. The tenants on the sunny side of his block had to put an extra piece into his pocket because the sun shined there. We wonder where he found his estimate on the value of sunshine! We wonder whether his

conscience ever tells him to reduce the rent on the shady side to but two-thirds the other!

We do not need to remind our readers that the worst feature that we found in the housing of the people of this Ward, was found in its tenement life. The homes over some of the stores on Monroe and South Avenues and on some smaller streets present a serious condition. Rochester has as much right to look to its tenements as the larger cities where they are more plentiful. No city can afford to tolerate even the beginnings of them. On the ground of health and social welfare, the 1,400 delegates to the International Housing Congress last year in Vienna, unanimously condemned the Tenement. A tenement is never, not even under the so-called "model" conditions, a fit place for a home to be made. Everyone knows of course that the tenement was introduced to help solve the question of cheap homes, but it has miserably failed. And all housing remedies will fail which try to meet the situation with the cheapest thing to be done. It costs money to really solve this problem of the home, and not the smallest amount must come to the tenants in an increase of wages, that they may meet the cost with their own pay. But this is digressing to our chapter on "Betterment" before we have our problem in front of us. Over some of the stores on South Avenue, we found from seven to twenty families. Some had two or three rooms and some less. Nearly two hundred families, often, of course, of only two persons, but about 7 per cent. of the population were found living over or behind stores in more or less tenement conditions. The terrible meaning of this fact for the children of the Ward we must speak upon when we come to deal with the children. Suffice it to say here, that the findings of large cities in this matter can be a warning to us of what we must expect if these things continue. Miss Fulmer, Superintendent of the Visiting Nurses' Association of Chicago, says: "Two-thirds of the delinquent children come from homes where dirty, ill-ventilated rooms predominate; two-thirds of the physical ill children from the same; one-third of the shiftless mothers from the same; two-thirds of the deserting fathers from the same. In a study of fifty backward children in an ungraded school of a large city, forty-three of these children occupied homes that it should have been the business of the State to see did not exist." It is impossible to describe the gloom of the long dark stairs and passage-landings which we found in these places; these things with the dark rooms and filthy sanitary conditions must be seen to be understood. On Monroe Avenue were found as many as thirty roomers to two toilets, four families to one toilet, nine families to three toilets. On Main Street Bridge where the ward line begins, there is a piece of property owned by a non-resident, which has four families on the top floor without any toilet. The landlord told the tenants to use the office toilets on the floor below. This enables him to house an extra tenant where the toilet ought to be, and is therefore more profitable. Frequently the toilets were in dark unventilated cellars. On one small street one could smell the nuisance arising from one of the cellars by simply passing the house, so filthy was it. Upon this street are but three houses; but being owned by three different persons there is little social influence the one on the others. A good tenant cannot control the character of those who would become her neighbors. In these three small houses are to be found six or seven families, containing about two dozen persons. Only one of the houses has a single family.

Some houses here and there in the Ward, need a more radical remedy than that which we may offer for the others. "It should not be forgotten," says an English writer on Housing, "that the housing question is not one of building only, it is also one of demolition." We hope that the city of Rochester, at the proper time will take such a view of the question, in regard to some of the property on the West side of South Avenue, when the Canal has to be abandoned. Upon the property that we have in mind, we found some of the worst features in the Ward. In one of the blocks we found 18 families and 13 single Greek men. One of the Exhibits—4—given with this article, shows a cellar home in this row where an Italian family live in the day. Everyone, i. e. five in family plus four boarders, sleeps above ground. But at No. 201—see Exhibit 1—there is a real cellar home. In the photograph it is just possible to distinguish the window of this residence, about eighteen inches above the pathway. Down below we found an Irish family, an old couple who deserved better from their adopted country. We should not like to have to fetch our coal from the place where they had to sleep. The landlord is doubtless within his legal rights in so renting. The law of this State regarding tenements does say something about cellar homes, but it should make them illegal, not try to make them inhabitable. New York City has 25,000 of them. The Statieian of the Prudential Insurance Company in a statement before the Congestion Commission called all cellar homes "inhuman"; and that they are. Insurance men are not given to sentiment when dealing with such questions and we may feel sure that every piece of evil-housing in the city of Rochester to-day is a certain financial loss as well as a loss in many other respects.

We shall not hurriedly forget the faces of some of the little children that we met in this section of the city. They were the only children in the Ward, who brought to memory the woeful, aged faces of the London slum children. The toilets in some of the blocks were often dirty, and this in spite of the very persistent cleaning of the tenants. In one there was but one such convenience to three floors of people; in another but one to 28 persons; in another, one to 30. Sometimes in the Ward we found outside toilets where there ought to have been the usual closets; this was true of houses that we found on Stone Street.

In this Ward are to be found two large tenements belonging to one estate. The property is not any worse in some respects than some smaller pieces in the Ward; the fact that there is a janitor and that there are bath-rooms in the blocks may indicate a real care to make the best of the barrack-looking places. One of these tenements is of the dumbbell variety which is one of the very worst things to plan for in a city.—See Exhibit 2.—In this tenement were 14 families and although children were forbidden, they were there. It was a hot July day when we went to this block and the yard was covered with garbage. The stench from this was so great that the tenants had to keep their windows closed to breathe with any pleasure. We took a photograph of the yard but as we could not photograph the smell it did not seem well to reproduce it here.

Legally it could doubtless be shown that the owners were not responsible for this condition, but it seems to us that especially in tenements proper receptacles for garbage ought to be asked of the owners, and untidy tenant and careless collector made to do better. The other tenement contained 16 families and no children. On neither of these blocks were there fire-escapes, doubtless the law does not require them but the frame stairs

leading to the back doors of the tenants, would have been soon consumed in a big blaze. This was not an infrequent condition in the Ward, and in one of the large flats, a small fire risk came about two years ago and we understand that at that time a fire escape was promised, but it has never been erected.

We ought to make some comment on the fact that one of these tenements was over a saloon. To survey the Fourth Ward is to come very close to the influence of the saloon. The law forbids that such a place be placed within so near to a church, but says nothing of the greater menace of its nearness to a home. Does it not seem to the men and women of to-day that the only right and safe law to make in regard to the position of saloons, is to place them so many yards away from *homes* rather than from churches? Why should the churches which are closed three parts of the week be protected from the evil influence of the saloon, while a poor widow and her children, in order to get cheap housing, are obliged to live over or next door to one? The church will get little hurt from proximity to a saloon, and may get a great deal of good if it leads the people of the church to transform the saloons into coffee houses as they do in London when they come too near. But the home is too often unable to protect itself against the influence and should be the first to be protected. If we imperil the homes of the people we imperil everything.

We still seem a long way from the end of all the things that ought to be recorded of the housing conditions of the Fourth Ward. The question of rent is quite a large one and should be dealt with next. We have already noted that the greed of some landlords will lead them to put a place for habitation in a situation where none should be obliged to live. Another way he has of doubling the rental from his property is to build on the entire lot line and get two houses where only one ought to be. This is not only true of the rear-lot houses that we have already spoken of, but also of quite a few recently built houses facing the street. In this type of house or flat there is no yard of any kind and the child within has nowhere but the street for play. Her sand pile and romping ground have been used to put money into some thoughtless landlord's pocket.—See Exhibit 5.

We perhaps ought to follow the modern custom of blaming the system of housing for these things and not individuals. This is the thing to do in some cases, as when we are dealing with the tenements, which little "modelling" can improve as places to live in. But when we find individuals in the Ward who have some human thought for the people who occupy their property, we must treat as individuals those who neglect their property. Wherever in the Ward we found rents low and reasonable, we found also good and careful tenants, often of long residence. The houses on Cortland Street which look the most prosperous and well-cared for, have one of the lowest rentals. These can be found behind the Universalist Church. The landlord knows that he could get more for his houses, but then his tenants would have to take in roomers and become migrants, and not have time nor money to give care properly to his property, and in the end, apart from adding to the evils of the community, he would be the loser.

"The more things improve, the louder become our exclamations about their badness." So said Herbert Spencer some years ago. That the Fourth Ward is getting this revelation—call it exclamation, if you will,—may be the most hopeful thing about the Ward. Let us reiterate that

Other Wards could show an equally bad state of things and we believe even worse. To help by comparison with the Fourth Ward we had small surveys taken in the 11th and 20th Wards also. Out of 340 homes investigated in the 11th Ward on such streets as Tremont, Clifton, Jefferson, Penn, Gladstone, Tromp, Rockland, Epworth, St. Clair, Churchlea and Terry, we found that while 50 per cent. of the homes were owned—which is better than the Fourth Ward—still, 50 per cent. of the rented homes were without bathrooms, and 11 per cent. of these houses had toilets in the cellar, which is quite as bad, if not worse than the Fourth. Then from 204 similar houses in the 20th Ward we found that 45 per cent. were rented, and here also 50 per cent. of these were without bathrooms. Instead of the nuisance of cellar toilets, the neighbors in this Ward had most complaint to make of outside closets. But this whole method of comparison is questionable, for we ought not to be satisfied with mere averages. In the London County Council Schools, three decayed teeth are charted as normal, many slight eye defects, many slight degrees of feeble nutrition and many slight deformities are "normal." None the less these things are handicaps and such average children are very average in general capacity, character and citizenship. We must strike at evil, seen as evil and not be content because it is only better than some condition that is really very bad.

We cannot take space to register all the complaints that we were forced to listen to as we went from door to door and from room to room. "Don't call this a city of Flowers," said one hard working woman, at the top of a tenement, "when my children have to live in a place like this." Some lamented lack of bathrooms—no mean lack during those hot July days—some, dirty and broken toilets; some, high rents; some, unremoved garbage; some, dark rooms; some, dark passages; some, risky and broken stairways; some, low wages; some, lack of fire escapes; and some, that they had no yards for the children to play. The total effect of these things was that few could speak in love for their city; and without that a city is lost. With love it may become great and honored. To adapt some recent words of Gilbert K. Chesterton, we close by saying, "It is not enough for a man to disapprove of the Fourth Ward. In that case he will merely cut his throat or move into the Twelfth. Nor, certainly, is it enough for a man to approve of the Fourth Ward, for then it would remain the Fourth Ward, which would be awful. The only way out of it seems to be, for someone to love the Fourth Ward, to love it transcendently and without any earthly reason. . . . Men did not love Rome because she was great. So she was great because they loved her."

NEXT MONTH: THE CHILDREN OF THE FOURTH WARD

THE FACT OF A SCIENTIST

I found that those communities which included the greatest number of sympathetic members would flourish best.

—Charles Darwin

The School at Industry:

or

Wild Boys and Tame Animals

By Franklin H. Briggs, Superintendent



BOY WITH PET HEN-HAWK IN
ONANDAGA COLONY

The school at Industry, N. Y., stands as the expression of a desire upon the part of the people of the State of New York to provide such an environment for unfortunate boys who have become delinquent that they may have the opportunity that comes from a good home, from interesting employment, from wholesome recreation, education adapted to their needs and proper moral and religious instruction. In the furtherance of this desire the State has provided a tract of 1,432 acres of land in the beautiful valley of the Genesee and has built upon it thirty-one cottage homes for the boys committed to its care. Each of these homes is in charge of a man and wife with whom the boys live and to whom they look for direction and counsel and under whose care and help it becomes to a large degree, a true home.

The housework in these homes is done by the boys under the direction of the matron. Each cottage has its head boy cook and assistant cook and in many instances these boys are more skillful in their work than are paid cooks to be found in many kitchens.

Each of these cottage homes has its boys' sitting room which is made cheerful by a large fireplace, by books, papers and indoor games. Here the boys spend their evenings in autumn, winter and early spring, playing games, reading or in conversation. At times parties are held to which they invite their friends about the school.

Of the thirty-one homes above referred to, nineteen are situated on farms, each farm having its own dairy cows, horses, swine, poultry and pets. The innate love of animals, which all small boys have, has ample opportunity for its exercise and results in every animal being petted until it becomes so tame that one has to push it out of the way in order to get past. Not only domestic animals and poultry but wild animals as well become the object of the boys' attention. A hen hawk captured in a swamp in a nearby town and presented to one of the boys on a farm colony remains blissfully ignorant of natural predatory instincts and spends his days and nights in the company of chickens with whom he hovers with true parental aptitude. While perched upon the shoulder of his particular boy favorite he presents a picture to arouse the envy of an artist. Turtles, rabbits, crows, squirrels, all become objects of boys' care. One grey



"SEEING THAT EACH HAS ITS PROPER SHARE"

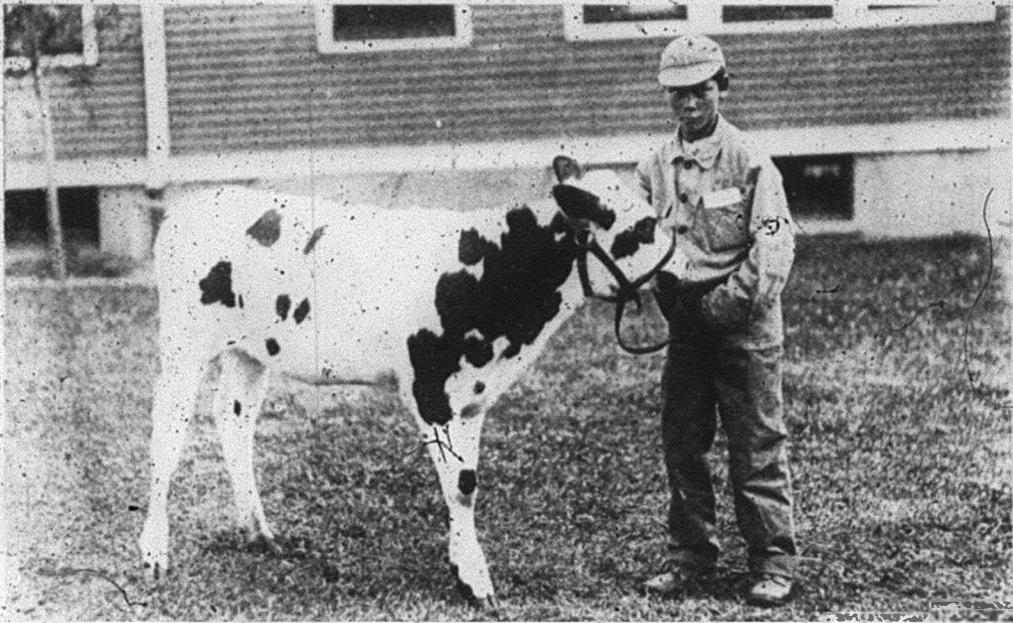
squirrel, whose favorite boy has only one arm and one eye, lives in the basement of the cottage, coming up into the sitting room and dining room for favors from his master. During the past winter when the boy had to spend some time in the hospital the squirrel was well nigh inconsolable; coming up to the sitting room, he would roam all about that room and those adjoining, looking for his favorite. One boy has the care of a calf and has given it a daily bath for weeks and its coat is as sleek as any thoroughbred's in the land.

Each of these farms produces its own farm and garden supplies and fruit and a surplus for the use of officers and boys who work at trades.

The utmost freedom prevails in these farm homes. There is no effort made to keep the boys living in them under surveillance. In fact, the boys would feel injured if they thought that it was considered necessary to keep them under surveillance. Living thus, as they do, as nearly a natural life as possible, their initiative is fostered and individuality developed. There is none of the dwarfing, repressing conditions that prevail in congregated institutions.

That their better natures are touched is shown in many significant ways. At one cottage for nearly two months before Christmas the boys were deeply interested in preparing as many simple gifts as possible for their friends both outside and inside the school. If their matron or teacher be ill, their interest finds expression in the purchase of flowers to cheer the sick room. At one cottage where a little girl, the daughter of the supervisor and matron, was ill, on Christmas Day the boys made a party for the birds outside her window for her amusement and greatly to her delight. At another colony where the members of the newly arrived pig family was so great that it was necessary for them to take their dinners in relays, boys voluntarily stayed up several nights in succession in order to see that each one had its proper share.

The boys are so glad to be of service to their friends and use the flowers which they produce in their own gardens to convey graceful mes-



"ITS COAT IS AS SLEEK AS ANY THOROUGHBRED'S IN THE LAND"

sages of thoughtfulness and good will.

The boys are in school for one half-day, each cottage group of boys constituting a separate school and their sitting room the school room. The teachers go to one set of cottages in the morning and to another set in the afternoon. Individual instruction is given as far as possible and each boy's progress in school is independent of that of any other boy. This provides against the discouragement of the dull boy and keeps the bright boy advancing as rapidly as possible.

Religious life is cared for by chaplains who conduct services on Sunday morning and visit the boys in their cottage homes during the week.

Amusements, so essential to the proper development of boyhood, are also provided. The various colonies are divided into five baseball leagues which have regularly scheduled games during the baseball season, the games being played on Saturday afternoons. Pennants are given to the winners of each league and a sweepstakes pennant to the champion of all. Football is played in its season. Indoor games are supplied in each cottage for the use of the boys during evenings of fall, winter and early spring. Moving picture entertainments are given weekly during the winter months as are also musical programs and agricultural lectures together with vaudeville entertainments by the boys themselves.

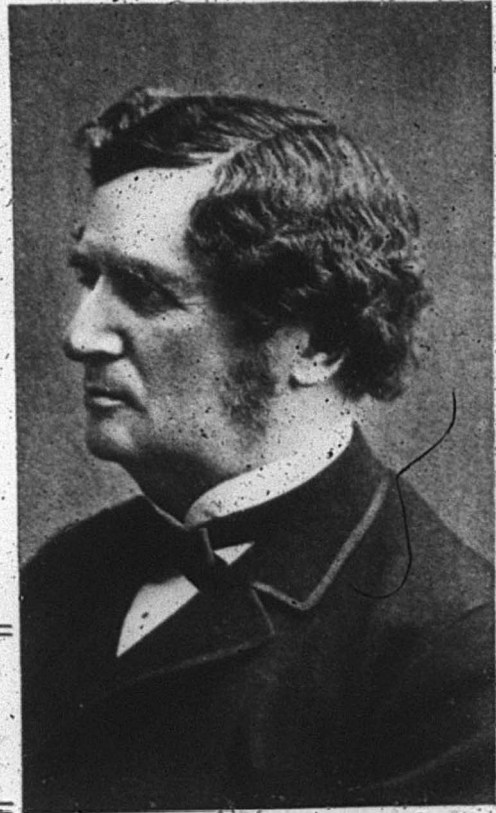
An annual fair is held in September of each year in which all the boys compete, bringing hither their dairy cows, colts, calves, swine, poultry and pets, and the products of their farms and gardens, as well as the work of their hands from the various shops.

No effort is spared to arouse the boy's interest in healthful activities, in animals, and in his home life, so that by means of these he may be unconsciously led to form right habits of thought and life. People who have known the boys intimately before they came to the school observe a marked change in the expression of their faces that comes after they have been at Industry for a time, a change that only comes from right impulses from within.

Notes on the Early History of the Industries of Rochester

II.—*Shoes*

By Harry A. Chase
Vice-President of *The Shoe Retailer*



Accompanying photograph is that of
JESSE W. HATCH
Father of the Shoe Industry of Rochester.

That Rochester, in the list of our cities manufacturing boots and shoes, stands first and foremost for the recognized high standard of its product, is due in a large measure to the early efforts of pioneers in the industry and to the high degree of intelligence, earnestness and ability displayed in successive days by those responsible for the development and progress of shoemaking as an art and a trade. In less than one hundred years, for the first shoemaker in Rochester was Abner Wakelee, who came here to apply his trade in 1812, there has been a wonderful revolution in every branch of the industry. In fact the past fifty years have witnessed the greatest progress in shoemaking methods, during that time machinery having been substituted for hand work, greatly increasing the volume as well as the quality of Rochester made shoes. The last ten years has seen the greatest growth in the business until Rochester now ranks among the great shoe centers of the world, and the business is second in importance, with an output of \$16,000,000 annually, in a city of diversified industries.

It is not my purpose to review the history of the shoe manufacturing industry in Rochester, but to point out how Rochester attained its distinction in the business and what the shoe world owes to Rochester and its pioneer and present manufacturers of footwear. There are men and women now living who recall the itinerant shoemaker, with his "kit" and small stock of leather, traveling from house to house throughout the country places, making the shoes for the entire family before taking his departure from a hospitable roof. In the larger towns the village cobbler performed a similar service, whittling out the wooden last and making the crude, though serviceable, shoes entirely by hand. Soles were not sewed on in those days, and the ill-fitting, cumbersome and homely shoes, at

prices that would astound the most lavish purchaser of latter day shoe beauty and perfection, would present a unique (if not ludicrous) comparison with the trim, stasty and comfortable footwear that is admired in the shop windows of the present time.

It was not until the need of greater haste in the making of shoes to supply the armies of the North during the Civil War that machinery for the sewing on of soles was invented. However, a Rochester shoe manufacturer, the late Jesse W. Hatch, often reverently referred to as the "father of Rochester shoemaking," some years before had invented a way by which uppers of shoes could be sewed together by machinery. In 1852 the first sewing machine for this purpose was set up in Mr. Hatch's shop. There was not at that time a shoe factory, in the modern sense of the word, in the world. Retailers manufactured their own shoes, much of the work such as sewing together of the uppers and linings, being sent outside. Mr. Hatch foresaw how useful the newly invented sewing machine would be if it could be successfully used and it remained for his genius to blaze the way, and he did so, thus taking a long step in the path of progress.

Up to war times soles were pegged on, the shoemakers making their own pegs from a maple stick six or seven inches in diameter, from which they sawed a block of suitable length of the desired thickness and with a sharp knife cut the edges of the stump to a point and split the pegs the size wanted.

Mr. Hatch some years ago gave the writer this pen picture of conditions in Rochester in 1831:

"The proprietors of the half dozen shoe stores in Rochester made their own shoes in their back shops. It was then the common practice to make all shoes to order. There were no show windows in the stores and no cartons in which to keep the shoes. A tack was driven into the window sash and a pair of shoes suspended, and on a stick on the jamb of the door a red sheepskin was suspended to attract customers."

In 1833 Mr. Hatch employed women to stitch the straps on boot legs, which met with strong opposition from the men employed. To-day all stitching of shoe uppers and linings in the Rochester factories is done by women, and many of these rooms have women as overseers. Eighty years ago there were 102 shoemakers in Rochester. Now there are over 10,000, not counting the women employees.

I have referred to Mr. Hatch using a machine in war times to stitch soles. In 1859 hand pegging was succeeded by machine pegging, when L. & H. Churchill, at the old Monroe County Penitentiary shoe factory, long a thing of the past, were the first to use a pegging machine on women's shoes. The hand peggers looked upon this machine with suspicion, fearing that their positions were in jeopardy, and when Mr. Hatch used the first Blake (now the McKay) machine for sewing on soles, there was an open revolt, and the employees in their ignorance, believing that they would all be thrown out of work, one night chained and locked the machine so that no one could operate it. But the machine proved a blessing, as it increased the output of the factory and more men than formerly were employed and at better wages.

The Goodyear welt process, which to-day in its perfected state makes the finest shoes, was first used in Rochester in 1879. Turn shoes, an operation by which the soles are attached to the upper while the shoe is inside out, and then turned, have been made for a great many years. The welt shoe has practically eliminated the turn shoe, and the latter is principally

made for women desiring ease and flexibility. It has but a single sole, while the welt has an inner and an outer sole, no stitching coming under the foot, as in the McKay.

It has been principally through the introduction of modern machinery and methods that Rochester, like other big shoe centers, owes its wonderful growth. There were more factories here thirty or forty years ago than at present, but the great modern shoe factories, with a daily output of from 2,000 to 8,000 pairs, each shoe delicately finished in any one of four or five hundred styles, carefully mated and packed in soft paper and wrapped in a handsome carton and packed in wooden or paper cases ready for handling by the express or freight companies, are the result of the last ten year's progress in this industry. Years ago the factories were concentrated on Mill, Andrews, State, Water and St. Paul Streets. Now they are scattered, many of them being in the residential sections, where the sanitary conditions are better and where the employees have the benefit of good light and fresh air.

Auxiliary to the making of shoes in Rochester this city manufactures on a broad scale many supplies, such as machinery, tools, heels, lifts, counters, buttons and leather. The entire industry, including shoes and supplies, represents a value of about \$25,000,000 a year.

No shoes for men are made in Rochester, although the making of footwear for children is an important feature. Rochester is the home of the soft sole baby shoe, which was invented by a Rochester man and first made about 1890. Since that time the industry has grown rapidly and there are a dozen or more factories making nothing else. Over 2,000,000 pairs of these little shoes are made in Rochester every year.

Rochester-made shoes is a synonym for "good shoes" all the country over. Its salesmen, men of brains and business acumen, sell the product of the Rochester factories in every state in the union. In many foreign countries Rochester shoes have been bought for years and this business is constantly increasing. In this connection it is interesting to note that in footwear styles America leads the world. No shoe fashions are copied from Paris, Berlin or London. Across the water styles seldom change, while in the United States women and men pay as close heed to prevailing fashions in boots and shoes as to any other article of dress.

Saving Babies

The City Council of Cleveland voted \$10,000 on July 7 to save babies. Twenty nurses have been hired to instruct mothers how to care for babies in hot weather. In asking for this appropriation, Councilman C. S. Horner said: "One thing in the world is universal. That is mother-love. Motherhood in Cleveland needs aid, and we are in a position to render it. The city has made one forward step in saving the half-grown children from mutilation, by abolishing the old, dangerous celebration of the Fourth of July, and has given the children a playground by throwing open the school grounds. Now we should go one step further, and repay in part the debt we owe to mother-love by saving babies who are dying in this awful summer."

Our Confidential Exchange Bureau

By William Kirk

GENERAL SECRETARY OF UNITED CHARITIES

Modern philanthropy, like modern industrial enterprise, calls for scientific management. In America, strangely and generously enough, men and women have invested heavily in charitable undertakings without stopping to inquire whether the dividends to society would justify the expenditure. In order to do good rather than harm, charities, like other forms of investment, must stand the test of a careful investigation. But busy men and women, with many responsibilities and perplexed by many appeals, can not always make the preliminary canvass. Consequently, to supply modern needs in this particular field, a new profession has arisen, composed of those who are prepared, through a period of careful training, to indicate just where and how a dollar may do the most good to an individual family in need, and to society at large. It is coming to be recognized more and more by generous men and women that in matters of philanthropy, they should consult those who have this special training, just as they turn to a banker to learn about a business investment, and to a lawyer to seek light on some legal question. In fact, so clearly have the public-spirited men and women of Rochester seen the importance of modern scientific methods in charity that they have in the past months deliberately applied themselves to the task of perfecting an organization which might be in a position to co-ordinate more effectively the philanthropic agencies of the city.

In its effort to discover the form of organization best suited to the present needs of Rochester and most likely to promote the harmonious development of charitable effort, the Executive Board of United Charities has recognized the fundamental importance of the confidential exchange. Just as the financial world turns to a clearing-house for the purpose of saving time, money and energy which may be easily diverted into other and more profitable channels, so United Charities proposes to establish and maintain, dependent upon the co-operation and good will of the agencies of the city, a clearing-house of local charitable effort, which will be at the service of all members of United Charities.

In presenting the advantages of this central Confidential Exchange, let us keep in mind the two inevitable questions: what are the methods employed by the Exchange to gain co-operation, increase charitable efficiency, and at the same time eliminate waste of money and duplication of effort; and, in the second place, how will this Confidential Exchange enable Rochester to know its own social problem and to learn the facts which will make possible such treatment of a needy family as a social physician alone can give.

As many families require the help of more than one organization, so it frequently happens that but few families are known to one agency alone. In the charitable work of our large cities, we can no more trust to our generous impulses in the work of easing the load of the heavy-laden than

the successful banker can, because of sentiment, risk the money of his depositors without careful and accurate investigation.

Take the case of a family where the husband and father is out of work through illness, and retarding his recovery by worrying constantly over the burden of debt which he is forced to carry through an unwise investment on the instalment plan. The wife and mother is weakened and anaemic from overwork; and the children, four in number, are all suffering from improper and under feeding. In order to put this family on its feet and to give the wage-earner enough courage to face the world again as the head of an independent and self-respecting family, the resources of several agencies must be utilized. The man must first of all be properly nourished, and restored to health and strength. A lawyer must be interested to straighten out the debt problem. Familiarity with the family will show the individual needs of the mother and each of the children, and will indicate the special treatment required.

The point which needs emphasis here is that this family, and hundreds of other families similarly situated, can be properly handled according to a well thought out plan, only when the right sort of co-operation is obtained. Lacking any co-ordination of effort on the part of social workers, those to whom we seek to minister are often dazed, even humiliated, beyond measure by the conflicting advice and opposing plans of agencies which are endeavoring to help independently. Where aid is thus given without a knowledge of conditions surrounding the home, the results are all too frequently distressing in the extreme. To give but one illustration of this phase of the work: In Chicago, two years ago, when there was no central information bureau, a group of well-meaning men and women started the cry that hundreds of school children were mentally deficient because of improper feeding. Various social agencies, acting independently and regardless of one another, sent their representatives into the homes of the children. The embarrassment unwittingly caused the members of these homes may more easily be imagined than described. One father, righteously indignant, met a charity worker with the remark that five callers in turn had already asked all sorts of personal questions, and if any more appeared, he would call the police.

We frequently hear an objection raised that the registration of needy families in a confidential file violates the sanctity of the home by making the dependent condition known to all. The Chicago experience cited ought to convince any unprejudiced mind that the confidential exchange, as a matter of fact, safeguards the privacy of every home. If the names of individuals and organizations interested in a family are on file in one central bureau, that family is protected from further questioning, and even this information is given only to those who are honestly striving to extend a helping hand. The Confidential Exchange, as we have indicated, is a clearing-house for charitable societies; and may be used regularly by every social worker in Rochester, either by telephone or by mail. Identifying information alone is sought—the names of the members of the family, the present address, the previous addresses and any other facts which will serve to identify the one family among thousands—that is, only the information necessary to recognize the particular name among 25,000 or 30,000 others which will probably appear during the first year in the card catalogue. Thus no family secrets are disclosed, and, as we have already tried to show, the index card preserves, rather than destroys, the privacy of the home.

All social workers know how constantly families are reported by interested friends and neighbors, and by occasional workers, who have heard only rumors of distress. Times without number a family on the borderline of poverty is fairly besieged by inquiries of all sorts from well-meaning, but poorly informed persons, who innocently enough annoy the family with useless and embarrassing questions. This may easily be avoided by finding out from the Confidential Exchange whether others are interested at any particular time in a given family. For, when an inquiry is received from a co-operating agency, the identification catalogue is consulted to find if any agency is already interested in the family. If the family name is found in the catalogue, the inquiring agency is at once referred to the worker or agency whose name appears on the identification card, and that agency in turn is notified that another agency has taken an interest in the family. The Confidential Exchange, therefore, by putting the inquiring agency in touch with the sources whence necessary information may be secured at first hand, protects the applicant from repeated questionings, from conflicting advice, from the necessity of telling personal, intimate details to several investigators, and from the temptation to magnify his distress. So useful has this branch of social service become, that in Boston the Confidential Exchange is used regularly by about eighty-five agencies, including the homes, child-helping agencies, hospitals and medical agencies, relief agencies, and churches and other religious agencies; and, as early as 1907, one child-helping agency testified that the use of the Confidential Exchange had saved the salary of one worker a year.

Let us pass in review a few specific contributions which the Confidential Exchange can make to the work of our local charities. Frequently a home for aged men or women, able to accommodate only a limited number, would naturally wish to give the preference to the most deserving poor, and there is no quicker or cheaper way of learning the facts than by using the Confidential Exchange. The children's agencies, especially, will avoid much overlapping and duplication of effort by using the Exchange. Where children are to be sent to institutions, the knowledge contributed by a medical agency might show that the child was suffering from an infectious disease, and would be a menace to a large institution; and the children's agency which is trying to meet the needs of certain children will not suffer from the intrusion of other well-meaning, but disturbing, agencies. To illustrate: A clergyman went to the children's outing department of a daily newspaper and asked that a child be sent to the country on one of its vacation trips. The outing department communicated at once with the Confidential Exchange in that city, found that a hospital had inquired recently about the same family, and later learned from the social service department of that hospital, that the boy needed long-continued care in a convalescent home and must on no account go on the outing. Again, a fresh air agency conducted by a newspaper, sent in the names and addresses of 237 children. As the registrar expressed it, the office was swamped, but with the help of its own street directory, much more detailed than the city directory, 44 per cent. of the names were identified, and the fresh air agency was thus relieved of the task of investigating numerous cases. Some of these same children were known to four or five different agencies, and in one case eight agencies had helped the family in some way. While this does not mean that, because these children were known to other agencies, they were not given the summer outing, it

does mean that the charitable agency, unable to send away all the children who applied, was in a position to discriminate as it could not otherwise have done, and to give the outing to the children who needed it most.

Perhaps more clearly in the case of hospitals and medical agencies, can we demonstrate the value of the Confidential Exchange, for the co-operation here gained bears most tangible fruit. Physicians and social workers everywhere find it greatly to their advantage to work together. A clinic physician, by inquiring at the Exchange, learns that a patient who has just come to him has been treated by some other physician. A conference results, and with the light thrown upon the case, the second physician is able to do far more effective work than he could do without the added knowledge. It may be that the patient, unwilling to take the treatment advised, is wandering from one dispensary to another, and when this fact is ascertained, he is, of course, sent back to the first dispensary. In one case in Cleveland, the doctor found that an operation was necessary. The patient, who was being helped by various agencies, did not wish to follow this advice, because it would force her to leave her children for the time being. The result of the conference over the case was that one of the children's agencies offered to care for the children during the mother's absence; and the Associated Charities agreed to withhold assistance until the woman followed the advice of the physician.

The following little history given in an article entitled "Medical Social Service," by E. V. H. Richards and M. M. Davis, Jr., in the "New Boston," shows the value of the service rendered by medical agencies in co-operation with various philanthropies which are willing to look after specific needs:— Robert R., aged six months, was admitted to the Tyler Street Hospital as a case of improper feeding. A visit to the home convinced the visitor that there was much to be accomplished before the baby's care in the hospital would or could be continued after he was discharged. The family consisted of father (twenty-seven), mother (twenty-three), both New England-born, and two other children, ages three and two respectively. An extract from the visitor's report is suggestive. After a description of the type of dwelling-house, it reads: Four good-sized, well-lighted rooms, but extremely dirty and disorderly. Two children running around nearly naked, with the thermometer at twelve degrees above. Woman washing paint, although ashes and dirt lay thick over the floor. The mother gave a history of feeding the baby on various infant foods. Excuse for this could not be found in the income, which was \$15 a week, but in the mother's early training. She had left school as soon as the law allowed, and taken a position, first as bundle and then as sales-girl, in a five-and-ten-cent store, until her marriage at seventeen. A talk with her husband unfolded a burden of debt. Twelve dollars weekly out of his \$15 wage was going to instalment dealers for everything, from wedding furniture to perfumed laundry soap. He seemed thoroughly discouraged and irritated over the poor management, from which he saw no release. But release came. While a children's society arranged for the prolonged care under expert supervision in feeding which the doctor had prescribed for Robert, the family finances were taken in hand, with their consent, by a lawyer especially interested in the instalment problem, and a thoroughly practical domestic science teacher was introduced into the household. In a letter from the mother after the baby's return we find her much concerned over the cost of the modified milk. She adds, "I'll take the milk if I have the money, but I don't want to take what I can't pay

for." If similar results are accomplished in Rochester, and they can be if the community makes up its mind to that end, the agents who are now all too frequently overworked, will find more opportunities to turn their energies into other channels.

The churches of our city receive repeated calls for all sorts of relief. Wherever the confidential exchange has been inaugurated, the labors of our overburdened ministers in this particular field have been reduced in direct proportion as they have used the resources which the central exchange alone can afford. The exchange, moreover, ought to make the strongest possible appeal to the church and its agencies because they, above all others, are working for the permanent good of those who come under their care. After learning what other agencies have been helping a family, the church can attack the problem to much better advantage. Profiting by the experiences of others, it can plan more effectively to relieve the needy permanently from poverty and distress. The person wishing help may be one who has made the rounds of the churches, changing his religion as he changes his collar. In Pittsburg, for example, it was found that a family had been helped by eleven agencies without one another's knowledge and without a common plan. One man had received help from twelve churches, fourteen households, and eight relief societies, apparently with the intent of making a business of begging, while his family sank deeper and deeper in moral and physical degradation. In Boston and Chicago, where a plan of co-operation among the churches and charitable agencies has been inaugurated and has proved highly successful, family after family has come to light, receiving constant aid from two or more separate agencies which have at no time suspected that their generous work was helping to tear down instead of building up. The exchange might inform the proper agencies in such cases as these, and all could get together on the case. Furthermore, co-operation among churches and other charitable and social agencies, the inevitable result of a Confidential Exchange, will do much to promote human brotherhood. The more complete the co-operation, the more effective the results, and if any church feels that no great good will come to it through co-operation, it has only to remember that no one liveth unto himself alone, but each has his own contribution to make to the general good.

We have used the word, "co-operation," frequently in this article; for "getting together" and "working together" seem so essential to all forward movements. And United Charities, as a tangible expression on the part of the agencies and workers in Rochester of a desire to co-operate, will aim to do more than to "bring into harmonious co-operation the various agencies." There will be at the headquarters an expert in the handling of problems of poverty; who will be glad to help formulate a workable plan whenever those who are interested in the uplift of a family find the conditions unusually distressing or bewildering. In a word, United Charities, during the first year of its existence, will try to serve Rochester in two ways: first, it can be a center of intercommunication between the various churches and philanthropic agencies; and second, it will try to work out plans for raising the needy above the need of relief, or, as it is often expressed, "helping the poor to help themselves." Here is a task worthy the best efforts of the men and women of our city. It will call for an intelligence which never slumbers, a courage which will not falter, a patience which will endure, and a sympathy as boundless as humanity itself.



EXHIBIT C: Water boy, thirteen years old, working on the Barge Canal. He receives seventy-five cents a day for eight hours work, and has a half-holiday on Saturday. There were two other water boys, ages eleven and twelve respectively.

Living Conditions in the Barge Canal Labor Camps Near Rochester

By Harry H. Wheaton

Secretary of the North American Civic League for Immigrants

The Italian sign which heads this article, was found over one of the shanties in a labor camp on the Barge Canal. Some of the men who lived in the shanty were asked what the sign meant. They shrugged their shoulders, laughed, and pulled out their pockets. I asked an interpreter the meaning of the sign. He replied, "The lodging place of those who can trim their hair without removing their hats; who can cut their nails without removing their shoes; whose pockets you can put your hands through; whose clothes have many patches; the lodge of tramps." Hence the shrug, the laugh, and the empty pockets.

In order to make a study of a labor camp it must be considered in its entirety as a colony or social unit, having certain relationships within itself and bearing certain relations to the outside world. It must also be remembered that these camps are chiefly composed of human beings who have recently come from the Old World, who are saturated with its customs, traditions, and ideals, who are quite often illiterate, who do not speak the American language, and who, while engaged in the work on the Barge Canal, are practically isolated from the rest of the world at large, and not subject particularly to American influences. This status of things immediately creates problems of large humanitarian and civic interest which should be considered by each American citizen who has at heart the welfare of his country and humanity in general, not only from the stand-

point of the foreigner but from the standpoint of future American citizenship.

There are a large number of labor camps along the Barge Canal, some of which are near Rochester. Labor Camp No. 1 covers about three acres of ground. It is composed of fifteen or twenty shanties, a lodging house for contractors, foremen and superintendents, a blacksmith shop, a dining room for American foremen and employees in authority, and a commissary store. The shanties are owned by the contractors who rent them to the employees. They are made of rough boards and tarred paper, and were specially constructed for the respective purposes for which they are now used. Camp No. 2 and others are similarly made up.



The only complaint of this woman and her child: "It is very lonely here."

EXHIBIT B. There are two rooms in this shanty, and an Italian family of six lives in the place. The boy contractors receive \$4.00 a month rent. The children run at large, and one boy carries water at seventy-five cents a day.

RACIAL, DOMESTIC AND SOCIAL COMPLEXITY OF THE CAMPS. About 300 people live in Camp No. 1. This was estimated as the number of people vary from day to day. Of this number approximately 15 are foremen, superintendents, timekeepers, etc.; 25 are women and children; 260 are laborers on the canal; 200 are Italians, 45 are Austrian; and about 15 are negroes. Eight Italian families and three or four negro families live in the camp.

In Camp No. 2 there are about 200 people. Of this number about 100 are Italian and 75 Austrian and Croatian; the remainder are American. There are two Italian families, in one two children and in the other only one child. Practically all these human beings live in seven shanties, which suggests the first condition to be considered.

OVERCROWDING. The number of human beings crowded into a small space is astonishing and will be immediately observed by the most casual observer. In one shanty in Camp No. 1 measuring about 40 by 15 feet 12 men slept, cooked, ate and lived. Eight men occupied another shanty about 18 by 12 feet. On the date of observation 26 men occupied a shanty which measured about 50 by 20 feet. Seventeen men occupy a similar shanty alongside. Of course these figures refer to facts at the time of

observation. In addition to the men in each of these shanties are a cooking stove, heater, cots and beds, and a table on which the men eat.

In Camp No. 2, shanty No. 1, 40 by 16 feet, was occupied by 30 men at date of observation; shanty No. 2, 54 by 18 feet, divided in two parts, the same size was occupied by 46 men; No. 5 has accommodations for 80 but was occupied by 43 men, 25 in section A and 18 in section B; No. 3 also was occupied by only about 40.

SLEEPING QUARTERS. The nature and condition of the sleeping quarters in no way mitigate the evils of overcrowding. In Camp No. 1 most of the shanties are provided with cots or beds. In Camp No. 2, the sleeping quarters are built in two tiers against the walls of the shanties like the berths of a steamer. These quarters are constructed of rough boards, supported by 2 by 4 inch posts. Across the posts are nailed short pieces of boards up which the men on the second tier climb to reach their beds. In some cases old straw or excelsior mattresses and pads are provided; in other cases only loose straw or pieces of blankets. For covering the men have old blankets, quilts and the like in various stages of disintegration. The tiers of beds run down both sides of the room, leaving a space about five feet wide down which to walk. The men sleep with their heads to the wall, and quite generally with all their clothes on. As above suggested the men in Camp No. 1 are provided with cots and sometimes with beds. But mattresses of straw or excelsior and blankets of delapidated character are in use. For these "accommodations" the men pay the contractors in Camp No. 1, \$1.00 per month apiece for a cot. In Camp No. 2, \$1.00 per month rent is paid the contractors, and fifty cents apiece per month to the commissary for a cot.

VENTILATION. Another condition obtaining in most of the camps along the Barge Canal is the lack of means of ventilation. In one shanty in which slept eight men there was one window, 2 by 3 feet. This was closed. In shanty No. 4, Camp No. 1, in which lived an Italian family, there were two windows. Both were closed in midsummer. In shanties Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, Camp No. 2, ventilation was secured through small windows and long, horizontal openings about 8 in. by 5 ft., made by lifting a board fastened to a hinge. Part of these were open; part closed. At night these openings are generally closed, because foreigners of the class of laborers, working on the canal, fear a draft.

COMMISSARY AND FOOD. Two systems of providing food and supplies for laborers obtain in labor camps. Under one system the contractors themselves maintain a store, where the men can buy their provisions. Under the other system a commissary independent of the contractors maintains a store. The latter system obtains in Camps Nos. 1 and 2. In Camp No. 1 the commissary issues commutation tickets for \$1.50 which are punched for various amounts, 1, 2, 5, 10, or 25 cents, when a purchase is made at the store. When the ticket is entirely punched, the commissary takes it up. Tickets for two dollars are issued at Camp No. 2.

In Camp No. 1 the men stated that they paid ten cents for a two pound loaf of bread at the commissary store; that in Rochester they bought a larger loaf for seven cents. One man stated that he paid eighteen cents a pound for coffee. On being asked to exhibit a package he showed one labelled "Coffee, Chickory and Cereal." In Camp No. 2 the men paid at the time of inquiry nine cents for a two pound loaf of bread; seven cents a pound for red beans; six cents a pound for sugar; twenty-two cents a dozen for eggs; sixteen cents a pound for lard. Some of the men

stated, however, that they sometimes ordered supplies of the X grocery Co. to be delivered at the camp, and that the commissary refused to allow the deliveryman to leave the groceries in the camp. This statement was verified by the X Grocery Co.

The men do their own cooking. At date of observation the eight men above referred to as living in Camp No. 1 had just cooked their meal. Two skillets of meat and potatoes were prepared. All the eight men were eating with spoons out of the two skillets which were filthy and black. In both camps there are a number of families, and sometimes the woman in the family cooks for all the men living in a shanty. In one shanty one woman cooked for 25 men. It was indeed a case of "cucina tutte le ore," for the men worked in two shifts and came in at various hours for their meals.



VIEW OF A LABOR CAMP ON THE BARGE CANAL: CANAL TO THE LEFT

ABSENCE OF AMERICAN INFLUENCE. To counteract these conditions in an educational way there is no American influence. Here are groups of human beings practically isolated and almost entirely excluded from assimilation. No attempt has been made to educate them, to teach them the laws of sanitation and health, to ameliorate their condition, or to uplift them morally.

QUESTION: Did not those men size up their condition aright when they nailed the sign "Alloggio della Leggiera" over their shanty door?

ONE-THIRD of the population of cemeteries consists of children under 5 years of age. * * * The little tots could not have walked the distance from the home to the cemetery if we had not pushed them all the way * * *. Open the windows and doors of your parlor and let your children meet the universal parents of life—sunshine and fresh air.—*Dr. Hyman Cohen in the Chicago Tribune.*

WHEN POLITICS IS CIVICS

By

"Savonarola"

Civics in Rome is always Politics in Athens and while the Editors of the COMMON GOOD may think that Civics is a harmless word, they ought to learn that it stands for the same thing as politics. It has more dignity only because it has not done as much fighting. But even with the modern meaning of the terms there are days when politics becomes civics. The writer believes that that day has already come to Rochester. We mean that the great civic questions of Schools, Playgrounds, Social Centers, Pure Milk, School Nurses and many other live topics of local interest are menaced, and in some cases destroyed, by the foes of civic democracy in our city to an extent that we cannot stand much longer. From the point of view of civic righteousness there is little that a progressive man can do with the present political mess and domination in Rochester. Good Republicans and Democrats who are going to vote a protest Socialist ticket this fall, are asking that a Citizens' Independent Party be formed which will insure the best treatment to these great civic policies in our community. Let it be done; but begin to plan to win the next election, not this one. LET US BEGIN AT ONCE AND BY LOYALTY TO OUR BELOVED CITY, SPEND THE NEXT TWO YEARS IN SACRIFICE, EDUCATION, AND HARD WORK IN OUR WARDS TO FORM SUCH A PARTY. There are plenty of fine citizens in Rochester who will give money and time to foster such a ticket, if only we will begin now. NOW is our chance. Civics has become politics. Let us court no existing party, but spend and be spent for our Rochester. It can be done. Corrupt politicians love pessimistic reformers; but they fear the men who believe in the victory of the Good. Such a party may not last forever, but it can make our politics, civics forever, and that is wages enough.

Our chief claim upon your
consideration is the
RELIABILITY
of our merchandise.

You can depend upon the
quality if bought at

Burke, Fitzsimons, Hone & Co.

Business Established 1867

James C. Clements

General

Insurance

Nos. 602 & 603 Insurance Building,
19 Main Street, West

Telephones 219



WE MAKE ALL KINDS OF LENSES AND OPTICAL INSTRUMENTS FOR SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES. PHOTOGRAPHIC LENSES, MICROSCOPES, FIELD GLASSES, LABORATORY APPARATUS, ASTRONOMICAL AND ENGINEERING INSTRUMENTS, ETC.

Bausch & Lomb Optical Co.

NEW YORK WASHINGTON CHICAGO SAN FRANCISCO
LONDON ROCHESTER, N.Y. FRANKFORT

BONBRIGHT & HIBBARD

Members of

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE
CHICAGO BOARD OF TRADE

Bonds Yielding from 5% to 6%

100 POWERS BUILDING

Henry Conolly Co.

Loose Leaf Ledgers
Blank Books
and
Printing

42-46 Stone Street

Rochester Phone 41

Bell Phone

When You Want Dependable Merchandise At a Reasonable Price, Visit the Big, Well-Lighted Store at Main & Fitzhugh. You'll Find Up-To-The-Minute Styles There.

DUFFY-POWERS CO.

Arthur McNall

EAST AVENUE AND SOUTH UNION ST.

PEERLESS

AND

**RAUCH & LANG
ELECTRICS**

DISTINCTIVELY HIGH GRADE CARS

If you see a boy climbing any pole, or about to touch a wire above or hanging, caution him of his danger.

ROCHESTER RAILWAY & LIGHT CO.

HOMES FURNISHED COMPLETE

SOLE AGENTS FOR

**McCray
Refrigerators**

ENDORSED BY U. S. GOV'T.

ALL SIZES, PORTABLE AND BUILT IN, FOR INSIDE OR OUTSIDE ICING

H. B. GRAVES, 78 STATE STREET

The Yates Coal Company

MAIN OFFICE, ELWOOD BUILDING

Telephones 311.

Anthracite & Bituminous

COAL

Walston Foundry Coke Smithing Coal.
Cannel Coal for Open Grates
Cumberland & Reynoldsville, Smithing.
Orders for Private Residences Solicited.
Ample Canvas and Boards provided for Protection of Lawns and Houses. All weights guaranteed.
YARDS: 51 HILL STREET
KING STREET and R. R. & P. RY.

THE "BIEN" SWISS WATCH

The best watches in the world
are made by the Swiss.

Through the efforts of our Paris office we have
at last succeeded in getting hold of just the right
Swiss watch to sell at a moderate price.

It bears our special name—"Bien"—and we can
recommend it as the best watch we have ever seen
for the money.

Supplied in three sizes, in 15, 17 and 21 jewel
movements.

Prices range from **\$12 to \$60**

Silverware Section, Front Cross Aisle.

SIBLEY, LINDSAY & CURR CO.

EZRA J. BOLLER

RESIDENT - MANAGER

**PREFERRED ACCIDENT
INSURANCE CO.**

OF NEW YORK

AND

GENERAL INSURANCE

Tel. Home 2:22

903-905 GRANITE BUILDING

IF YOU WANT GOOD CANDY BUY

Whittle's

MADE IN ROCHESTER, N. Y.

**JOHN C. MOORE
CORPORATION**

ESTABLISHED 1839

Phones 38 65-71 Stone St.
Rochester, N. Y.

Loose Leaf Record Books and Cabinets,
Loose Leaf Ledgers, Round Books and
Printing. Also a Complete Line of Office
Supplies

**Made to Order Goods a
Specialty**

Agencies throughout the United States

Quality

We put quality first.

The rest follows.

The result is—satisfaction.

The certainty of a full measure
of value awaits you here.

THE UNION CLOTHING CO.

"Rochester's Greatest Clothing Store"

**Wright & Alexander
Company**

CONTRACTORS

Heating
Plumbing

Automatic Sprinkler Systems

270-272 State St. Rochester, N. Y.

Telephones 1056

**EFFICIENT
FILING
SYSTEMS**

YAWMAN AND ERBE MFG. CO.

424 ST. PAUL ST.



ROCHESTER, N. Y.

REMEMBER THE NAME
Shur-on
EYEGLASSES

GRACE
THE
FACE



You will never
have eyeglass
comfort, convenience
or lens efficiency un-
til you wear properly
adjusted SHUR-ON
Eyeglasses.

At the better Opticians.

E. KIRSTEIN SONS CO.
Rochester, N. Y.

M. E. WOLFF, Pres. MARTIN BEIR, Vice-Pres.

M. E. Wolff Co.

GENERAL
INSURANCE

106 Powers Bldg. Rochester, N. Y.

A. J. HOLLISTER, Secy. & Treas.

*"Where the
Good Clothes
come from."*

McFarlin Clothing Co.

HOWARD A. HARROWS, Pres't.

Stevens-Duryea

AND HUDSON
MOTOR CARS

THE GILLIS-BAIRD MOTOR CO.

180 CLINTON AVE. SO.

WASHINGTON SQUARE

**Skinner's
Satin**

IS ALWAYS GUARANTEED TO
WEAR TWO SEASONS

See that you have it in your Overcoat

MARFUL PRINTS

THE
CHOICE OF PARTICULAR
PEOPLE.

Made only by MARKS & FULLER

28 STATE STREET

F. M. Kline & Co.
A Distinctive Drug Store

No Cleaner Soda
Service Anywhere

Certified Milk only is served at
our Fountain.

All glasses and Spoons are washed
in boiling water and dried with
clean towels.

Cor. East Ave. and Main St.



BOOKSELLERS
STATIONERS
ENGRAVERS

Toys,
Athletic Goods,
School Books
and Supplies,
Leather Goods,
Pictures.

LOCATED IN POWERS BUILDING

TELL YOUR FRIENDS
HOW
UNCOMMON GOOD
THE
COMMON GOOD
IS!

Have We a Democracy?



No plan of Government is a Democracy unless on actual trial it proves to be one. The fact that those who planned it intended it to be a Democracy, and could argue that it would be one if the People would only do thus and so, proves nothing—if it doesn't "Democ" it isn't *Democracy*.

—Richard S. Childs

"Short Ballot Principles"