

**Pen-Shots of Important People**

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Pittsburgh only with the understanding that he might make what changes he wished and follow whatever lines he desired, proceeded to carry out his scheme according to his well-formulated ideals. Important and note-worthy as may be the tremendous growth in numbers of those who have attended and have been aided by the Settlement since his arrival, and significant as are the material changes and improvements that he has been instrumental in bringing about—such as the tremendous and well-equipped \$650,000 addition to the old building—of even greater value is the less tangible but none the less real accomplishments that the Settlement has made under the leadership of Mr. Teller. And all of them represent steps toward the complete attainment of those ideals for which this social pioneer is eternally fighting.

"I have three ideals," Mr. Teller told me one evening as I sat opposite him in his office, where his work keeps him long after most men's business

days are over. The first of these that he mentioned was "to make it possible for people to live—not just to exist," as he expressed it. Later, as Mr. Teller conducted me through the Irene Kaufmann Settlement, and I watched first in one room a little six-year-old boy modelling a surprisingly recognizable figure of an old man, and in another a group of little girls drawing the picture of a child who was posing as model, and then in still other rooms children making puppets, women learning to sew dresses for their children, and boys constructing model aeroplanes, I realized what was being accomplished. It was not so much a question of what sort of things these people were being taught to make, nor how much talent they manifested for what they were doing; it was rather the intense earnestness and interest that marked each one of the faces I had seen. Certainly, I told myself, this director, who has been at the Settlement over twenty years, is accomplishing what he had set out to: to give people interests that would make them unwilling to sink into a life that was not really

life, but bare existence. As Mr. Teller had insisted, "The important thing is to waken interests." Over and over again at the Settlement this "social rabbi" is able to see one of his ideals being realized, as he watches boys and girls and men and women, who had formerly merely existed, being taught how different it is "to live." He is proving to them that wealth is not necessary for a rich life.

And closely allied with this ideal is another of the three which Sidney Teller spoke of: "to teach people how to use their leisure time." If this can be realized, the director insisted, there is no reason to regard the machine fearfully as a menace to men. Quite on the contrary, Mr. Teller beholds it as creating a possibility for man further to enjoy himself because of his increased leisure. The more work done by machines, the less it is necessary for men to do. Thus the problem, this man believes, is not to attempt to limit the machine's function, but rather to learn how we may better take advantage of our increased free time. Part of the task is to open new fields to people—to give them access, as he has the Irene Kaufmann Settlement, to art, music and literature. And equally important and perhaps more difficult is the problem of encouraging the substitution of the more for the less worthwhile means of enjoying leisure time. I had seen an example of the success of the former effort when Mr. Teller introduced me to a young man who had been coming to the Settlement for years, and who only the day before had opened his one-man exhibit of paintings in the Gulf Building. And of the latter—of putting aside harmful for helpful pleasures—the boys who were absorbedly designing aeroplanes, when they might otherwise have been shooting crap in the streets, and those who were happily playing ping pong or pool together much as if they were in a club, instead of loafing in neighborhood pool rooms and gambling halls—here was proof enough that this too was possible.

And finally the third ideal, Mr. Teller told me, was "to get rid of the slums." That this is possible he is convinced, for in his travels he has already seen it accomplished in Vienna and other places. That this is essential the director is even more certain; for, as he explained it, social evils, no more than social diseases, can be banished so long as the sources of infection remain. It's for this reason that Sidney Teller's name is seen in connection with every movement for "cleaning up the Hill," or for improving living conditions in the poorer districts. And the past few weeks, as usual, it has appeared in the papers again as representing one of those who is actively engaged in assisting the Federal Housing commission to rid Pittsburgh of its slums.

When I asked Sidney Teller if he were in sympathy with socialism, he succinctly answered: "Not socialism, but socialization." Assuredly this man's whole life has been devoted—and far from in vain—to exactly this. For socialization is defined in the dictionary as "to arouse to interest in the welfare of humanity in general." Without regard to race or creed, locality or age, Mr. Teller has bent all his efforts to helping and to urging others to help humanity in general.

**Purim Cabaret and Dance for Folk School Benefit**

On Wednesday, Purim night, February 28, a cabaret and dance will be held at the New Towne Club, 5921 Penn Avenue, for the benefit of the Jewish National Folk School.

A good show, a good time is assured. Tickets may be obtained at the school, 2223 Murray Avenue, and a cordial invitation is extended to all.

**Men's Club "Roundup"**

Not to be outdone by former stags and smokers, the Men's Club of Beth Shalom Synagogue will hold a combination stag, smoker and jamboree on Tuesday evening, January 30, at 8:30 p. m. at the Social Hall, which the committee promises will surpass anything ever attempted in the city.

The outstanding feature of the evening will be the personnel of radio Station WWSW, which includes some of the finest artists in the Western part of the State. This review has been presented before the finest clubs in the city and only after considerable efforts by the committee did they consent to appear before the Men's Club.

Gene Kelly, the versatile dancer, will be present to entertain the audience and give them an exhibition of new and unusual steps in dancing.

The committee has left nothing undone in preparing this outstanding affair and from all indications, it will be the talk of the town. Those in charge have promised entertainment of the finest, good music, food and drinks. However, it is always essential that one good speaker be present for the evening and the committee has secured Alexander Cooper for the occasion.

Owing to the limited number that the Social Hall can accommodate, the committee regrets that this affair is to be open only to its members and one male guest each. Tickets will be in the mail shortly.

**Recent Visitor to Palestine to Address Mizrahi Youth**

The newly elected officers of the Mizrahi Youth of Pittsburgh will assume their duties next Tuesday evening, January 30, at a meeting at the Y. M. and W. H. A. The meeting will be addressed by Miss Mary Berman of New York City as the representative of the National Administration of Mizrahi Youth of America. Miss Berman has just returned to this country from a year's tour of Palestine and Europe where she attended the recent Zionist Congress at Prague, and the World Conference of Mizrahi Youth at Cracow, as a delegate of the Mizrahi Youth of America. In her address Miss Berman will relate her experiences in Palestine as well as her impressions of the Zionist Congress and the Mizrahi Conference.

An interesting surrounding program will be presented and a cordial invitation is extended to all young people who are interested in the work of the Mizrahi Youth, to attend this meeting.

The officers to be installed are: President, A. L. Butler; vice-president, Benjamin Simon; recording and financial secretary, Evelyn Butler; corresponding secretary, Ida Goldstein; treasurer, Murray Stein.

**Chofetz Chaim Men's Club Celebrates Chamisho Oser B'Shvat**

The Men's Club of the Congregation Chofetz Chaim will celebrate a Chamisho Oser B'Shvat (Jewish Arbor Day) festival on Sunday evening, February 4, at 8 p. m., in the vestry rooms of the Synagogue. An interesting program has been arranged for the evening.

The following will participate in the evening's entertainment: an outstanding violin pupil of Mr. Max Shapiro, accompanied by Miss Bertha Gerson; Mr. Joseph Gerson, also accompanied by Miss Gerson; Cantor Jacob Waid of the Shaare Tefilloh Synagogue, and Mr. Arlnuck, who will present a monologue entitled "Slaps."

The speaker of the evening will be the well-known attorney, Leonard S. Levin.

Refreshments will be served. The affair is open to the entire Squirrel Hill community.

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