

in the library her Art library of three hundred volumes and a large collection of photographs of foreign views and of the paintings and sculpture in foreign galleries. This library is especially opened to art clubs and the study departments of the various women's club of the city.

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There is to be a novel club in Chicago organized this summer. It has some of the features of the girls' rest clubs but is more limited in its object. It is to have no reforms, or social movements to work for unless a movement against the restlessness of Chicago streets is to be called a social movement. It is to be in fact a club for the promotion of rest.

As a beginning "rest rooms" are to be established in various places of the downtown districts, patterned somewhat after the rooms already found so successful in New York and other cities. In New York rooms are provided where women, worn out by shopping or business may go and rest or sleep till they throw off some of the nervousness that is considered such a menace to modern health. The rooms are partitioned off by screens each department with its couch.

In Boston small rooms are furnished each with a couch and a few books, the index of the Boston character of the place.

The plan here is to commence in the downtown districts, take suits of rooms and partition them into small apartments. Each will be furnished with a couch or easy chair, a writing table and a supply of stationery. Any woman by the payment of a small fee will be allowed the use of one of these apartments while she rests, sleeps or writes. The rooms will be made attractive and a room will be added where a cup of tea and a sandwich may be bought.

Life memberships will be taken, yearly leases of apartments given and every possible disturbing influence kept out. There will be few club meetings, little organization, no programs or discussions, no conversations even.

Everything is to be focused to the one point—quiet and rest.

After the many clubs whose organization was for the very bringing about of change and dissatisfaction with existing circumstances this club comes as a complete change and yet not a surprising change. For as people learn in clubs to work they learn the necessity of rest. After a day's hard work a man finds sleep good. Perhaps one of the best results of the club movement will be to teach the need of systematic, thorough rest, to give habits of quiet together with habits of energy. A good engine needs two qualifications. It must move to the touch of the engineer but it must also stop at his will.

That this movement towards rest is an outgrowth of necessity need hardly be said. If historians and psychologists consider the general nervousness and restless energy of the Americans a forerunner of social disaster it is in the cities that the cure must be commenced. For it is in the cities that the extremes will be found. The great congregation of all classes is a sort of stimulant. Keen competition makes hurry a necessity to life itself.

And in a large city there is always an undercurrent of intense living hard to be realized by those who have lived all their lives in a community of uniformly successful people.

The very fact that some Chicago men have risen to the top carries with it the probability that some men have gone to the very bottom.

This afternoon a woman came into the alley with a little girl and an accordion. She had a refined face and she sang with a cultivated contralto voice, some rather old-fashioned light opera songs. After these she sang the flower song from "Faust." The little girl begged

pennies while her mother sang.

From a woman who happened to know I got the singer's story. As a girl she had sung in a chorus, had sung with light heart and danced with light feet. She married, was deserted after a short winter of happiness, and went on with her chorus singing. But the bitterness crept somehow into her light songs and she no longer pleased the public or her manager. Now she sings in the streets.

And last week the Chicago papers told of an attempt at double suicide. Two people were found in a boat with the arteries in their wrists cut open. From the water near them was taken the body of a little girl. When the man and woman regained consciousness in a hospital they begged to be allowed to die. They had no work, they said, and could not live.

Not a day passes but the whole city reads of something like this. No wonder that there is a nervous expectancy in the air and that men become either hardened or superstitious, the one state as abnormal as the other and perhaps even harder to counteract.

It follows almost as a corollary that Chicago should try to neutralize the unrest as they deal with other things, by organization and business methods, that clubs should be formed, not only for work and pleasure, but for systematic rest.

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There is in Chicago a distinct settlement movement. There are at least five settlements already firmly established. Two of these are college settlements much like our own university settlement in Lincoln, the Chicago university settlement and the Northwestern university settlement. Then there is the Graham-Taylor settlement, the Sixty-ninth street settlement and Hull house.

Of these, Hull house was first established. It is placed oddly enough at about the middle of the longest street in the world, Halsted street, which runs straight through Chicago from north to south, twenty-four miles. It is in the very midst of the poorest part of Chicago, not the criminal part but the part where live the very poor, most of them foreigners. In the office of Miss Addams, the head resident, is a wall map of the Hull house neighborhood with colors to show where the different classes of foreigners huddle together. Over two-thirds of this map is colored, and as the Americans do not live in such crowded quarters as the foreigners, the proportion of Americans is even less perhaps than one-third.

Among these foreigners and their little-better-off American neighbors, the residents of Hull house work. The objects of Hull house as stated in its charter are: "To provide a center for a higher civic and social life; to institute and maintain educational and philanthropic enterprises, and to investigate and improve the conditions in the industrial districts of Chicago." There is here no direct religious work. No religious meetings are held, and no direct religious instruction is given. If there is religious influence it is only such as would come in any ordinary intercourse in business or society.

The residents of the Hull house try simply to help people as they seem to need help. Some by giving them national aid, some by giving them good things to think about, to counteract in part at least the sordidness and dullness of their environment. With these aims in view the staff of residents is organized with almost military definiteness. There are twenty-one of these residents with Miss Jane Addams at the head. Each has special work and to all is assigned the common task of being always ready to answer calls for aid or sympathy. To them the foreigners come with much more readiness than they would go to each other. Miss Addams, the other residents say, is almost an idol among

them. Hull house is practically her work. She has been at its head from the beginning and has given her whole energy to what, even as a child, she had planned as her life work.

Miss Addams is a quiet rather pretty woman, somewhat younger looking than I had expected. That she gives her whole attention to helping others is evident in her face. There is evidence there, too, that she works beyond her strength.

The summer she says is almost her busiest time, even if the classes at Hull house are discontinued through the hot weather, for she is busy attending conventions and speaking in the interests of social settlements. There are very few residents in the house now. All classes are discontinued except a class in carpentry for boys and a sewing class for girls.

So the house seems somewhat deserted. The open court around which the house is built and through which one goes to the front door is empty. Its brick pavement is perfectly clean—cleaner perhaps than it is in winter when two or three hundred children have the run of it on their way from club meetings and classes. The children's building with low window sills and wide balconies opening on the court faces south. The residence quarters take up the other two sides of the court, the main entrance looking across the court into the street. At this entrance I stood for some time after ringing the bell. So few residents were in the house now, the bright-faced young woman said apologetically, as she let me in.

I wanted to look through the building. Would I like to take the keys and look through the children's building. Then she would be at liberty to show me the others. So I took the keys with instructions as to which was which and went with something of a burglar's timidity, climbing deserted stairways, opening locked doors and starting back shamefacedly when I surprised a young girl on her knees scrubbing one of the class-rooms.

I went the rounds of the building, staring into glass doors where rested little dried clay things with the print of childish fingers dried hard and fast into them. I saw dirt filled boxes on the window sills where three-leaved little oaks grew tall and spindling. I even stopped to read the quotations under the poster pictures between the windows. I stepped with unconscious care over the bright painted ring where the kindergarten children had marched; and I studied with real interest the many pictures on the walls and along the stairways, for they are pictures one would hardly suppose adapted to the class of children that come there to school. Many of them are classic copies of famous madonnas, St. Cecelias and Sir Launfal. "They are not for the children to understand," one of the residents explained later, "but for them to wonder at. They are all pictures that have stories. We give them the story and they study the picture. There are some pictures among them that the children can understand alone."

The only children in the building were a few in the day nursery, children whose mothers have to work and who are left here for the day in the charge of two of the residents.

From the children's building I was shown to the Hull house public lunch room by the energetic little woman who has it in charge and who pointed out to me proudly what she called a Middleby oven. She noted with a laugh my surprise at the appearance of the lunch room. "It is to give the effect of a New England kitchen," she said. I had never seen a New England kitchen but the effect here was certainly novel after the flashing cut-glass and silver, electric lights and white tables. I had come to imagine as the type of Chicago restaur-

ants. Here there was a low broad ceiling of rough beams smoked and stained, yellow walls and high wainscoting. At one end was a broad old-fashioned fireplace with dark crockery on the mantel. The tables are of dark wood without covering.

Near the door is the lunch counter where they sell bowls of soup and tins of coffee to the poor who come for lunch and can afford nothing better.

The main building, besides being the home of the residents, has the club rooms, Miss Addams' office, the library and the gymnasium. Here is where the main direct influence of Hull house is extended. For it is through the clubs and the gymnasium that men and women are given new interests. Since a branch of the city library was placed near Hull house the library has been made simply a reading room. In it, however, is a circulating library of pictures, each picture being let out for two weeks and returned.

The gymnasium is a large room heavily timbered, and fitted out with good but rather meagre apparatus. At one end is a stage with curtains. Here are given all of the exhibitions of the gymnasium and besides, any entertainments that the different clubs may give. They say that the dramatic entertainments, soberly acted bits of Shakespeare among them, rouse more interest in the neighborhood than almost any one other thing.

That these people find the gymnasium work interesting is shown by the recent decision of the director of the gymnasium that next fall membership in the gymnasium will be made competitive depending upon good practice, regular work and practice, since the gymnasium will not accommodate all who want to work in it.

Clubs thrive here as everywhere else in Chicago. Twenty-five adult clubs meet in Hull house for various purposes. Eleven are for social meetings, one is a mandolin club, two are dramatic. The others have programs or discussions. Of these the Men's club and the Woman's club do the most systematic work in the line of study though the Men's club has made provisions for a number of games, and lay more stress on the social side than the Woman's club, which gives but one meeting out of the four in the month to social gatherings.

The clubs reflect of course the nature of the people of whom they are formed.

A club of Italians gives a weekly reception with a reception committee made up of Signora Mirabeila and Signor Peluso. The reception committee of the Bohemians club has on it Mrs. Dvorak, the unpronounceable.

The Eldorado club a society of young Jewish men is devoted to "literary and educational interests."

The three clubs of boys meet for debates and are perhaps the clubs where most enthusiasm is shown. There are seven children's clubs, one for reading, the others for games and to give entertainments. But of course the clubs are not so well suited to the children as other things arranged by Hull House.

The thing most popular with the children, is of course the playground. This is in the rear of the building and is open to all children from three to six in the afternoon presided over by officer Murray. Outside of this playground these children have no place to play except in the streets and alleys for the blocks are built up almost solid.

It is quite likely that the mixed crowd of Hungarians and Bohemians, Negroes and Italians does not give officer Murray any too easy a time.

Besides the playground, excursions are planned for the children to the parks, into the country or out to the lake, fresh air excursions as they call them.

Then much attention is given to make the children able to make their own