

PITTSBURGH HOUSE OF SHELTER

A brief resume of year 1920 as follows: The Pittsburgh House of Shelter held eight regular board meetings. The Anniversary Day, usually celebrated in November, was postponed to February, 1920. The "Seder" was fittingly celebrated and all holy days observed. On Tuesday, October 12th, 1919, the annual "Jelly Ingathering" was inaugurated. This day was in charge of Mrs. A. Bernstein and Mrs. Louis Gordon, assisted by Mrs. Samuel Osgood, Mrs. Emma Baer, Mrs. I. L. Scheinman, Mrs. M. H. Cuff and Mrs. Louis Goldman. One hundred and fifty-five quarts of jelly were made, besides \$15.00 in cash donations, and 100 pounds sugar from the Jelly Club of the Hebrew Ladies' Hospital Aid Society.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Gordon, in honor of their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary, gave a chicken dinner to the inmates.

Mrs. Simon Grossman appointed to represent this society in Zionist parade.

For the year we provided 573 men, 12 women and 18 children; total, 603 people. Among this number were 12 families. Served 1,500 breakfasts, 1,199 dinners, 1,662 suppers; total, 4,361 meals. The average stay, 2 1/2 days, and in many cases men were provided with clothing, etc.

In co-operation with the Pittsburgh Identification for Social Agencies, we made 557 inquiries and 35 identifications.

Received in donations from \$25 and upwards as follows: Mr. Max Solomon, Beaver Falls, \$100; Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Bennett, \$100; Rev. Louis Lipman, in memory of wife, \$50; Mr. Mayer Rosenbloom, \$25; Edward N. Finkelhor, in memory of Jacob Levine Yahrzeit, \$25; Mrs. Tillie Half, memory Felix Half, \$25; Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Israel, memory daughter Henrietta Kline, \$25; Mr. and Mrs. R. Balter, honor twenty-fifth wedding anniversary, \$25; Mrs. Nathan Stein and Mrs. N. W. Amdur, memory mother, \$25; Mr. Sam Gelman, \$25 and liberal donation of fish for Sabbaths and all holidays.

We extend our sincere thanks to our contributors for their interest and kind support.

Mrs. E. N. Finkelhor, Sec'y.

Nationalities

Russian, 221; American, 163; Austrian, 49; German, 36; Hungarian, 35; Roumanian, 24; English, 13; Italian, 9; Palestinian, 8; Hollander, 8; Belgian, 6; Canadian, 5; Galician, 4; Bulgarian, 2; Swedish, 2; Spanish, 2; Holstein, 1; Danish, 1; Courlander, 1; Grecian, 1; French, 1; West Indian, 1.

Madame President, Officers and Board of Directors of the Pittsburgh House of Shelter:

Another year his passed with its various forms of work that have come under its surveillance. Many problems and difficulties have been taken care of, according to the character and need of each. A great many old people have been cheered and young men have been sheltered, fed and encouraged, fifty-seven of these being very important cases; although, since it is my custom to make monthly reports to the Board of all such cases, I will bring to your attention only a few of the cases. In order to solve the above problems the United Hebrew Relief assisted me in cases where transportation was necessary and otherwise, as the case might have been.

It is my opinion that all charitable institutions will be taxed this winter to their full capacity of work.

I will now bring to your attention a few of the cases above cited, as follows:

Case 1. Mr. Teller brought to my attention the word received by him, viz., that a man had been lying sick without medical attendance. Upon investigation I found the man in a very serious condition. I was successful in having him admitted to the Montefiore Hospital, where he remained for ten days. The case being incurable, he was sent here to the House of Shelter. Thereupon I made application to the City Poor Board and the man being accepted, he was sent to the Mayview Hospital, where he is at the present time. The last report received from the patient by Mrs. Louis Gordon, Jr., was to the effect that the man's days are numbered. Others that have been in

the House of Shelter also are in the same condition at the same institution.

Case 2. A man, sixty-five, came from Buffalo, N. Y., and was arrested for disorderly conduct. I was informed of it. At the hearing before Police Magistrate J. P. Sullivan it was proved that his mind is unbalanced and the Magistrate decided to send him to Mayview "for the insane." I pleaded for him and said that I would take charge and see that he would be sent to his family in Buffalo; the man left the same evening when I saw him off at the depot.

Case 3. A man, aged sixty, came to this House and it seems that he had not been accustomed to a house of Shelter. He came from Wheeling, W. Va., his home being in Buffalo, N. Y. Still being convalescent after an illness of the Spanish Flu, he secured employment in the clothing department of a department store. He had been at work only two hours when he became so ill that the firm informed me by telephone that Mr. (Case No. 3) was unable to continue work any longer. I hastened to his aid and, bringing him to the House of Shelter, I informed his family at Buffalo by wire of his condition, the answer being received at once, which request was fulfilled.

Case 4. A family, consisting of six, on their way from New York to Chicago. A child became sick and they had to stop off in Pittsburgh. I was notified from the Union Station and brought them to this House. I procured medical attendance and after a few days they were able to continue their journey.

Case 5. A young man had been sent by a physician from Johnston, Ohio, to the St. Francis Hospital. He was not accepted on account of being a non-resident and came to the House of Shelter. I tried to have him admitted to the Mercy Hospital but did not succeed, as they do not admit feeble-minded patients. I had to shelter him over night and was forced to keep watch at night for fear that he would harm some of the occupants. He has been sent home to New York by the United Hebrew Relief.

Case 6. A boy, sixteen years of age, of Anderson, Indiana, ran off from his parents with \$200. Wandering in the streets of Pittsburgh, he was taken in charge by a police officer. I was notified from No. 1 Police Station, and, taking the boy in charge, I notified his parents. The father came here and took the boy home. I received from the father \$5.00 as a donation to the House of Shelter.

Case 7. A girl of 19 years had been visiting in New York. On her way home she was robbed of her purse and ticket on the train. She had to stop off in Pittsburgh, and I, being notified by the Union Station officials, brought the young lady to the House, notified her parents by wire and she received the necessary amount to continue her way home. She offered to pay me for all my expenses in connection with the circumstance but I refused to accept.

Case 8. A woman and two children from New York came here to find her husband. I assisted her in doing this and we succeeded in finding him. I urged him to live with his wife and children again and he promised to do so. They rented rooms and furnished them nicely and at the present time are living happily.

Case 9. A soldier from the Aviation Corps, serving in the late war, had been wounded on the arm and otherwise. He had been sent from Cleveland to New York to be admitted to the U. S. Hospital, was compelled to stop off at Pittsburgh on account of his condition. He applied at the Marine Hospital to be admitted but they did not grant his request because his papers were made out for New York. He tried to procure hotel accommodations, but on account of his condition could not be accommodated. He remained in the House of Shelter for four days until he was able to continue his trip.

Case 10. A man, forty-eight years old, came here to Pittsburgh to accept a position as Hebrew teacher at Canonsburg, Pa., but somehow or other he was not successful. He came to the House of Shelter and stayed here for

fourteen days, during New Year's and Atonement Day. He secured a position in Beaver Avenue, North Side. He became sick, during his stay, with pneumonia and died at the Montefiore Hospital. He was buried in Pittsburgh and two daughters and one son came here for his funeral.

Case 11. A young man, discharged from the army for several months but still suffering from the effects of gas, being in the House of Shelter for two days, became very ill at night. I was awakened by an occupant at 1:30 A. M., stating that Case No. 11 was very seriously ill. I attended him until morning. Dr. Finkelppearl sent him to the Montefiore Hospital and he is there at the present time.

Case 12. A man, aged 22, chipped with rheumatism, was arrested for begging on the street. Mr. Leon C. Ball assisted me in getting his release. I took charge of the man and kept him in the House for nine days, after which he went back to his home in Cleveland.

There were forty-six other cases, similar to the above, which were taken care of.

Several were cases of chippies who had been arrested for begging in the streets. With the assistance of Mr. Leon C. Ball I had them released and taken care of.

The House of Shelter cared for twenty-eight convalescents from the various hospitals, viz.: Seven from the Montefiore, four from the Mercy, three from the Passavant, four from the Homeopathic, three from the West Penn, one from St. John's, three from the South Side, and three from the Allegheny General,—occupants being kept from one to fourteen days, viz., one day, 192; two days, 152; three days, 166; four days, 37; five days, 15; six days, 6; seven days, 4; eight days, 5; nine days, 13; thirteen days, 1; fourteen days, 1.

I desire, also, to state what the breakfasts consist of: Coffee, bread and jelly. Lunches are as follows: Fish, sardines or salmon. Supper, during week days, comprises: Soup, meat and vegetables, with as much bread to each meal as they are able to eat.

On Friday and Saturday we have fish, noodle soup, meat and vegetables, sometimes pudding included.

The average cost of meal, including fish (from Mr. Samuel Gelman) on Fridays and holidays, together with sundry donations of edibles, is 17 1/2 cents, or 5 1/2 cents per day.

I take this means of thanking all the different institutions for their co-operation. Also Drs. Snitzer, Marcus and Finkelppearl, for rendering medical assistance in caring for the unfortunates. I also thank Dr. Benny Levin, Dentist, corner of Stevenson Street and Fifth Avenue, for offering his services to the occupants of the home.

From the bottom of my heart I express my thanks to the Executive Officers and Board of Directors for their assistance in the performance of my duties.

I also take this means of thanking the Jelly Committee, who have worked very hard to save money for the Institution.

Respectfully submitted,
Joseph Israel.

CENTRAL RELIEF COMMITTEE (Pittsburgh Branch)

The following contributions were recently received by this committee: Congregation Beth Israel, North Side, per Mr. Mayer Rosenbloom, president, \$500; R. G. Sachnoff, 2118 Center Ave., \$25; at a B'rith Milah party in the house of Mr. Morris Sandman, Jeannette, Pa. per Rev. Julius Bloom, \$13; Sam and Aubrey Glick, in memory of their dear mother, Eva Deborah Glick, \$5; Mrs. I. Ladoff, Wilkinsburg, Pa., on the Yahrzeit of her husband, Isidore, \$5; anonymous, \$3; Mrs. Silverman, Bluff Street, \$2; total, \$553.00. Sam Greenberg, chairman; M. Enelow, treasurer; I. J. Williams, secretary.

EMINENT EUROPEAN JEWISH DIVINE AND GREAT LEADER TO VISIT HERE

The world-wide known Rabbi, orator and leader, Abram Baer Shapiro, the celebrated Rabbi of Kovno, Lithuania, who came to America on a short stay, in the interest of our war-stricken brethren, has honored Pittsburgh as one of the only four cities with a visit, namely, New York, Philadelphia, Boston and Pittsburgh.

He will address a monstrous mass meeting on Monday evening, January 24th, 7:30 p. m. at the Beth Jacob Synagogue, Epiphany and Townsend Streets.

It is hoped that Pittsburgh Jewry will not miss the opportunity which presents itself once in a lifetime, to come and meet this great Rabbi in person and hear his message.

The Arrangements Committee is also making preparations for a reception and banquet to be given in his honor on the following night, January 25th, at 7 p. m. in the dining hall of the Beth Jacob Congregation, where it is expected that the most prominent Jews of Pittsburgh will be present to honor the distinguished guest.

Owing to the lack of time it was impossible to obtain the addresses of all those who were to be invited.

The Arrangements Committee, therefore, takes means through the Criterion to call the attention of those who desire to attend the banquet to make reservations immediately, as the number of available covers is very limited.

Address reservations to: K. Levin, secretary, Box 33, Uptown Station, Pittsburgh, or telephone M. A. Berman 911 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, Grant 2449, or to S. C. Greenberg, 231 Fifth Avenue, Grant 2768.

STEPHEN WISE COMING

J. L. Lichter, president of the Zionist District, yesterday received word that Rabbi Stephen Wise will pass through Pittsburgh enroute West this Monday morning. Plans were immediately made for a luncheon Monday noon at the William Penn Hotel, at which all Pittsburghers are invited. Rabbi Wise will arrive at 10 o'clock Monday morning and will leave Monday afternoon. He will speak at the luncheon.

Reservations at the luncheon may be made by communicating with any of the officers of the District, or calling the district office Sunday between 1 and 6 o'clock. Call Grant 3341.

GENERAL PALESTINIAN COMMITTEE

The organization of a Palestinian Committee composed of four representatives of all Jewish organizations in Greater Pittsburgh is the plan of the Palestinian Committee of the Zionist District. Formal steps looking to its perfection will be taken at a meeting February 3 in the Hebrew Institute. The Committee would undertake the general supervision of all Palestine development work in Pittsburgh. Preliminary steps in its organization were taken at a meeting in the home of Mr. Frank A. Weinstein in the East End. The move is one of the most important ever undertaken by those Pittsburghers interested in Palestinian development, and it is predicted will result in the accomplishment of greater and more practical work in this direction. The committee is trying to communicate with all Jewish organizations in the city. All are asked to send representatives to the meeting February 3.