

The Business Man in Service

By Albert C. Lehman

A national awakening of patriotic endeavor; a mellowing of race and religious prejudice; a more harmonious relationship between Labor and Capital; a new sense of responsibility regarding the obligation one owes to his fellowmen; a realization of the call for real service from the man of means toward the less fortunate, are some of the vital things that have come out of the World War.

Men and women are no longer gauged by the material success they have attained; they are being weighed by the success they have attained; they are being weighed by the service they perform toward making this world of ours a decent, clean, and happy place in which to live; and so we see such movements as Child Labor Legislation, Workmen's Compensation,

to success in business:

First—Well-paid Labor

Second—Equally well-paid Administration

Third—Equally well-paid Capital

Capital must receive a reasonable reward or it shrinks into hiding. Administrative heads must be well paid or they lose interest, initiative and efficiency. Labor must be satisfied; must have good living conditions, and must receive the highest possible remuneration. Workers are entitled to good food, comfortable houses, decent clothing, and an education for their children. Men now realize that a child who does not receive the proper education is a menace to progress, and that a chance for health, education, and happiness should be his by birthright.

This attitude of the business men is following pretty closely that taken by a class of people in America known as "Welfare Workers," and the desire of the Welfare Workers is practically the desire of all of us. Ideas of co-operation of men and women in all walks of life are being put forth, and, as they evolve, the new order of things, it is hoped, will bring a greater share of peace and happiness to everyone, and a better understanding between different groups of people.

The thoughts expressed in the foregoing will answer the question why the Jewish Big Brother Club was formed and explain the spirit that prompted it. The club is still in its infancy and for the time being we are restricting ourselves to rendering service to the boy who has gotten into trouble, and to helping the boy who may, because of conditions beyond his control, stray from the beaten path. The work is important and we are handling it in a serious, conscientious manner.

In the space of a few short months we have experienced a pleasure and a happiness in our work wholly undreamed of. There is being quickened in the lives of the younger boys a sense of decency, honesty, and obligation, and what is more, a knowledge of friendship between man and boy which they never before understood. In accomplishing these things the Big Brother is acquiring something bigger and finer than he has ever possessed. He is broadening and teaching himself what real service means; accumulating a knowledge of civic things; and handling problems which have never concerned him before. Men who have heretofore devoted their entire lives to material things have entered this work with an enthusiasm and conscientiousness that is almost unbelievable and they have learned in giving happiness to the Little Brother that they are at the same time bringing a greater happiness to themselves.

The members of the club, desiring



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Sick and Old Age Pensions, co-operation between the producers of commodities, the managers and the investing public; good housing, playgrounds for juveniles; and instructive and preventive work among children.

People today are giving a great measure of thought and consideration to these movements. A sense of obligation so virile has been aroused that conditions which existed prior to the war can never return, and all the talk we hear about reconstruction is not bound by the merely physical reconstruction of things but it is the reconstruction that is going on in men's minds which will never allow a return to the old order of things. This change in thought is most strongly emphasized by the attitude taken by business men all over the country. They have awakened to the fact that there are but three elements

to render a real service, have assumed the work with a real appreciation of the opportunity offered them. They all realize the necessity of a higher citizenship, better civic conditions, and the necessity of giving the boy a fairer chance for happiness. The club is receiving a splendid spirit of co-operation from the members of the Young Men's Hebrew Association,—many of whom are giving of their

time and energy towards helping this work. The splendid spirit shown by the young men of this organization is recognized by all, and now that we have our soldiers back home (many of them being members of the Young Men's Hebrew Association) with their broadened vision due to their experiences, we feel we shall get an added help in our work and an added inspiration.