

REPORTS

By Maurice B. Hexter

Reports sent to Mr. Hexter, Milwaukee, will be reviewed in these columns

National Jewish Hospital for Consumptives

The Fifteenth Annual Report of the National Jewish Hospital for Consumptives contains a brief resumé of its work for the past years. "More than two thousand patients * * * have left its sheltering walls greatly improved or cured. The average age of the patients is from 20 to 30 years, the average stay in the Hospital from six to seven months, the per capita cost per day is about \$1.50." More than \$50,000 was earned during the past year by some of the patients, whom it was possible to trace, in Denver. "Besides this, one-third of all the employes in the Hospital are ex-patients and they are earning about \$7,000 a year." President Grabfelder reiterates what is so often said by presidents of other national organizations when he states that when local federations experience a hard year the tendency is to curtail the subventions to national organizations.

The following paragraph of the Superintendent's report is quoted to show the almost universal tendency of hospitals, although dedicated to the cure of incipient tuberculosis, to admit advanced cases. The quotation follows:

"Of the sixteen patients who died during the year one death was due to tubercular meningitis, hemorrhages and general dissemination, another was due to a general tuberculosis condition involving all the organs of the body, two to rapid tuberculosis, one was a case of advanced lung and throat condition and the balance were cases of advanced tuberculosis. * * *"

The most hopeful note of the whole report is the completion of the new Grabfelder building, with its completely-equipped laboratory and X-ray department. This building provides "the long-wanted opportunity of taking up and advancing the purely scientific and research labors which should go hand in hand with the clinical work in any hospital."

U. H. C. of District of Columbia

The United Hebrew Charities of the District of Columbia have expended during the

past year \$4,611 and the only annual salary paid was \$300 for clerical work. It is surprising that after so many years of education we still hear voiced the questionable praise of low cost of administration. Federation of all the local charities is strongly advocated by the president. He also urges a legal requirement for the District of Columbia, "whereby the parents may know that they have a right to consideration at the hands of their children. Let them know that they have the right to demand a ruling from an unprejudiced tribunal on the subject of their support in the same way that dependent wives and minor children are now held chargeable to husbands and fathers."

So frequently is criticism heaped upon the Council of Jewish Women that the following encomium is quoted in full:

"We have in the Council of Jewish Women an organization which is equal to any emergency, exercising functions beyond the reach of mere man—an organization so large in its scope as to cover almost the entire field of our activities, so intricate in its mechanism as to leave no detail unprovided for. This Council is ready and willing at all times to respond to any emergency call made upon it, while its excellent system of organization into sub-committees makes its field of operations practically inexhaustible. In fact, we may say it never tires. Under the direction of their Child's Welfare Committee, 126 children were visited at their homes and in the schoolrooms with a view to not only their moral but physical welfare. The care of the teeth and physical equalities were given the closest attention. Nothing is overlooked by them that will help to preserve their general health and assist their development into healthful majority. That no case of sickness in the home or in the hospital but what is regularly visited by them and cared for until convalescence is assured can be attested by the fact that more than 400 visits were made by the Hospital Committee. The Immigrant Aid Committee handled over fifty cases, meeting the immigrant at the station, finding employment for them, arranging for their education, visiting them regularly and assisting them in every way to fit them for citizenship. In conjunction with us, the Employment Committee found positions for twenty-six applicants.

"Hundreds of garments were supplied by their Needlework Guild. The Outing Committee arranged with the Camp Good-Will organization the sending of thirty-two families to the camp during the past summer and also took care of eighteen cases referred by various organizations. Truly we may say they are the Angels of Mercy of the United Hebrew Charities, who never weary in well-doing."

How to Send Letters

Important and timely information has just been received by the Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society of America from its agency in Copenhagen, Denmark, which is of particular interest to those who have relatives in those Polish provinces which have been captured by Germany. The Society is advised that letters to these places should be written in German and should

be brief; the addresses should be written in English characters and the envelope should be marked "via Danish steamers"; the letters should be registered. These letters will then be sent through Denmark to their destinations.

Letters not marked as indicated are often mailed on Russian steamers and it is extremely doubtful if they ever reach the persons for whom they are intended as the Russian Government cannot forward mail to provinces captured by the enemy.

The Society therefore urges those who communicate to their relatives in this territory to follow these instructions implicitly to insure the delivery of their letters.

Persons who desire additional information or advice or who wish assistance in locating their relatives in the war zones are requested to call or communicate with the Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society, 229-231 East Broadway, New York.

OBJECTIONABLE FILMS

Maurice Simmons

New York

The National Board of Censorship of Motion Pictures has just issued a special bulletin to all producers and directors of motion pictures in the United States. This is the first definite step taken by the Board to check the vilification of the Jewish race in the "movies." Acting in co-operation with the Jewish Community (Kehillah) of New York City, Maurice Simmons, chairman of the Committee for the Protection of the Good Name of Immigrant Peoples, has been in constant touch with the National Board of Censorship. The libeling of the Jew in the "films" had assumed alarming proportions and was the subject of complaint all over the country.

When first consulted about two years ago, the National Board declined to interfere on the ground that the scope of its operations limited it solely to passing upon the moral aspects of the picture. Recent changes were, however, effected in the personnel of the executive officers of the Board, and after conference and correspondence with Lester Scott, its vice-chairman, and W. D. McGuire, Jr., executive secretary of its staff, they coincided with the view of the Kehillah and of this committee that a great moral issue was involved. Since then

the Board has placed its full facilities at our disposal and generously co-operated with us in preventive measures.

The Board before issuance censors at least 90 per cent of the film product, including that of all the leading producers. Under recent date the executive secretary of the Board wrote the chairman of this committee as follows:

"Last week I had occasion to again draw the matter to the attention of the Vitagraph Company in a scene which showed a Jew about to set fire to a place of business in a comedy. The matter has been brought to the attention of all of the secretaries who attend censoring committee meetings and we will see that the wishes of all concerned on the National Board and on your committee are adhered to. We will take particular pains to do this because of the spirit shown at our conference here in the office, as we believe you have the correct conception of how to handle it."

On the Executive Board of the Jewish Community, which is behind this movement, including Dr. Magnes, its chairman, are men of the type of Jacob H. Schiff, Louis Marshall, Felix N. Warburg, Adolph Lewi-son and Cyrus L. Sulzberger.