## In Memoriam Ben Edidin 1899-1948

Jewish social work will miss Ben Edidin. His contribution was more than that of a professional worker in his chosen field. He gave freely of his whole self.

His deep interest in achieving a fusion of the best in Jewish culture with social work theory and practice did not predicate the mere intellectual welding of concepts, methods and techniques, but was part of his search for the broadest kind of humanitarianism as a foundation for living.

To me Ben Edidin personified Jewish education. This was not merely a set of concepts, practices and objectives. Jewish education to Ben Edidin was a way of life for Jews everywhere. It was not restrictive or hampering but an adventurous, joyous and socially mature philosophy of living. Nor was this philosophy something that he merely preached and taught; on the contrary, he exemplified it in all his activities and relationships. As he mingled with people they were infected by his gentleness, tolerance and love of children. At Hawthorne-Cedar Knolls School his name will always be associated with the highest ideals in Jewish education and child welfare.

In our relationships with him we were always keenly aware of the kindliness and warmth that characterized his being. Our memories of Ben Edidin will always be of a man who loved his fellowmen and invested his work with this love.

HERSCHEL ALT