

mers during the long, cold winters, Dr. Sabsovich gradually but surely succeeded in interesting business men in his plans, and several factories were established. To these factories came workers of various trades in large numbers; they bought small homes, cultivated and developed the land around their homes, and with thrift and diligence, rose to prominent citizens of the colony.

It was then that the many-sided talents of the Professor had full scope. As manager of the colony, he was at once brother and friend to each and every one of the colonists, rejoicing, encouraging and commending in good fortune, and consoling, cheering and sympathizing in misery. He was also the peacemaker and arbitrator in all civic and domestic dissensions, wisely holding that Jewish cases should not come before the legal courts. In this way he either prevented, or amicably settled disputes that otherwise would have brought condemnation, or, to say the least, unfriendly criticism, upon the colonists from the neighboring villagers, who at first were not disposed to regard them with favor.

As superintendent of the Woodbine Agricultural School, the Professor was a wise teacher and a judicious mentor. The boys found in him what many had in all their lives lacked—a source of inspiration and an interested friend and counsellor. His rule was that of love, and as he sowed, so he reaped, for few fathers are as beloved and respected, as is the "Professor" even today by many of his "boys."

Dr. Sabsovich combined idealism with common sense, and that he succeeded in bringing many of his dreams and visions to a very practical and material form, amply attest to that fact. For several years he cherished the hope of establishing in his beloved Woodbine a sort of Jewish government, under the State Laws of New Jersey, and made every effort to incorporate Woodbine as a separate borough. Infinite patience and energy were required, yet, despite his manifold duties, the Professor ultimately succeeded in seeing his ardent desire fulfilled. Woodbine became a small Jewish government, a separate township, with its own mayor, its own board of councilmen and its own various city departments. And, of course, in its gratitude, Woodbine unanimously elected him its first mayor,

and its mayor he continued till, in 1905, he was called to New York City to assume the responsibilities of general agent of the Baron de Hirsch Fund. This position he occupied until his death.

His last request was that he be buried in Woodbine, the Woodbine he made and loved, and which loved and will love him for all time. There he lies in peace, and, while his memory will remain green in the hundreds of hearts which knew and loved him, and the world will be enriched through the many lives he inspired and molded with his own indomitable spirit and high aspirations—his monument will wax ever stronger and greater—the place where the American Jew first learned the independence and blessed living from tilling the soil—Woodbine!

Can any man desire a greater monument?

#### The Mendels' Maternity Hospital

Mr. Abraham Mendels of Baltimore, desiring to erect a memorial to his deceased brothers, is the donor of a maternity ward at the Hebrew Hospital. This addition is known as the Emanuel and Joseph Mendels' Memorial Hospital. The new building is a handsome addition to the group of buildings now comprising the Hebrew Hospital. It is a three-story building, of yellow brick, to harmonize with the other buildings in the group. On the first floor are several private rooms, a diet kitchen, sterilizing room, delivery room, nursery and free ward. On the second floor are six private rooms, a delivery room, nursery, diet kitchen and sterilizing room. In the basement are rooms equipped for X-ray work, a fluoroscopic room and a room for orthopedic operations.

The building will accommodate twelve pay patients and as many free patients. There are also quarters for isolation.

Especial mention should be made of the spacious porches. They are really large outdoor rooms and they add greatly to the beauty and usefulness of the hospital.

The new addition is beautifully equipped. Each room is furnished in brown oak furniture. The nurseries are finished with the newest arrangement of beds and small baskets fastened to the wall. The new hospital, representing an expenditure of \$70,000, fills a long-felt want.

## SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE HEBREW SHELTERING AND IMMIGRANT AID SOCIETY OF AMERICA

An event of greatest importance for American Jewry took place on Sunday, March 14th, in New York City when the Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society of America held its annual meeting at Public School No. 62, Hester and Essex Streets. Three thousand delegates and representatives of many Jewish organizations affiliated with the national body attended and many were turned away on account of lack of room. They came to deliberate upon the work that the Society accomplished during the last year and to hear the discussions of the serious problems affecting the Jewish immigrants and Jewish immigration at the present time by the president of the Society, Judge Leon Sanders, and distinguished speakers and prominent immigration officials. It was the largest meeting that has been held in New York City this year. Enthusiastic applause frequently marked the appreciation of the audience of the most significant passages of the president's report and the most telling points made by the speakers.

The president, Judge Leon Sanders, said in part:

"Our meeting is taking place at one of the gravest moments in history. Not only has the war which is being waged by the great European powers been responsible for a deep and widespread sense of failure of what is called modern civilization, not only has it shown by striking contrast the enduring value of the Jewish principle of peace as the one true safeguard of human relations in society, but it has created directly a situation of suffering and misery for millions of Jews, subjects of the European warring monarchs."

After mentioning the fact that the Society has done its share in the relief of the impoverished Jews in the war countries, he continued:

"We must, however, not forget the close links that bind our European brethren to us. The United States is not only the land of assistance and support for our oppressed and unfortunate brethren, but is still the land of refuge. Jewish suffering and misery abroad has as its countershield Jewish im-

migration to this country, the rate of which has been steadily rising for a number of decades. This mighty stream will not cease flowing so long as persecution, restrictive law and pogrom mark their fearful trail across the path of the Jews in Eastern Europe.

"We must not fail to realize that thousands of our brethren who have lost all their possessions through the war, unable to recover their ground, will be forced to join the stream of exiles from their country. Unless their political status is changed, and there seems to be no reason for regarding this as likely, we must expect a much larger Jewish immigration than has ever before come to this country."

The president then appealed for the support of the Emergency Fund which has been created by the Society to enable it to increase the facilities for receiving and aiding the larger number of immigrants who will soon be here. He then described the energetic measures undertaken by this Society to oppose the Burnett Bill, with its many objectionable features. He expressed his appreciation of President Wilson's selection of Dr. Frederic C. Howe to the important post of Commissioner of Immigration at the Port of New York.

Turning his attention to the activities conducted on behalf of the Jewish immigrants, he said:

"It is really difficult to exaggerate the importance of the work we are doing for the immigrant. We deal with him at the most critical moment of his migration—when he arrives. His first and often lasting impression of this country is gained through contact with us; his first steps are taken under our guidance; frequently his attitude of appreciation or depreciation, of understanding or misapprehension of the values and the meaning of American civilization are determined by what is carved by us upon the plastic framework of his mind. Without reflecting in any way upon the many institutions surrounding us and doing splendid work in various directions, I think I may say without fear of contradiction that no society in this country comes

into contact with the immigrant and his needs so early, so directly and so frequently, during the formative period of his American life, as the Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society of America.

This sentiment was warmly approved by the meeting which greeted it with enthusiastic and prolonged applause.

Mentioning the great decrease in Jewish immigration that occurred during the latter part of last year, owing to the war in Europe, the president said that in spite of this decrease the work of the Society has largely increased in a number of directions.

"The Ellis Island Bureau, which is engaged in a vital phase of our activities, was kept as busy last year as in any ordinary year of Jewish immigration. As many as 3374 cases were taken up, as compared with 3769 cases in 1913.

"It is gratifying to note that there were only 862 cases of deportation, as compared with 1199 cases in 1913. A fact of great significance is that not one Jew was deported by reason of conviction of crime, and only three were deported as immoral persons. Considering the number who entered the country, this speaks most eloquently for the character of the Jewish immigrant. That the Bureau is conducted with ability and integrity is indicated in the fact that three-quarters of the cases it appealed were sustained, whereas in cases of appeals handled by others only one-quarter were sustained. Our policy of standing behind those cases which deserve support is thus justified by these results.

"Those temporarily detained in New York are provided with shelter at our home, which last year took care of almost 5000 persons. This was only 500 less than were cared for by us the year before, in spite of the great decrease of immigrant arrivals.

"It is not only shelter and food that are sought of us, and are cheerfully given. The assistance we are called upon to render takes many and complex forms, demanding infinite care and involving the time, effort and co-operation of our various bureaus.

"The Legal Aid Bureau is maintained primarily to protect recent immigrants against unjust deportation by the State and Federal Government.

"Our Employment Bureau has been successful in placing in 1914 as many as 1770 applicants, only one-fifth less than in the year preceding, when economic conditions were relatively normal.

"Our Information Bureau has handled 26,000 matters of smaller or greater importance during the past year.

"Our Department of Education, through its naturalization work, brings to the attention, especially of the recent immigrants, the necessity of becoming American citizens as soon as this is legally possible. We have not only assisted several thousand immigrants last year to obtain their first and second papers, but have also organized citizenship classes at our home and in a number of other institutions in various sections of Greater New York."

He then referred to the remarkable increase of the membership of the Society. In 1913 it had 15,357 individual members and organizations. Last year it counted a membership of 46,023 individual members and organizations, an increase of 183 per cent. In his concluding remarks Judge Sanders spoke of the great opportunity that will come to solve through the Peace Conference the Jewish question in Eastern Europe.

"The continuous migration of Jews from Eastern Europe that we have been witnessing for a third of a century is due directly to their unrelenting persecution and inhuman oppression by the mediocrally-minded governments of Russia and Roumania. The time has come to strike off the chains of bondage that have made them citizens of second rank and to extend to them the rights enjoyed by all members of civilized states to live free lives, to move without restraint, and to be accorded the protection of the law in common with their fellowmen."

He appealed to the members and to all the Jews of America to unite on this common platform and to work earnestly, zealously and disinterestedly for the proper formulation and presentation by Kol Yisroel of its demand that the Jewish question be solved with dignity and honor by the European powers.

"At the same time this Society should continue and develop its great work. So

long as the conditions which have created Jewish immigration exist, so long must we remain at our posts, faithful executors of the great task we have undertaken to lighten the heavy burdens of the immigrants, to care for them at every step of their painful journey, to remove by every means in our power the obstacles in their path, and to render their entrance into American life simple, effective and resonant with the spirit of their adopted land."

After the business of the meeting was concluded, President Sanders introduced the Hon. Anthony Caminetti, Commissioner General of Immigration, who expressed his high appreciation of the efforts the Society was making for the benefit of the immigrant. He said in part:

"I only wish that every nationality and every race in this country would take the same interest and show the same energy in protecting its people as you do and as you have done in the past, and as I know that so long as the distinguished men that honor you by their leadership in this line, as long as they have, they will leave successors that will help you maintain the public esteem that you have gained."

He then discussed the new activity that had been organized by the Department of Labor for the purpose of distributing workmen and of creating employment for them throughout the country. "The organization," he said, "is extensive and it reaches every part of the land. Wherever there is a postoffice in the United States there the organization is established, and wherever there is an agent of the Department of Agriculture there the organization is established, and wherever there is an immigration officer there it is likewise established, and from reports that have been lately received from every part of the republic there is no question that if the government officers, if the people, if organizations such as this will all co-operate that we will be able to find a job for every man who desires to work. And particularly will organizations like yours be serviceable in making a success of the new work undertaken by the Department of Labor."

President Sanders then introduced, with words of warm admiration, the Hon. John B. Densmore, solicitor of the Department

of Labor, as the man who frequently was the final arbiter of the fate of the immigrant. Mr. Densmore devoted himself chiefly to describing the machinery of his department and the methods pursued in considering all appeals of immigration cases which have been previously decided by the Board of Special Inquiry. He discussed the general question of immigration and suggested the necessity of distributing immigrants into the states where public land is still to be found. "They will," he said, "not only find millions of acres of the finest land there is in the country. You can have it just by going out there and getting it after you get there, but you will find out there some states and some cities that I think I might be permitted to say are as good as the State of New York and New York City, perhaps not quite so large. Now the immigration problem is to a large extent an economic problem, an industrial problem. Because the alien, as soon as he arrives, unless he is dependent on someone else, has to find something to do; has to be employed. The economic problem is the hard one to solve and satisfy all of the aliens that come from different countries."

Referring to the Jewish immigrant, he remarked that they came in order to escape from the awful conditions in which they are forced to exist in some of the European countries. "In other words," he said, "they are not coming altogether for the purpose of bettering their industrial position for gain, they are coming in the exercise of a right of asylum, coming to a country that has always held out an asylum to unfortunates who are persecuted for religious or political reasons, and I think that I have heard no finer tribute or expressed in more beautiful language than that Jewish poet to suffering humanity in the defense of the right of asylum by our illustrious President when he vetoed the immigration bill." His remarks were greeted with great applause.

An ovation was given by the audience to the next speaker, Dr. Frederic C. Howe, whom President Sanders referred to in terms of highest appreciation of his efforts at Ellis Island to make the lot of the immigrant easier and to change the tone which had hitherto prevailed at the Island of

hardly concealed hostility to the immigrant to one of utmost friendliness. Dr. Howe expressed his pleasure at the cordial welcome he received from the Society and pointed out in brief and eloquent words the motives that actuated his attitude to the immigrants. "It seemed to the Administration, and it seemed quite reasonable to me, that when we read the law that it said two things; first, there are certain people to be excluded under the law, and, looking over the statistics, I found that they amounted to about two people out of a hundred, or 2 per cent. Now it seemed quite as obvious to me, although it doesn't say in the law, that 98 people out of 100 were to be admitted and that the Government invited them. It said, come to our shores, become citizens, go to work, employ yourselves and you are welcome here. That set me thinking that the Government probably said to me, in silence, if not in effect, it is your business to do anything you can to make those who are admitted as comfortable and happy as possible, and that is what we have been trying to do at Ellis Island. Ellis Island is public property and those of us who are over there are public servants. We have made provisions at Ellis Island so that every man, woman or child in the United States can participate in its administration. We did that through inviting suggestions, criticisms, complaints. Every question and suggestion is talked over for the best cure of abuses, which, like the best curative of disease, is sunlight, and the sunlight that we are aiming to turn on Ellis Island is the sunlight of as many human eyes as will turn themselves on that station with their suggestions or complaints when they found them."

The reception given to Dr. Howe at the meeting showed that his remarks had gone to the very hearts of the members, and it was evident that Commissioner Howe's idea of making the Ellis Island Immigration Station a place of welcome for the immigrant was deeply felt by all present.

The next speaker was Senator Martine of New Jersey. He was lauded with a few introductory remarks by Judge Sanders as one of the strongest opponents of the Burnett Bill in Congress and as one to whom the supporters of liberal immigration were greatly indebted for the campaign he

conducted during the recent immigration struggle against the bill. Senator Martine is a powerful speaker, who feels deeply what he says. His words produced a great effect upon the members of the Society. Senator Martine discussed the recent fight in Congress and ridiculed in strong terms the literacy test which the restrictionists had proposed to put upon the statute books. At one point he impressed his audience greatly with a picture of a Jewish father who was showing a map of the war to his little son, but could not point out the country that belonged to the Jews. "The Hebrew because of accident beyond which he had no control, who drank from his mother's bosom the milk of life, was deprived of the peacefulness of the glories and blessings of the free democracy and liberty of this grand country of ours.

"Now I say to the Russian, come here, and to the Russian girl or woman, come here, our latch strings hang out, we shall only ask honest hearts, clean bodies and pure minds, and the worship of God that is above us, and a willingness to work, and that is all we ask, and then our public school systems will take them in hand and we will assimilate them and bring together the grandest nation in time to come, that God or man has ever seen.

"I came to this city a few months ago to be present down here at the funeral of the few boys who went to Mexico and died at the battle of Vera Cruz. Nine men, I think, were brought home as corpses, with caskets draped in the American flag. Five of those were Hebrew boys, who bared their chests to the Mexican bullet, torn from their mothers' and families' sides to defend liberty's cause. These boys were Hebrew boys.

"Obliterate the Jew and you wipe out the greater part of Christian history and it is God's truth. Strike out the work of the Jew from the Christian era and you destroy the old Bible and the Ten Commandments. Do you want to make the influence of the Jew and his power for good, for humanity, less? No, Disraeli, the greatest English parliamentarian, was an English Jew, and Sarah Bernhardt was a Jew. Why, do you want music? Why I have only to point to you Anton Rubinstein, who was a Jew. They can come and tickle our palates,

they may thrill us with their music, fascinate with their art, their sculpture, their literature, and we will not object, but it must be strained through 5000 miles of a tempestuous sea voyage before we will accept it."

The Hon. Abram I. Elkus and former Congressman Goldfogle spoke briefly. The

## SYNAGOGUAL SOCIAL SERVICE WORK

William Rosenau

Time once was when the synagogue had under its supervision all communal Jewish philanthropic endeavor. Latterly—and more especially in this country—for reasons which do not concern us here, such endeavor was taken from the synagogue and delegated to separate and distinct charitable institutions. A moment's reflection is sure to prove that harm was thus gradually done both to the usefulness of the synagogue and the efficacy of the philanthropies. The relinking and co-operation, now going on in many quarters between the synagogue and the philanthropies, are already revealing the wisdom of the newer policy. In order that the policy may meet with general adoption, a short statement of a feasible method of procedure making for the reunion of the synagogue and the philanthropies must surely be welcomed.

Let the congregation resolve to introduce social service work. For the maintenance of this activity the Board of Trustees should vote an appropriation. The amount need not necessarily be large, as the congregation is only to help by actual service, while the organized charities are to continue to furnish financial relief. An official worker, whether salaried or unsalaried, but in every instance fitted by temperament, training, experience and leisure, should be appointed. A case committee of no less than a dozen persons and representing both sexes and all classes, vocations and sections of the city, should be organized. Volunteers, every one of whom is to express his or her preference for the kind of work he or she would be willing to do, should be solicited. The official worker should go to the offices of the charities for the assignment of cases to receive his consideration. Each case, as assigned, should then be per-

famous Yiddish orator, Rev. H. Masliansky, created an indescribable impression upon all present by his picture of the fate of the Jew at this tragic moment needing more than ever the help and activity of organizations like the Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society, to relieve in some measure their sufferings.

sonally visited and carefully studied by him. The Case Committee should, at its meetings to take place at a given hour at least once a week, have the case in all its details presented to it. As a case in question is carefully considered by the committee, it will be handled in an intelligent and effectual manner. The committee will be in a position to determine whether a case requires financial aid, personal counsel or friendly visiting. While members of the Case Committee may themselves assume the responsibility of supplying the kind of aid needed, the volunteers are to be called into service at this juncture. However, volunteers ought not be permitted to do work unless they give evidence of a knowledge of the means to be employed in the handling of cases. Inasmuch as most volunteers are uninformed with regard to social service work, it is advisable to train them by means of lectures dealing with the various kinds of philanthropic movements in existence, the best methods employed in relief work and typical cases encountered by workers.

The plan outlined has been devised and tried by the Eutaw Place Temple of Baltimore. Because of the success, with which this plan has met, the Social Service Department of the congregation has come to stay. Prompted by this example, other Baltimore congregations have recently added social service work to their other activities. What is being undertaken in Baltimore can be undertaken elsewhere. The philanthropies need be made to recognize the influence of the synagogue. The synagogue needs to justify its *raison d'être* by social service together with other worthy purposes.