ROCHESTER

A Good Town to Live in

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Dec. 1923.

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FIRST EDITION

PUBLISHED BY
UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER
ROCHESTER, N. Y.

CHAPTER I.

A Word of Introduction

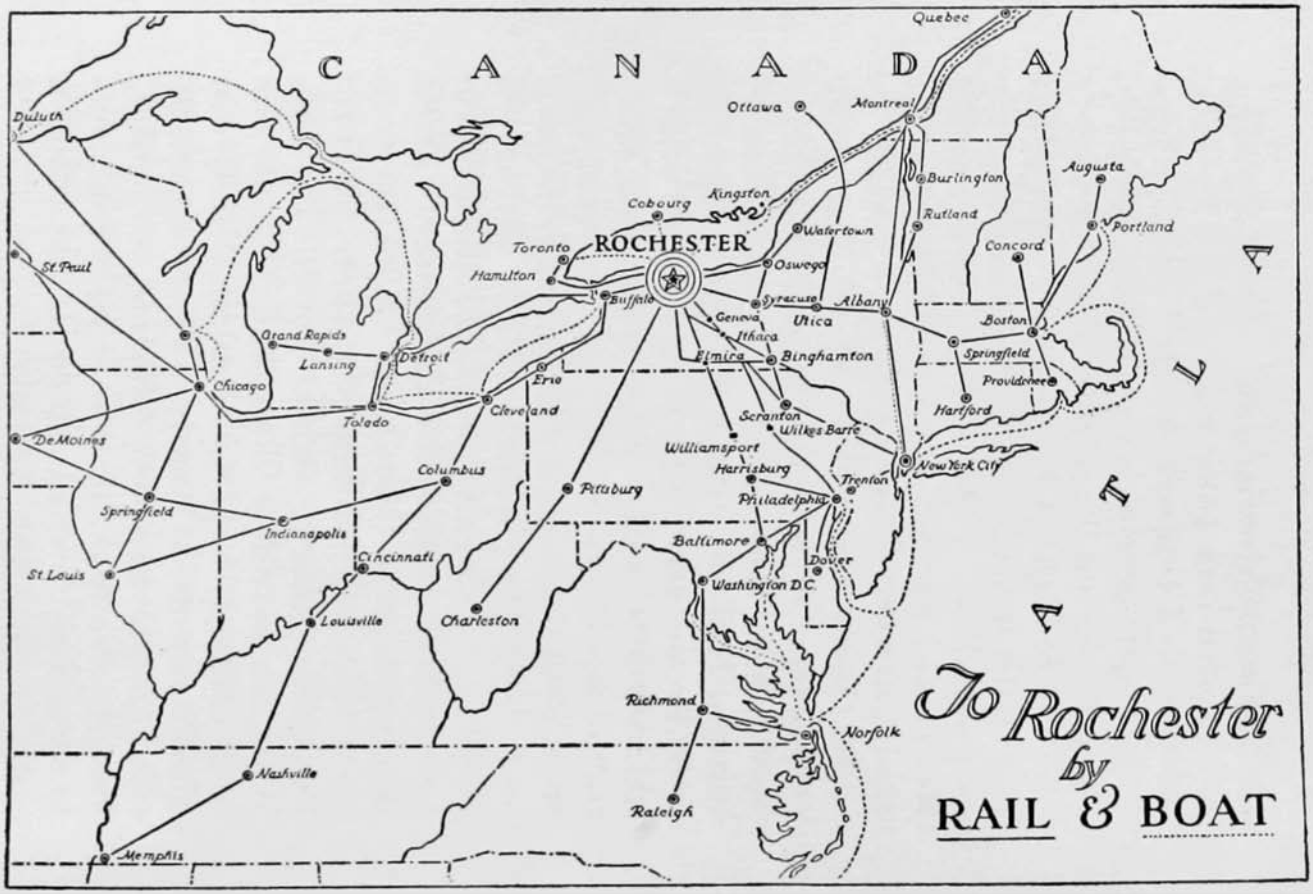
IN the valley of the Genesee, just seven miles south from the waters of Lake Ontario into which that river flows, stands Rochester; in population, the twenty-second city in the United States, and in the state of New York, the third. In the vast watershed of the Saint Lawrence River and the Great Lakes, it is to be classed as an eastern city; even though in certain of its characteristics it closely resembles many of those of the West. In fact Rochester combines to no small degree the conservatism of the East and the rapid-fire progress of the West. It has very few of the bad points and most of the good points of each. It is Boston. It is Minneapolis. Yet, above all—it is Rochester; a wide-spread American city, rather abhorring apartment houses and the form of life that with them goes; preferring to live in detached dwellings, set in broad grassy lawns and along pleasant tree-lined streets. This is the Rochester that, in the details of its planning, has served as a pattern for many and many another American community.

Rochester is an extremely accessible city. By rail it is located upon the main line of the New York Central—one of the busiest trunk-line railroads in the United States—371 miles west of New York and 228 miles west of Albany; 69 miles east of Buffalo and 618 east of Chicago. In addition to being upon the main line of the New York Central (not less than six branch lines of that system radiate out of the city to the east and to the west), four other important steam railroads also serve Rochester; the Erie, the Lehigh Valley, the Pennsylvania, and the Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburgh; this last with its headquarters and general offices within the city. It is but a night's ride from Rochester to Boston, to Montreal, to New York, to Philadelphia, to Washington, to Pittsburgh, to Cleveland, to Detroit and to Chicago, and through sleeping-cars are operated between Rochester and each of these cities every night of the year.

In addition to the steam railroads there are many high-speed electric interurbans extending in every direction from the city; north to the shores of the nearby Lake Ontario, a portion of which has already been brought within the city limits, west to Lockport (and by connection to Niagara Falls and Buffalo), south to Avon

and Mount Morris, and east to Geneva, to Auburn and to Syracuse (and by connection to Utica and Little Falls). These lines together give an intensive service to an area extending from fifty to eighty miles from the City Hall of Rochester and within which a population roughly estimated at 1,500,000 persons resides. Rochester within its own limits now has about 315,000 residents.

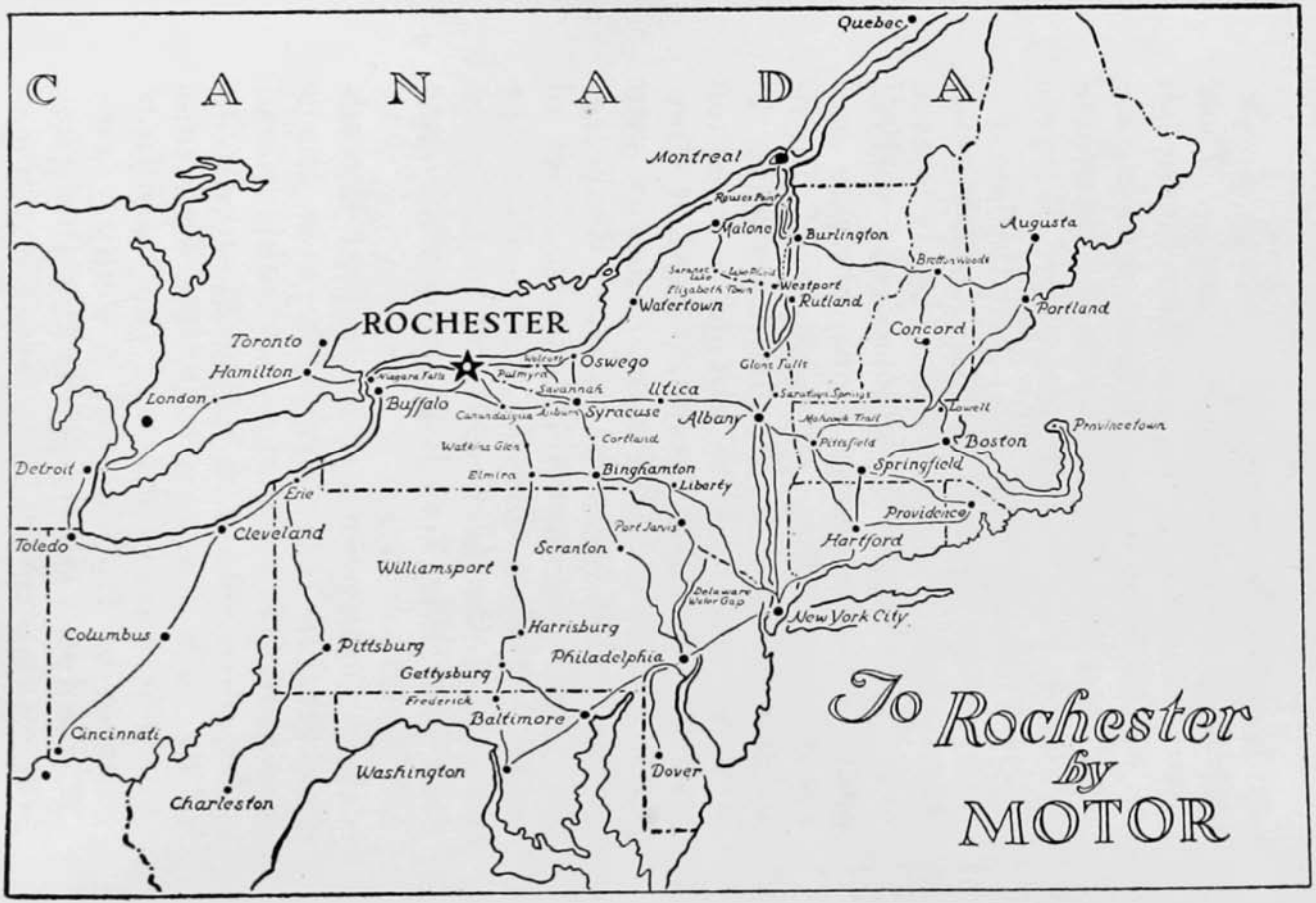
To the motorist Rochester is also easily accessible. While the main trunk highway across Western New York passes to the south of the city—through Caledonia and Avon—an excellent and highly-alternative route runs parallel and rather close to the south shore of Lake Ontario; east from Buffalo, Niagara Falls and Lockport, and over the historic Ridge Road—in these latter days often called the Million Dollar Highway—into Rochester. From Rochester east the Lake shore is even more closely followed than before; through Oswego and north through Watertown to the Thousand Islands, the Adirondacks, Lake Champlain, the Green Mountains and Canada. There are many other highroads in addition to these; Monroe County, of which Rochester has been the shire town since its inception a century ago, now has many, many miles



of high-grade roads; over which a constant careful inspection is kept. These roads not only radiate out from Rochester in every direction but form a complete gridiron; not alone through the county of Monroe, but through the entire Western New York country.

Another form of pathway approaches Rochester—the waterway. In the season night passenger steamers of the highest grade operate across Lake Ontario and down the Saint Lawrence from Rochester's Municipal Pier each evening to Toronto and to Montreal (by connection with the through Rochester boat at Prescott, Ontario). Through the entire year a car-ferry is operated between Rochester and Cobourg, upon the north shore of Lake Ontario, directly across from the mouth of the Genesee, and in the summer-time this, too, forms a popular lane for passenger travel.

The final water pathway that threads the city is the remarkable new Barge Canal of the state of New York. Rochester owed much of the great prosperity of its beginning years to the Erie Canal which was builded across the state from Albany to Buffalo just a century ago. At the town site of Rochester this early waterway crossed the Genesee upon a



stout stone aqueduct, which once was depicted in the geographies as one of the seven wonders of the world, and which still stands—although now about to come into service as an important highway bridge.

Upon the Erie Canal a vast traffic once moved—small 200-ton barges, propelled by relays of horses or of mules; but in great number. Within comparatively recent years the traffic upon the canal suffered a sad decline; the ancient waterway seemingly had outlived its usefulness. This led, a decade or so ago, to the construction of the New York Barge Canal, an artificial water highway second only to the Panama in size, in cost and in importance. Large efforts are now being made to bring to this new successor to a most historic highway a volume of freight traffic that shall at least be commensurate with its importance. As yet no arrangements have been made for the handling of passenger traffic upon the new canal; beyond the free admission to the waterway and its locks of any private yachts or launches. The fact that the new canal connects the navigable Hudson, at Waterford (a few miles north of Albany), with the upper Lakes at Buffalo, makes it a link of tremendous im-

portance in the inland waterway system of the United States.

This canal has now been relocated well to the south of the congested portion of the city of Rochester. It crosses the Genesee at an artificial water level which is maintained by a movable dam just south of Court Street bridge and the old aqueduct. This dam also serves to create a rather elaborate inner harbor in the town for its local canal traffic of the future. . . . The route of the old Erie canal throughout the town has been entirely abandoned—much to the relief of the Rochesterians, who, no matter how much they may have appreciated the charm and the quaintness of the ancient water-filled ditch, were constantly annoyed at the delays it caused them. At each of the important street-crossings which were carried over it, by almost innumerable lift-bridges, there were at certain times almost interminable delays. This route of the old Erie canal throughout Rochester is shortly to be transformed into a new rapid-transit subway both for electric passenger trains and for freight switching connections between the various railroads that enter the city. Of which, much more in good time.

CHAPTER II.

The Beginnings of Rochester

AT another time greater attention may be given to the details of the beginnings of the city by the Genesee. It is enough here and now to say that if the Genesee had not gone madly tumbling down over a series of huge cascades within a dozen miles of the point where it was to lose itself within the wide waters of Ontario, there probably would never have been a Rochester—certainly not at this point. But the stout ledge running east and west across Western New York, which, but a few miles beyond Rochester becomes definitely known as the Niagara escarpment, made the cascades of the Genesee, and they, in turn, one of the earliest real manufacturing communities within the United States.

For it was long before the practical development of the steam-engine—in the late summer of 1800, if you must be exact—when three Maryland gentlemen, Colonel Nathaniel Rochester, Colonel William Fitzhugh and Major Charles H. Carroll, rode north into the wilderness country of Western New York; toward

the country of the Long House, of the five tribes of "Nations" of superior Indians that long had inhabited that country—the Oneidas, the Onondagas, the Cayugas, the Senecas and the Tuscaroras. In this order from east to west they lived—all the way from the fertile valley of the Mohawk to the flat shores of the great lake that in after years was to be known as Erie. Rarely ever, they battled with one another; for the most time they were content to live in comity and a sort of mutual understanding—in the garden country of North America.

Revolutionary soldiers who had managed to thrust their way into Western New York returned to the Atlantic seaboard telling of the remarkable fertility of the valley of the Genesee. Stout souls braved the dangers of the wilderness and went there—to see for themselves and generally to remain; as settlers upon the virgin soil. So came the Churches of Angelica in the upper valley, and the Wadsworths, of Geneseo, in the lower. And so, in their own good time, came Rochester and Fitzhugh and Carroll, founding a little town by the falls of the Genesee, to which, after a while, was given the name of the first of the three.

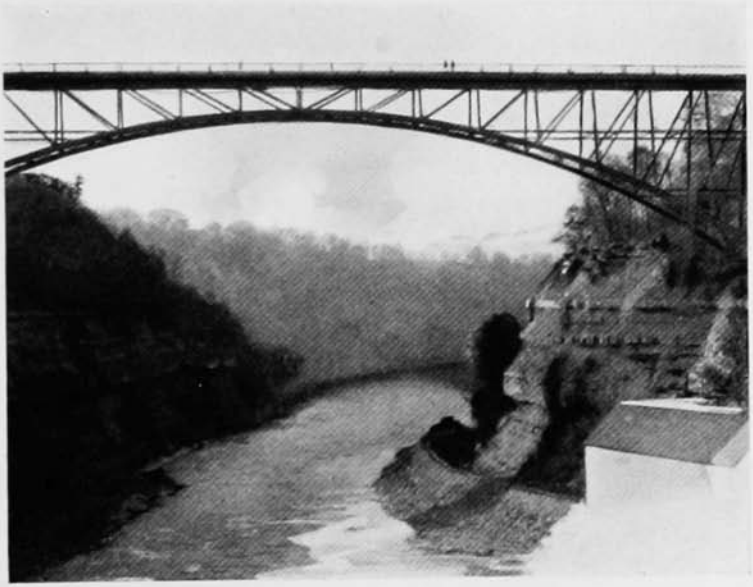
It might have been expected that the coming of these last three gentlemen from Maryland would have brought to the new mill-site town an influx of Southerners, who would quite naturally have left their imprint upon it; from that day to this. Nothing of the sort came to pass. Rochester, as well as a number of neighboring towns in Western New York, was populated in the beginning by New Englanders. It was the imprint of the town meeting and the meeting house that finally was left upon it; and which to this day remains.

It must be remembered always that Rochester was by no means the earliest town in the Western New York country. Before it had really come into existence, Canandaigua, upon the great Western Highway from Albany to Buffalo (today the main motor highway of the state), was recognized as a town of first importance; whose fame was challenged only by Batavia. This last village possessed the headquarters of the Holland Land Company which held titles to great portions of the western part of the state, but Canandaigua had—and still has— sittings of the United States courts . .It did not look as if Rochester might ever hope to compete with either of these enterprising

communities; upon the main highroad of the state of New York, which, as we have already seen, passes a full fifteen miles to the south of it.

Transportation makes cities. The earliest communities in the world were those that were situate upon open waters —so that men might come and go in their boats. Inland communities only followed the development of roads. But when there came to western New York the original Erie canal—for that day a highway of vast economic possibilities—new communities of great importance sprang up upon its banks—Utica, Syracuse, and Rochester chief amongst all of them.

Water made Rochester. First, water tumbling in the beginning over rocky cascades, and then confined into mill-races and turning the wheels and the machinery of man, and a few years later, water confined placidly in a vastly-attenuated trench and bearing upon its smooth bosom man's bulky craft. The Erie Canal was that attenuated trench. That was—and it still is, in the form of its successor, the New York Barge Canal —the longest artificial waterway in the entire world.



Gorge of the Lower Genesee
Within the Borders
of Rochester

And after the canal, the railroad—first a crude and halting thing that no one ever dreamed would be a serious rival of the waterway. And yet, within a dozen brief years of its inception, the legislative authorities in the State Capitol at Albany were busily engaged in trying to throttle it—for the benefit of the commonwealth's own transportation enterprise, the canal—by passing statutes which would prohibit the railroad through the central portion of the state from carrying freight of any kind while the canals were open; limiting it strictly to the carriage of passengers and their baggage and the mails. In the winter time alone might the railroad carry freight; and then, only by the payment of the canal tolls upon it to the commissioners at Albany. For nearly two decades this absurd mandate stood in the laws of the state of New York.

The first railroad to be builded out of Rochester was, oddly enough, toward the west; the so-called Tonawanda railroad, which was opened in 1837 and soon afterward extended to Buffalo, first by way of Attica and then by the present direct line from Batavia. Three years later the second road was laid down, east to Auburn, where it connected with the

railroad, already opened, between that town and Syracuse. In this way, link by link, a chain of railroads was being laid down all the way across the state, from navigable water at Albany to navigable water at Buffalo, and in general parallel to the Erie Canal—which provoked that early reprisal legislation from the friends of that great ditch at the state Capitol.

Yet it was not until 1853 that this group of railroads was finally united under the single name of the New York Central Railroad and a direct line built between Syracuse and Rochester, shortening the distance over the previous roundabout Auburn route by nearly twenty miles. And it was not until sixteen years after that the railroad bridge was built across the Hudson at Albany and a single system—under the title of New York Central & Hudson River Railroad—created all the way from New York to Buffalo; so that a passenger might ride that entire distance without a change of cars. A few years ago the title of this road was simplified once again back to The New York Central Railroad.

In most of these changes Rochester benefited. Moreover, other railroads were being built to and from her; the Genesee Valley Railroad (now the

Erie), the Rochester & State Line Railroad (now the Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburgh), the Genesee Canal Railroad (now the Pennsylvania), the West Shore, and the Rome, Watertown & Ogdensburgh (these last two since absorbed by the New York Central), and the Lehigh Valley Railroad. . For sixty years after the first beginnings of the Tonawanda Railroad new steam railroads were being builded in and out of the city. And when there was a sufficiency of these the era of interurban electric railway construction began; and has continued almost to the present time.

CHAPTER III.

The Industrial Rochester

AN industrial city attracts transportation. And Rochester is nothing if not industrial. Each business day when the whistle blows, between sixty-five and seventy thousand workers go to the mills and factories of the city. . These are employed in a widely-diversified production. . Industrially Rochester is known, both nationally and internationally, for two things: The first of these is the high type of its labor; while the second is the tremendous variety of its manufactures.

The seventy thousand who go to work each morning are fabricating a great diversity of things—box-cars, pianos, cameras and their films, shoes, woodworking and laundry machinery, clothing, optical goods, motor-car devices, office equipment and furniture—the list runs to a great length. They are a well-paid seventy thousand and, generally speaking, a contented lot of men and women. The savings deposits in the Rochester savings banks alone—today roughly estimated at $97,500,000—in addition to the tidy homes in every quarter of the city (in

Rochester there are neither tenements nor slums), bespeak the first of these statements. The comparative immunity which this industrial community has enjoyed from disastrous and long-continued strikes is evidence of the second.

Rochester has been fortunate in these things. It has never been a "one-industry town," dependent upon the fluctuations of the prosperity of that industry. It does not concentrate upon tires, although it makes many of these within the course of a twelvemonth, nor upon motor-cars or motor-trucks, although it has excellent factories turning out each of these types of vehicles, as well as their accessories; nor upon clothing, although it is the third city in the Union in the manufacture of this product (with 13,000 workers turning out nearly $60,000,000 worth of clothing each year); nor upon boots and shoes, even though in this industry it stands sixth among all the cities of the land.

The manufacture of cameras and photographic supplies is probably its single outstanding industry today—it produces annually more than ninety percent of the photographic products of the world—and yet, with all of its fourteen thousand workers, even that is not even a majority industry. So has it ever been in

Rochester. . . Away back at the beginning of the past century, when Rochester and Carroll and Fitzhugh bought the mill-site by the Genesee for its development into a little town, they thought chiefly in terms of flour; of grinding the fine wheat from the rich alluvial flats of the Genesee into a flour of a quality that had not been before known. . . . Within almost a decade the little new town of Rochester had become the flouring center of the world; its product was going far overseas to the hungry cities of Europe. Yet even in that early day, cheek-by-jowl with the rows of stout stone flouring mills, stood a factory that produced fire-engines in large number and of a distinct early fame.

So has it ever been. When time and economic law combined between them to take the flouring industry away from the banks of the Genesee and place it upon those of the upper Mississippi, Rochester turned easily and naturally to other manufactures. The Flour City she had been called, all the way across the land, and this was the name that stuck by her—by the same sound, at least, only now they wrote it Flower City. For upon her borders there had upsprung a great new industry; the propagation of plants and

flowers and trees. From feeding a hungry America she turned toward making a more beautiful one. And all the while made herself the object lesson for the possibilities of the city beautiful within our United States.

So has it ever been. The wheatlands of the Genesee turning out the first fine manufactured breadstuffs in the land; the gentle fields aroundabout Rochester blooming in their beauty so that the rest of the land might be beautiful; a clerk in a savings bank in the town devising a camera in a shoe-box so that permanent record might be made by any man or woman or child of all this beauty. This is not the time nor the place to relate the fascinating and dramatic story of George Eastman and his Kodak—of the Aladdin-like dream that it has all been to Rochester—it is enough to state that the outstanding industry of the town came when it was most needed.

For outstanding industry the camera and film production has become for us—a particularly outstanding industry when you properly combine with it the city's great annual production of optical goods of every other sort. . Yet Eastman and his camera were by no means the pioneers in this work. More than seventy

years ago a young German—a skilled wood-turner—came to Rochester to practice his trade. Soon after his arrival he was slightly crippled in one of his hands. His trade was closed to him. However, he had another; he was an optician. And so in the historic Reynolds Arcade of Rochester John J. Bausch ground the first spectacle-lenses ever to be made upon this side of the Atlantic. God spared this man to see himself in 1923—seventy-two years after his first advent in the city—at the head of the greatest optical-lens factory in the world; with three thousand contented and highly-paid operatives going to work at the blowing of the whistle each day; and turning out almost every conceivable form of lenses, from tiny pinheads for the finest microscopes up to great optically-corrected searchlight mirrors, five feet in diameter. . The range of manufacturing science in Rochester is far indeed. It goes even to the output of thermometers and barometers, in great numbers and in huge quantities annually, as well as a vast variety of tremendously delicate scientific instruments prognosticating and recording all manner of weather conditions. Beyond this even to the fine optical glass which must enter into the manufacture of the

highest-grade lenses. It is a long way indeed from the eminent Professor Lewis Swift, standing with his spy-glass upon the roof of a cider-mill on the west side of the town and discovering comet upon comet, to the optical science development of the Rochester of today.

In the more ordinary branches of her industry Rochester more than keeps pace with its rather extraordinary phases. Printing-shops, foundries, machine-shops, factories for the manufacture and repair of the many, many things that a man must use in his every-day life, abound within her borders. She is a very versatile city; one that can turn without a seeming effort from the manufacture of a huge metal tank, porcelain-lined, or an intricate railway signal, to the production of as small a device as the pin-head lens of a delicate microscope, or an aneroid barometer so accurately phrased that it will show the height of an ordinary table. Truly a busy city.

CHAPTER IV.

The Social Rochester

TRULY a busy city. And yet there are many who prefer to think of Rochester more particularly as "the friendly city."

For while Rochester is and always must remain primarily a great industrial community, she has not for a moment neglected either her intellectual or her social development. To the first of these we shall come in good time. Consider, now, her more purely social side:

Perhaps the most distinctive feature of the friendly city is the remarkable spirit of cooperation that for many years past has been fostered within her citizenship. . Old-fashioned though she may be in many ways—and passing proud of it, withal—she is very new-fangled when it comes to civic spirit and the things that are born of such a spirit. A Young Men's Christian Association of 7900 members and a Chamber of Commerce with 5000, between them bespeak something of her civic spirit and her cooperative energy—of the great friendliness that lives within her walls. The

Y. M. C. A. has a huge modern building, in addition to a group of handsome new branches which it is now completing in various corners of the town, while the Chamber of Commerce has what is generally conceded to be the finest structure of its sort ever builded; and which is about to be doubled in its size. But it is not the physical setting that has made these two typical institutions what they are—it is the spirit and the vigor, the friendliness and the cooperation of their great memberships.

Rochester wants citizens. She wants citizens of almost every sort, race or nationality conceivable. She has her own ways—and very ingenious ways they are, too—of giving them first her friendliness and then of molding them into her spirit and energy.

There is just one class of citizen that she does not want; and that is the man or woman who will not cooperate. In the building of the Rochester of the future, which, much more than the Rochester of today is her great goal, she needs teamwork. Her citizenry must pull well in harness. . . One of her most successful institutions is the Community Chest by which her citizens (last year there were more than 78,000 of these

givers) pool their giving to charitable institutions both at home and abroad into a common fund—generally well in excess of a million dollars each year. This fund is managed by a trusteeship of well-known citizens of the community which weighs carefully the requests and the necessities of the various institutions that appeal for public aid—and, working upon a budget system all the while—apportions among them the generous givings of a prosperous city. . The advantages of such a system are obvious. Yet they could not possibly be realized if there were not behind the Community Chest a great plenty of civic spirit and cooperation.

With these things as a preface you can the better begin to understand the real Rochester—the city and the things that lie beneath its surface. . . Outwardly, at first glance, it is a rather old-fashioned American town. There are few skyscrapers. The tallest building in the business section of the city is but twelve stories—even though one or two towers have been put up as high as fifteen or sixteen. These last are exceptions. As a rule Rochester does not take very kindly to skyscrapers. For one thing—and a most

important one—they are great factors in adding to the congestion in the streets of a city; and this, in these days of rapidly-multiplying motor-car traffic is, of itself, a very serious factor.

Rochester has some broad thoroughfares — a really glorious Main Street stretching clear across the city and making a wonderful place for pageants and for parades. She also has a good many narrow streets; too many, in fact. Like most American cities her city plan has rarely been a city plan; merely a hodge-podge of streets and avenues and open places that through the years have come as a result of unplanned growth, rather than adherence to a systematic design. We have few Washingtons within the United States. . Today Rochester has a city plan. And not only are future generations to benefit by it—but plans are afoot for the widening of old streets and the cutting through of new, even in the congested portions of the city. All of which may be credited, even though indirectly, to the development of the automobile.

The present city plan goes back in its very beginnings to the days of Rochester, Fitzhugh and Carroll, purchasers of the original one-hundred-acre mill-site upon

the west bank of the Genesee, who, once they had completed the surveys of their purchase, promptly laid it out into streets and lots. The streets that they laid out still remain; one of them to this day bears Fitzhugh's name. Rochester was content with the honor of having the new town named after him, while the present State Street originally bore the appellation of Carroll Street. The third proprietor, having become involved in a lawsuit with the young city, shortly after its inception, in regard to the titles of certain waterpowers, the city fathers withdrew the honors that had been showered upon him—and changed the name of the street to State Street.

At the same time that these men were developing a village upon the west bank of the Genesee at the great falls, others were doing the same thing upon the east bank. Eventually—the year was 1812—the two villages were joined by a bridge, and so Main Street, Rochester—one of the distinctive business thoroughfares of the United States—came into its being. And as a partial shield against the bitter winds from the north, in the following year a group of small stores was built upon that side of the bridge—from one bank of the river to the other. In

after years—many years after—the south edge of the Main Street bridge was similarly builded up, and not only is that bridge still the widest in the land, but the stranger passes over it quite unaware that he is crossing the Genesee. . . This is, perhaps, still the most distinctive thing in downtown Rochester.

It should not be thought that this part of the city lacks attractiveness. The public buildings of the town, its banks, its hotels, and its larger stores and offices are distinguished by their dignity, rather than by their splendor. This is particularly true of the huge brownstone United States Post Office and Court House upon the corner of Fitzhugh and Church Streets. . Even the magnificent Monroe County Court House in West Main Street, today—nearly thirty years after its completion—reflects in its rather sombre dignity, as well as in the thoroughness of its construction and the quiet elegance of its detail, the good taste of a community which has never quite forgotten that in its origin and its forbears it was and forever will be, New England.

The most of the public and semi-public buildings of Rochester still stand upon

the west side of the Genesee. For the earlier years of the community this portion of the town assumed leadership in its development. It not only was the commercial center of Rochester—did not the Four Corners, from which all distances are reckoned, stand well within its heart?—but the residential one as well. The charming old houses which still stand in the tree-shaded streets of the old Third Ward attest this. They bespeak, mutely but eloquently, the Rochester of the past. And one has to go a long way to find a finer specimen of the classic architecture, which appealed so strongly to the pioneers of the Western New York country, than the historic house in Washington Street—known generally as "The Pillars"—built by Jonathan Child, the first Mayor of the town, and now carefully preserved and occupied by the Washington Club. There has been a distinct tendency on the part of the social organizations of the town to save its fine old houses—it is another of the outcroppings of that Rochester spirit of cooperation of which we were speaking but a moment ago. The Daughters of the American Revolution have conserved another stately pillared house in Livingston Park; while over upon the

Rochester Still Possesses Many Fine Old Houses, Relics of the Good Taste of an Earlier Day

East Side of the town the Genesee Valley Club has performed a similar public service in the preservation of the magnificent old Perkins residence, with its six acres of grounds in East Avenue, almost at the commercial heart of the modern city.

Upon the West Side are still clustered most of the large churches of the town—a great group of them in the immediate vicinity of Church Street, which was opened less than half a century ago, very largely for their accommodation. . . Also upon the West Side is the very historic Reynolds Arcade, builded in 1828, by an early and highly-respected pioneer of Rochester, and today the oldest of all the well-known buildings of the town. It derives its name from the high corridor which leads its entire length and which formerly contained the post-office and led to the old Corinthian Theater, once Rochester's leading playhouse. The post-office moved to the new Federal Building more than thirty years ago and in 1898 the quaint Corinthian puffed out of existence in a whirlwind of smoke and fire. A modern theater has since replaced it.

At one time Reynolds Arcade boasted a tower to which early Rochesterians were wont to ascend, and from its observatory

on clear days view the distant waters of the Lake—a strip of blue against the horizon. . Then, when Reynolds Arcade already was growing old, along came D. W. Powers—a prominent banker of the Rochester of fifty years ago—and put up, at the Four Corners, upon the northwest corner of Main and State Streets—where but sixty years or so before Hamlet Scrantom had builded the first log-hut in Rochesterville—a huge fireproof steel and brick building, with a tower, fourteen stories in height, from which one could almost look down into the skylights of Reynolds Arcade. . . The Powers Buildings fairly staggered the imagination of the America of the 'eighties. It was before the era of the commercial sky-scraper all the way across the land and they quickly attained a national fame.

They contained almost every facility that one might imagine, even to an art-gallery, of recognized worth, and a huge hotel—the first fireproof structure of its kind in the United States.

Today the Powers Buildings still stand steadfast—a magnificent monument to the vision of the man who builded them. The art-gallery has been dispersed—there is a newer and more beautiful one upon the campus of the University of Roch-

ester—but the hotel still exists as one of the really fine hostelries of the community. It is at all hours a great gathering place for the business men of the town and all their organizations.

About forty years ago the East Side of Rochester began to come into its own—commercially at least. As we shall see in good time, it had long before attained a large residential charm and distinction.

. But the completion of the elaborate grade-removal plans of the New York Central—the first general scheme of its sort to be undertaken within the United States—and the consequent removal of its main passenger station from the West Side to the East—a fine station which already has disappeared in favor of a still finer and newer passenger terminal—marked a distinct turn of the tide. . . At the West Side there still stood, and for many years will continue to stand, the financial and commercial center of the town; toward the East went the showier, the more fanciful part of its business—many of the retail-shops, the newer hotels, the theaters. . The West Side still clings affectionately to its older residential sections—the Third Ward with its venerable fine houses has become a sort

of Faubourg St. Germain of Rochester aristocracy—and has created some very remarkable new ones; but the East Side has its East Avenue, and upon that one feature alone it stands in a magnificent progress.

This avenue—the *via sacra* of Rochester; its Appian Way, if you please—is today, if we may be permitted for a moment to indulge in superlatives, perhaps the finest residential street in all America. The fine old houses of the Sibley, the Powers and the Perkins families disabuse the possible idea that the great street is to be regarded as in any way a recent creation; while the splendid new types of American residential architecture that are constantly arising upon it—out as far as Pittsford, eight miles from its beginning—show that great as has been its past, its present is far finer, and its hope for the future remains its very best asset. Need more be said?

When East Avenue was first attaining its national distinction among the really well known streets of America, it had several notable compeers among other cities of the land. In recent years all of these—save Rochester's chief residential street—have suffered a distinct loss of prestige; due, in almost every instance, to the invasion of business within their once-sacred precincts; shops, apartment houses

and the like. . . . Rochester has a city plan. And it intends to stand by and develop it. Part of that plan limits certain streets and districts of the city to certain uses—business or residential. A very distinct part of that plan stops business upon East Avenue abruptly at Alexander Street, less than a mile from its beginnings at Main Street. Up to Alexander Street there may come—and rapidly is coming—a succession of hotels and smart retail shops—beyond it the commercial use of the Avenue ceases—all the way to Winton Road, nearly three miles distant, where the "Four Corners" of what was once the separate village of Brighton interpose a few small structures upon it; beyond this point, for another six miles, East Avenue is, in truth, a *via sacra*. In these two great stretches, continuously tree-lined and bordered by deep lawns in which are set the best of the house architecture of the city, old and new, East Avenue is at its best.

It need make no apology whatsoever for itself. While it is living proof that an American city, if once it makes up its mind that it really wishes to so do, may protect its good self against its unmannerly and undisciplined self. All of which is a peculiar characteristic of Rochester.

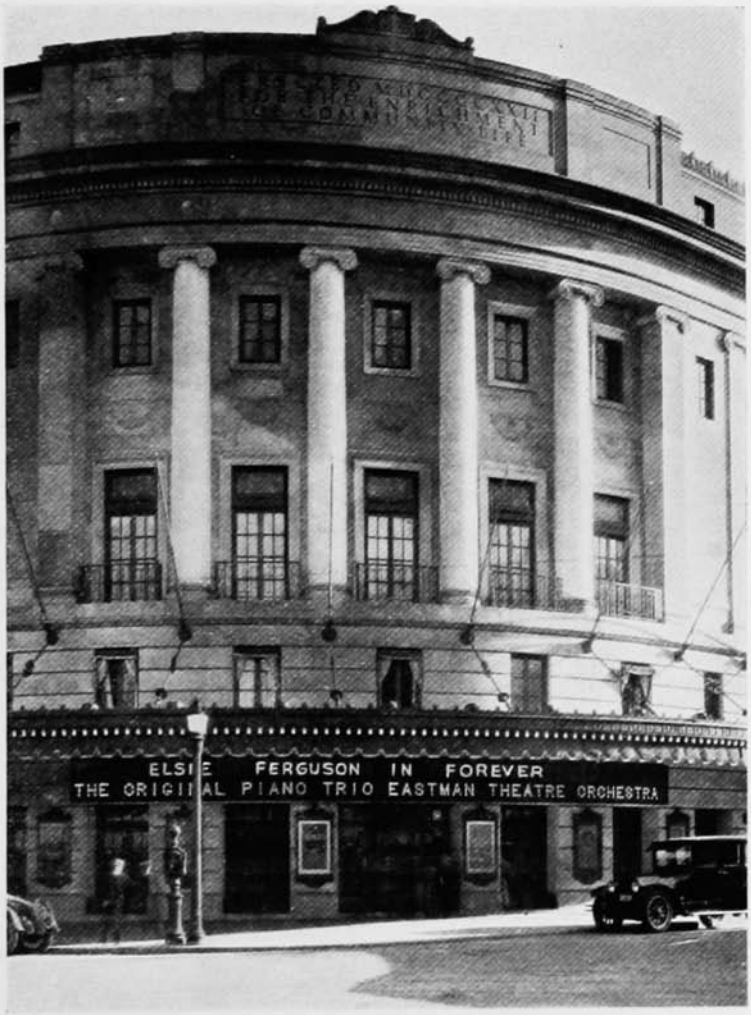
CHAPTER V.

Amusements in Rochester

NOW, how do these people of Rochester live?

We have spoken of the social side of the town, of its civic spirit, of its spirit of cooperation; of the great friendliness of its citizenry; to one another, and to the strangers that come within their walls. There are many of these; for the community is all the while in steady growth—from the day of its inception it has never known anything else.

It is hard to tell at which season of the year they live the best. Rochester, although distinctly and pre-eminently a city of the North, is generally protected by its Lake from the great extremes of climate—either of heat or of cold—that sometimes vex some of her neighbors. She is near enough Lake Ontario to feel the static strength of that vast body of water, yet not so near as to be chilled by the sharp winter winds that sometimes sweep over its ice-fields. Her winters, although rigorous, are very rarely excessive. Which means that there are very few days in the average year when



The Eastman Theater
Is the Expression
of a Great Hope

her normal life may not proceed—normally. Not only do her extensive systems of electric street railways and motor-bus lines keep going steadily forward all the while, but, because of an excellent city system of snow removal, there is rarely any serious obstacle to automobile traffic.

In winter the Rochesterians fall back quite naturally upon indoor entertainments. The city is generously provided with theaters—both for the spoken drama and the motion picture. These offer each night a wide range and variety of dramatic entertainment; in addition to which there are each winter a great number of lectures, concerts, and the like.

It is in this very field of social activity that Rochester has just received what may be called—reverting for a final time to the use of the superlative—the finest theater in all the land; if not, indeed, in all creation. The Eastman Theater—the great gift to his city of the man who evolved a photographic camera out of a shoebox—although consecrated primarily to music, is far more than merely an opera house or auditorium: It is the expression of an idea; of a hope, if you please. George Eastman, in his own soul passionately fond of music of the highest sort, and in

many of his years deprived of the opportunity of hearing much of it, decided but a few years ago to attempt to create in the highly-industrial city of Rochester a real civic taste for music.

So has the Eastman Theater been builded; with all the elegance, the comfort and the luxury that wealth and good taste could command. More than a theater, it is, at the very outset, and as we presently shall come to see, a great national school of music. This feature of its endeavor is housed in what is practically a separate six-storied building, quite apart from the theater structure, yet so cleverly attached to it in the street facade as to make it all seem like one huge opera-house. The School of Music is a part of the University of Rochester and will be discussed when we come to tell of that institution. The University also owns the Eastman Theater, which is operated as an adjunct to the School, with a two-fold purpose; first, to provide musical education on a large scale for the multitudes who attend its exhibitions and who listen to its orchestra and great organ; and, second, to furnish an opportunity to students in the School of Music to participate in musical programs offered to the public.

The ablest minds in America were called in for the construction and the decoration of the Eastman Theater. The all-important problem of the acoustics was put in the hands of experts, with the result that in the topmost row of the topmost gallery one actually can hear a pin drop upon the stage! . . . The unusual sound properties of the famous Mormon Tabernacle, at Salt Lake City, have been duplicated.

It is a remarkably democratic affair, this very newest of the great opera houses of the world. Its auditorium—one of the largest theater auditoriums in the United States, with its 3380 seats—possesses no boxes. For the permanent subscribers whose guarantee subscriptions are a necessity to its musical plans, a sweeping mezzanine balcony has been installed at the rear. Yet even this "super-box," if you are disposed to call it such, has more than four hundred chairs, the greater part of which are freely available at the box office. . . But the most democratic feature of this opera house is its great gallery; locally known as the grand balcony. Its fittings are quite as fine, if not even finer, than those of the mezzanine just underneath.

The old idea of a segregated folk in an upper gallery, who must enter and leave

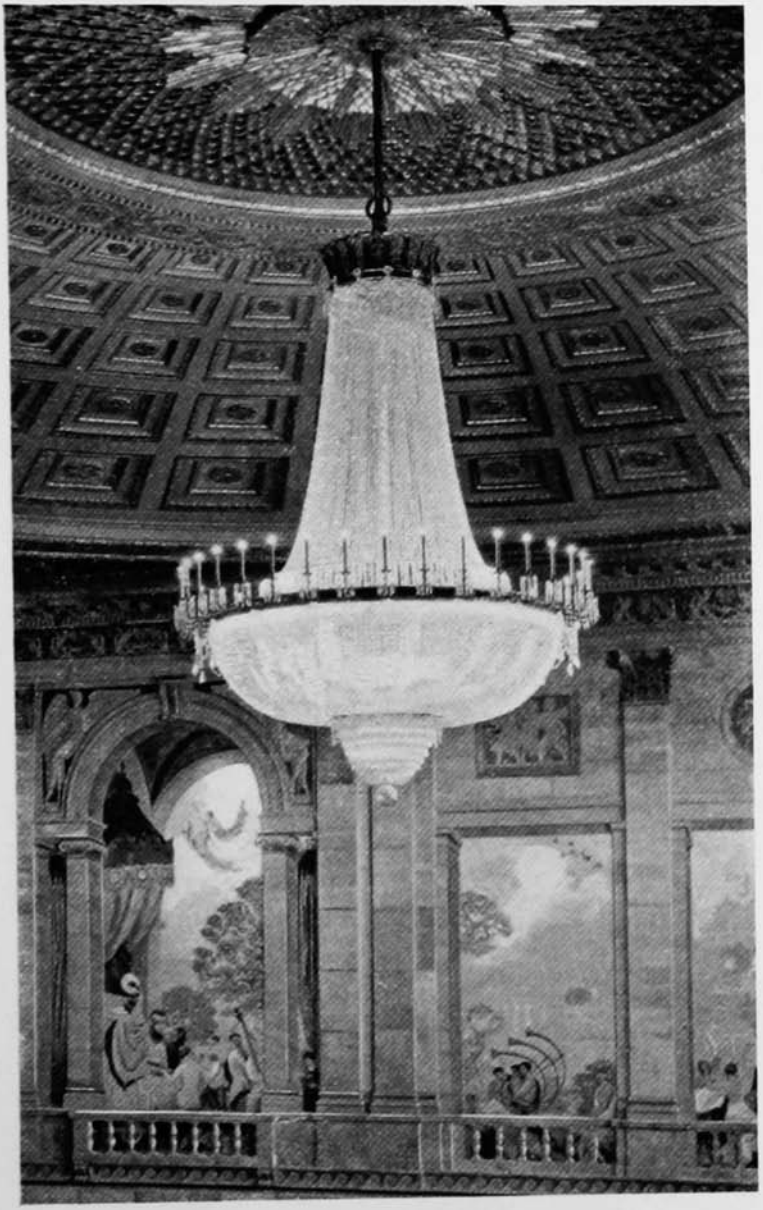
by a separate entrance and never mingle at all with the rest of the audience, has no place whatsoever in the Eastman Theater. The top row of the top gallery has the same type of chair and the same upholstery as the front row of the orchestra. In fact many Rochesterians vastly prefer the gallery to any other part of the house. Nowhere else does one get the great sweep and the real grandeur of its amphitheater.

Sweep and grandeur—and amazing simplicity. If the Eastman Theater teaches any one thing in its lines and its decorations, it is the high value and the real beauty of good taste. It is radiantly beautiful—and still in good taste.

The huge crystal chandelier, with 267 separate lights, which came all the way from Vienna to illuminate the theater, drops from a domed ceiling and a golden sunburst. It can, upon demand, glow like the sun itself, and it can also throw out a soft radiance which enables the house to be distinctly lighted during the showing of motion pictures, something accomplished by few other theaters.

Brilliancy and beauty—and still good taste.

The complete absence of boxes from the house gave vast sidewalls, in the style of Caen stone; and these, in turn, an



The Huge Crystal Chandelier
of the Eastman Theater
Came From Vienna

opportunity for murals, such as no other theater has ever given. For the decorative scheme of these walls two eminent young American painters—Ezra Winter and Barry Faulkner—were enlisted. The eight panels of heroic size which they have prepared depict the history of music. Already these have taken their stand, as art treasures, alongside the murals of the Boston Public Library and the Library of Congress at Washington.

There are many minor decorations. One can spend several days studying them out. For a turn in one of the main stairways, Maxfield Parrish has painted one of his typical panels; at a little half-hidden corner of a corridor one hears the splashing of running water and discovers an Italian fountain, of exquisite beauty; Japanese tapestries in this corner and in that, Napoleonic lithographs, rare bits of exquisite furniture, and here and there and everywhere—paintings, old and new, that have been purchased to make the new house artistically complete. All of these extend from the opera house itself into the long corridors of the adjoining School of Music, which upon opera and concert nights are used as promenades for the *entr'actes;* in the European fashion.

For regular dramatic productions—even those running to sizable light operettas or even grand operas, the commodious and comfortable Lyceum Theater in South Clinton Street is admirably adapted. And, as has already been intimated, there is an abundance of other theaters, both for the spoken and the picture drama. While Convention Hall, in Washington Square, with some 3300 seats, is often used for large-sized spectacles of one sort or another, in addition to large public meetings of almost every conceivable variety.

Rochester is generously supplied with auditoriums, even outside of these, and those of her churches and her schools. She has an old-fashioned predilection toward lectures. And in these recent years a rapidly-quickening taste toward music—of one sort or another. While her dramatic taste and perception have long been recognized in the fixed habit of the large New York theater managers toward making first presentations of their wares upon the Rochester stages before proceeding with them toward those of the metropolis.

Beyond these occupations for winter evenings there are, of course, in a city of

more than three hundred thousand people, a great number of clubs, societies and fraternal organizations. The Masons have a large temple in North Clinton Street, the Elks a fine modern club-house nearby, while across the street and between them stands the thoroughly-equipped home of the Rochester Athletic Club. . . The Knights of Columbus have just begun the erection of a twelve-story club-house, that, once completed, will quite excel anything that this order has yet put up in the United States. . .

Of the more strictly social type of club, the Genesee Valley—which we have already seen occupying the former Perkins homestead with its spacious grounds and gardens in East Avenue—takes an outstanding position. Its comfort and its hospitality are closely rivalled, however, by the older Rochester Club in the lower Avenue. . . Around the Corner from this institution, in Chestnut Street, is the University Club; and upon the West Side of the town, the Washington Club, formerly the Rochester Whist Club.

Artistic and literary circles—of both men and women—foregather in the Corner Club, in little Windsor Street, while the women have two clubs of their own—the Women's City Club in Chestnut

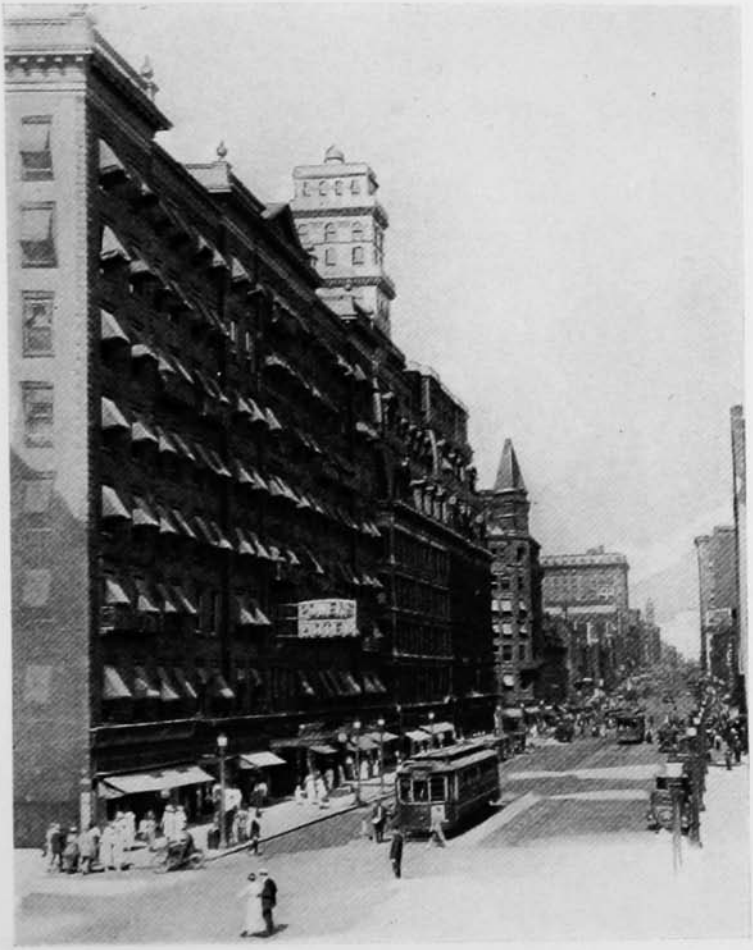
Street, which gives constant and active interest to civic affairs of every sort, and the more purely social Century Club, in East Avenue. . While there is no distinctive luncheon club in the heart of the city, the large restaurant of the Chamber of Commerce anticipates and meets this need; and there is hardly a day of the week that some special club—the City, the Ad, the Rotary, the Kiwanis, the Lions, and others of their sort—is not holding weekly luncheon sessions in some one of the downtown hotels.

On the outskirts of the community is a group of country clubs—in East Avenue, as it winds its lovely way toward Pittsford—the Rochester Country Club, the Irondequoit, and the new Monroe Country Club. To these is shortly to be added the Oak Hill Country Club, which is preparing to vacate the home that it has occupied these many years, and which presently may be acquired, with its eighty-five acres of surrounding grounds, as a site for the new Men's College of Liberal Arts of the University of Rochester. . The most of these country clubs keep open the entire year round. For Rochester simply refuses to let the average winter day keep her indoors. Skating, tobogganing, ski-ing and snow-

shoeing are recognized sports, not only at the country clubs, but in the city's huge park system where the sports are organized, and occasionally of a crisp winter's night the big Park Band is employed to play for the skaters. . . . While for those who are still more daring, the edge of Lake Ontario, or even Irondequoit Bay, forms an ample opportunity for the regal, if somewhat dangerous, sport of ice-boating.

In the winter come the days that set the blood a-tingle; when the Genesee, at least, is solidly frozen over and the hill-tops which line the valley are so blanketed in white that the bare trees and the crazy fences stand out more clearly than at any other time of year; when by day the smoke ascends straight upward from the farmhouse chimneys, and men's shoes, crunching through the crusts, betray zero temperature, and night brings the stars and the crescent moon a little nearer Mother Earth than at any other season. . . . Rochester folk refuse to be discomfited by weather. A few of them may hie themselves off to Florida or California. But the real Western New Yorker gets out the old pung-sleigh that grandfather first owned, hitches the mare into the offset thills, and packs to town

and market. In the dusk he drives home again; the mare ambling briskly in the sleigh-runs with cheering thoughts of the warm stall just ahead; and the man ruminating upon the goodness of just being alive, in a land which knows naught of food shortages or of subway crushes.



Rochester Has a Really Glorious Main Street

CHAPTER VI.

Rochester Lives in the Open

IT is in the summer, of course, that Rochester comes most gloriously into her fine open-air life. A city which has no tenements and practically no apartment houses, but her homes everywhere set in broad open lawns, might not be supposed to care much about getting out into the open country so closely roundabout her. Yet Rochester adores it. . . .

If, at first telling, you are inclined to doubt this statement, just consider her parks. Started less than forty years ago, she today has one of the finest park systems in the land—with 1492 acres. These are divided into six different parks, in addition to the various open squares throughout the city which come under the jurisdiction of her Park Department. But the leading public pleasure-grounds of the community are the Genesee Valley Park (540 acres) upon the southerly edge of the town; Seneca Park (216 acres), Maplewood Park (145 acres), along the deep and picturesque gorge of the Genesee just before it debouches into Lake

Ontario, and the great Durand-Eastman Park (484 acres) upon the shore of the Lake, itself. Smaller parks, but of great beauty and popularity, are Highland and Cobbs Hill; each surrounding large reservoirs of the city's water supply and each commanding a wide sweep of the surrounding country. Highland Park in particular has a wide fame because of its magnificent arboretum; almost every tree that can be induced to grow in the fertile Genesee valley country having been planted there. The two greatest features of Highland Park, however, are the pinetum and, in season, the marvellous lilacs—these last of a world-wide reputation.

In Seneca Park there is a large and growing "Zoo," while at the Genesee Valley Park canoeing is the especial sport. One can ascend the here-languid river for nearly twenty miles without being compelled to lift his boat from out of the waters. While the city, through its boathouses, will take care of his craft the entire year round for a very nominal fee. Canoes and small boats of almost every sort may also be rented at a low cost, either by the day or by the hour; while at stated times in the summer a motor launch plies through the waters of the upper Genesee.

At the new Durand-Eastman Park, bathing—in the waters of Lake Ontario—is a great feature, and so it is at the Municipal Beach at the foot of Lake Avenue, and even more accessible to the city. Durand-Eastman and Genesee Valley Parks each have fine golf-links, and so, of course, have each of the four country-clubs, while even others are in contemplation. . The Rochester Tennis Club and the parks take care of the devotees of that sort of sport. For horse-back riders a few shady lanes have been reserved leading out from the city. Moreover, provision has been made in one of the city armories for the stabling and keep of mounts, either owned or rented. .
For Rochester still confesses to a love for the horse. For many years past the valley of the Genesee with its rich pastures has been recognized as an ideal breeding place for him. While in Rochester, itself, the innate affection for the animal shows itself once a year in a vast outpouring for the Horse Show—today the largest of its sort in America.

Fine as are their great parks, it is not in them that Rochesterians have their chief pleasures of the open. It is their delight ofttimes to go farther afield from

the town. Few American cities have a lovelier vicinage—for motoring, for hiking or for horseback riding. For many miles the valley of the Genesee presents a scenic charm of unusual wistfulness and beauty. The river in its reaches just above the town is not unlike the English Thames. For more than thirty miles south of Rochester it winds and bends through a setting of gentle pastoral loveliness. Then, at the little village of Mount Morris, one finds the Genesee in a land of sudden ruggedness, making its turbulent way in a deep chasm through high hills. While at Portage, just sixty-five miles south of Rochester, it leaps over a series of great falls in a tremendous gorge which a Westerner would call a canyon, and which is more nearly to be compared to the Grand Canyon of the Colorado than to anything else in the entire United States. . . At Portage, under the name of Letchworth Park (named after its generous donor), the state of New York is maintaining not only a public pleasure-ground but an excellent museum, for upon this lovely plat of ground the Senecas—greatest of all the tribes of the Five Nations—were wont to hold their conclaves. Their Long House—a timber structure, typifying the many miles of

garden land that once was theirs exclusively, still stands in Letchworth Park—and not far from it the house and grave of Mary Jemison, that remarkable woman who was kidnapped and adopted by the Indians in their pre-Revolutionary raids and grew to a great old age, being known as "The White Woman of the Senecas."

The park system of Rochester is a far-flung thing, indeed, yet a good many of the folk of the town do not realize that one of their public pleasure-grounds is a full thirty-five miles from the Four Corners, from which all dead reckonings still go. It is one of the most beautifully located of all—a small five or six-acre plat at the foot of Hemlock Lake, in the high hills of Livingston County, the chief source and reservoir of the city's water supply. The entire lake, in fact, as well as the adjoining Canadice Lake, may well be regarded as a part of the Rochester park system.

Rochester, next to New York, itself, pioneered many years ago in this matter of a long-distance pure-water supply. She refused to follow the example of her sister cities along the Great Lakes and derive her drinking-water supply from them. Instead, even though at a great

cost, she turned inland and purchased and appropriated one of the smaller of the celebrated Finger Lakes for her own needs; and built the necessary aqueduct and auxiliary reservoir facilities to bring it at all times in sufficient quantities to her doors. For her foresight she has long since been rewarded—by the maintenance, year after year, of one of the lowest death-rates of any sizable city in the world. To which a large measure of credit should also be given the city's Health Officer, Dr. George W. Goler, who for many years has worked with an unceasing vigor toward this end.

Years ago Hemlock Lake was a great resort for Rochesterians, who builded neat cottages along its shores. Its beauty captivated them—folk who have penetrated to it are at once reminded of Lake George and its own opulent beauty. Today cottagers are forbidden along the shores—for obvious reasons. Yet the soul of him who would penetrate to the fine mountainous lake cannot but rejoice in the exquisite care that is taken of every bit of it.

Hemlock is but one of a great group of lakes—the Finger Lakes of New York—that extend all the way from the broad waters of Oneida, to the northeast of Syracuse, to within five miles of the Gen-

esee, itself. Skaneateles, Owasco, Cayuga, Seneca and Keuka are perhaps the best known of these inland waters. To Rochester folk, however, Canandaigua and Conesus—next to Hemlock, at least—are the most appealing. On each of these they may build cottages and swim and boat and fish—to their heart's content. And each is within thirty miles of the town; and connected with it not only by excellent paved highways but by adequate train service as well.

Niagara Falls is but seventy miles from Rochester—an easy one-day excursion. But for those to whom even a thirty-mile jaunt (with thirty miles back again) is tiring, the city by the Genesee offers still other rural delights—quite apart from her parks. For the chief of these she has Irondequoit Bay—a remarkably beautiful sheet of water, about eight miles in length and one in width, extending south from the shore of Lake Ontario, but so completely separated from it by a stout sand-bar as almost to be reckoned as an inland sheet of water. Particularly so, when one comes to contemplate its steep wooded shores. If Hemlock is a miniature Lake George, Irondequoit Bay certainly is the Hudson River in replica.

This great pleasure-ground of Rochester already is touched by the city's limits. It can be reached in a dozen different ways. Shortly it will be bordered by the city for its entire length and the ways of getting to it probably multiplied. But Rochester will not easily forgive the deed if the quaint nature, as well as the real beauty of Irondequoit Bay is ever harmed. . . For the Bay has a real flavor; all the way from the thin and sandy bar that separates it from the Lake to the ancient Float Bridge which crosses it near its head and which for a century past has been a rendezvous for Rochester fishermen. Its shores are lined with cottages and odd little inns; with still odder little roadways leading down to them.

. Where else in all creation, but at Irondequoit, could one find a Birds and Worms Road leading from the modern paved highway down the steep slope to the waters' edge and the middle of the last century?

Yet for the last consideration we have reserved the very greatest of Rochester's outdoor attractions—the Lake.

What lake?

If you ask a Rochesterian that question he will look at you with great pity; per-

haps lead you, ever and ever so gently, to the nearest atlas and point out upon it the majestic form of Ontario. .

From Troutburg, twenty miles to the west of the mouth of the Genesee to Sodus Bay, thirty-five miles to the east, Rochester claims this great lake almost as her very own. For more than half of this distance there is an all-but-continuous line of cottages and hotels and clubs —of every size and degree and variety— upon its shores. It is reached by two steam railroads, four or five electric ones and a multitude of high-roads. It is tremendously accessible, and well it needs to be. . . .

High bluff and shelving beach. Fair prospect and a paradise for bathers. And beyond all—the blue waters of the Lake. . As long ago as 1810, DeWitt Clinton, roughly platting the route for his Erie Canal, came to it, at the mouth of the Genesee; and in his diary wrote: ". . . We had the opportunity of seeing the lake in a storm, and it perfectly resembled its parent, the ocean, in the agitation, the roaring and the violence of its waves. ."

Today if you wish to see Ontario in all the violence of the Atlantic, itself, all you needs must do is to go to the mouth of the Genesee (once at the small village of

Charlotte but now in the twenty-third Ward of the city of Rochester) after two stout autumnal days of steady wind from the northwest. Yet storm is one of the rarer moods of Ontario. In summer she is quite as peaceful as Hemlock or Conesus, and then yachting becomes the rage upon her waters. The Rochester Yacht Club has completed a fine new home upon her shores; and there are several other clubs of a deal of magnitude.

The Rochester of the outdoors comes perhaps into its finest mood when the innate spirit of cooperation in the community finds expression within it. In a high measure this might possibly be interpreted as the annual Rochester Exposition, with its attendant Horse Show, to which reference already has been made.

When come the first crisp days of early September the minds of the Western New Yorkers begin to trend toward "fair time." Rochester is no exception to this. . . . Some ten or twelve years ago she decided that she ought to have a good home-fair and not be compelled to go to Syracuse or Toronto or even the nearer-by communities for such pleasures. And turning about for a possible site for an annual fair, she hit upon the discarded buildings of the Western New York House

of Refuge—a semi-penal institution for wayward youth. Early guidebooks of Rochester have all commented upon this excellent institution and all of them have added that it was surrounded by a stone-wall, sixteen feet in height.

A few years ago the managers of the excellent institution, realizing that sixteen-foot stone-walls are not the best of modern penal methods, abandoned the old prison—for in truth, that was what it really was—and moved their boys to a fine farm in the upper valley where they could work in the open, practically unguarded, and with every opportunity given them for regaining of successful life. The city of Rochester came along, took the old buildings, tore down the stone-wall (and some of the buildings, too) and put up enough new structures to give it a permanent exposition ground of the first rank.

So, when come the first crisp days of early September, Rochester now has its own fair. And makes the fullest possible use of it. For a week—all day long and well into the evening—the grounds are crowded with pleasure-seekers who come from every corner of Western New York. While the attendant Horse Show contributes a distinct social flavor both to

the Exposition and, through that week, to the town itself.

The cooperative spirit of Rochester, finding expression in the open, reaches what is possibly an even higher level in the fête-nights which are held in the city parks; from the beginning of the summer until its ending. . These have been developed through much experience and careful organization. Rochester organizes her work—*vide* her Chamber of Commerce and the attendant activities of her business men. But she also organizes her play. Wherein she is exceedingly wise. Work and play. Play with work. Right there seems to be the real secret of success in Rochester and her surrounding country. On a single night in midsummer more than twenty thousand people have been gathered in Seneca Park on the north edge of the town for a community sing; and almost every human being in the throng seated solemnly upon the greensward; each with a tiny lighted candle in front of him, until the entire hill-slope seemed to be a glowing, burning thing. . . Yet this was but a small crowd for Rochester; comparatively at any rate. On another night that same summer, in the Genesee Valley

Park, twenty-four thousand automobiles were counted as entering the gates, the entire attendance being estimated as in excess of 125,000 persons, which was a goodly showing for a town of only a little more than twice that number of residents. This was another community sing, if you please; with the big white-uniformed Park Band upon one float in the middle of the broad and tranquil Genesee, and upon another a string band and a chorus of singers, while aroundabout both were two, possibly three thousand canoes, each with a gay lantern at its bow and another at its stern. . . While nine o'clock brought a full July moon and a long procession of elaborately-decorated and illuminated floats down the stream—in competition with another for prize cups and the like. . It is hard to beat Rochester when it comes to organized play. .

Cooperation does count. Even in play. And even in the dead of winter; Christmas Eve places gaily-lighted Christmas trees not only within the homes of the town but out upon their snowy lawns that others may see and admire. While in a window of almost every house within the city—rich and poor—there twinkles a single candle, gay and brave, as if in

welcome to the Christ-child. Rochester has not grown too large to preserve a delicate sentiment amidst all her civic pride and her progress.

CHAPTER VII.

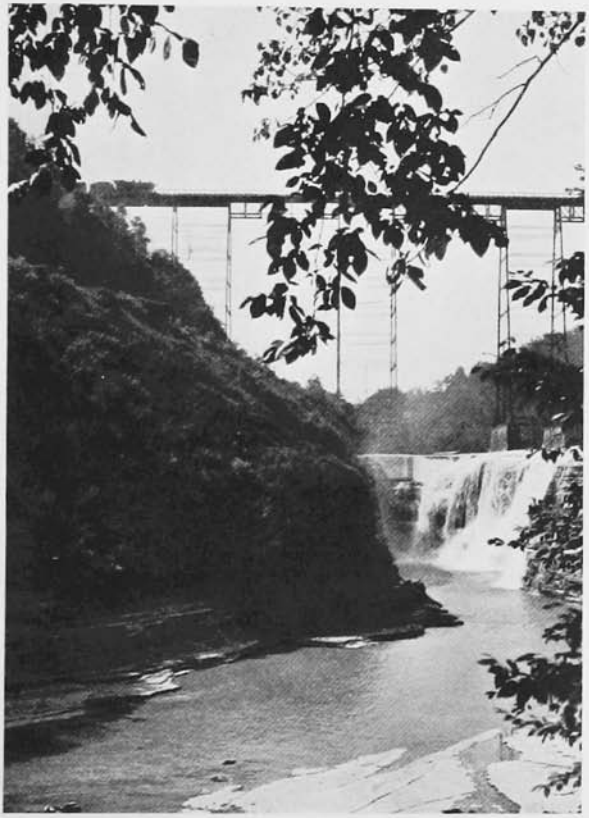
The Institutional Rochester

As a city of formal institutions alone, Rochester may be dismissed in a few brief paragraphs. It has not neglected these outward exponents of its full duty toward its citizens. It has fine hospitals—five or six of these, and these soon to be added to by the building of the large new hospital of the University of Rochester (of which more anon)—many churches of many faiths, and a very fully-developed public school system. Of its churches, in particular, it is more than passing proud. A deeply-religious city almost always—another tribute to its New England origin—it has found the expression of this feeling not alone in large religious edifices, but in great congregations, and a deep-rooted go-to-church-on-Sunday sentiment that is not always to be found in larger American communities. Its pulpits have been famed for their oratory. Some pretty well-known divines have come from them. While Rochester churches have always made a large feature of their institutional work. One in particular—the Brick Presbyterian

Church—has gone to great lengths in these activities. And so, despite a somewhat isolated downtown location, it still retains a huge congregation; and so have its neighbors, a block or two away: the Central Presbyterian Church, the First Baptist and the First Methodist Churches.

Rochester is the see city of a Roman Catholic bishop, and St. Patrick's Cathedral has long been one of the landmarks upon the West Side of the town. A suffragan bishop of the Protestant Episcopal church has recently been located within the city and, as a matter of ordinary course, a cathedral will follow some day. . . Rochester is a stronghold of the Baptist Church, maintaining within its borders one of the large theological schools of that denomination, while the Baptist Temple downtown is preparing to build an eight or nine-story church in which to house not merely its ecclesiastical activities but a modern office building as well. The Christian Scientists have builded a huge temple in East Avenue. . . And so it goes.
The church-going needs of the city are not neglected.

Neither are its other needs. The free school-system of the town includes some



At Portage, Letchworth Park and the Lovely Upper Falls of the Genesee

forty-six grammar and primary schools, three high schools, five junior high schools and a city normal school; in all served by 1666 teachers and giving education to over fifty thousand pupils. In addition to which the parochial school system of the Roman Catholic church gives instruction to about 17,000 more pupils.

The school buildings of both these systems are almost invariably modern and scientific in their design, while the junior high schools are a peculiar Rochester product now being copied in many other cities of the land.

In a similar thorough fashion are maintained the police and the fire departments and the public health department of the city. There is a small but modern jail in Exchange Street, but few people ever see it; and out on South Avenue a county penitentiary, which is distinguished rather for the excellent quality of its meals than for any overcrowding of its facilities. It has not been added to in many years. Rochester people do not go to jail; nor to the alms-house; which, with the state hospital, closely adjoins the penitentiary—a group of state and county buildings which offer little of the usual blemish to the neighborhood. . . In their immediate neighborhood is the

great Mount Hope cemetery upon the banks of the Genesee, which for more than three-quarters of a century has enjoyed far more than a local reputation. Two other large cemeteries—one Catholic and the other Protestant—are to be found on the banks of the Genesee below the thickly-builded portions of the city.

CHAPTER VIII.

The Intellectual Rochester

REFERENCE has just been made to the excellent public school system of the city, and some time past to the real fondness of the community for high-grade lectures and concerts. Rochester has been, and still is, a reading city, a thinking city and a speaking city. It has no imposing Central Library as have some of its neighbors—although this is a city need likely to be met in the not distant future—but it has book-stores of a size and excellence rarely to be found in cities thrice its size. As a matter of fact, it has not only a public library system, with headquarters in a commodious and practical fireproof building in Exposition Park, and many branches through the town, but in the Reynolds Library in Spring Street, a quiet old-fashioned institution which many years ago began to prove its real worth to the community. .

It was in an upper room of this library that Susan B. Anthony, one of the greatest single intellectual forces that Western New York has ever known, first began the meetings of a local equal suffrage

society—whole decades before the enactment of the Nineteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. That thinking society was rather typical of Rochester. The Rochester Athenaeum and the Mechanics Institute two others. All of these have survived in one form or another. The Mechanics Institute has grown to a really tremendous institution, occupying nearly an entire city block upon the West Side and numbering more than 1700 students of the arts and trades upon its lists. . . Newer societies have been formed to take care of the especial needs of all of the professions and the sciences. There is even a Business Women's Club, and a live organization it is. While the Rochester Historical Society performs a distinct service to the community and performs it very well indeed.

There is the Theological Seminary of the Baptist Church in East Avenue, to which reference already has been made, and also a theological college of the Roman Catholic Church in Lake Avenue upon the banks of the Genesee gorge. Each of these institutions occupies a large and architecturally-distinctive group of buildings. Each is a direct contribution to the moral force and fiber of

the city. . . But the institution which, in size at least, has now come to outrank any of its compeers, is the University of Rochester—bearing the city's name and the interest of its citizenry—and to that University we now are come.

CHAPTER IX.

The University of Rochester.

ABOUT eighty years ago there began, in the bustling young city of Rochester, a well-defined movement toward the establishment of an institution of higher learning within its boundaries. At that time, with the exception of Hobart, at Geneva, which was at the extreme easterly edge of the territory, there was no institution of higher learning in Western New York. Rochester, even then extremely convenient of access and with a rapidly-growing reputation for the intelligence and the piety of its people, demanded better educational facilities.

. Its New England tastes kept cropping out. . All of this led, in 1846, to a formal request from the residents of the valley of the Genesee to the Legislature of the State of New York for the granting of a charter of a college. Which was done, that year.

For two years this was all that was accomplished—officially, at least. Unofficially much was done. Through the constant interchange of letters and newspaper articles, as well as numerous public

Anderson Hall is the Doyen of the Old Campus of the University

meetings, the sentiment for a college gradually was defined and developed into a fast-moving stream.

Over in the easterly portion of the state—in and around Albany—another stream of the same sort was being formulated. Only this was taking the form of a demand that Madison (now Colgate) University, at Hamilton, New York, should be moved to a more accessible location. Madison was a distinctly Baptist institution which had been established at Hamilton more than a quarter of a century before. The entire discussion as to the possibilities of an important new college in the state of New York gradually took upon itself a distinctly Baptist tinge. Gradually these two streams of thought were brought into one—which assumed for itself the removal of Madison University into the Genesee country.

The proposal to move Madison to Rochester began to cause great discussion and dissension. The comparative inaccessibility of Hamilton as an argument was met by that of the benefits to the students of a small town, as compared with those of a larger community. Eventually the quarrel reached the courts. But not until after the Legislature had again taken a hand and authorized the removal of the

college at Hamilton to some point upon the great western line—either Syracuse, Utica or Rochester—unless the village of Hamilton by a specific date could raise an endowment fund of $50,000 to retain it in its original location. In this Hamilton failed. And after an all-night session on August 15, 1848, the trustees of Madison University authorized the removal of the institution to Rochester, which had shown itself financially able to receive it. Which threw the fat into the fire. And the case into the courts.

In the long run Madison remained at Hamilton; remained and prospered; and as the renamed Colgate University today is one of the most vigorous of Rochester's opponents; in intercollegiate activities of every sort.

But a large proportion of both professors and students finally did move from Hamilton to Rochester. The University of Rochester was provisionally chartered by the Regents of the State, January 31, 1850; being more definitely chartered one year later—February 14, 1851. (The present charter, slightly amended from the original form, dates from January 10, 1861, being further

amended by the grant of enlarged powers on December 12, 1918).

In the fall of 1850, educational work was begun in the new university with five professors, three instructors and seventy-one students. The following spring the first class, of ten young men, was graduated. It is worthy of note that in that same year the Genesee Wesleyan College at Lima, a Methodist institution, began its labors. For twenty years it continued its collegiate endeavors. These then lapsed. And the present excellent Genesee Wesleyan Seminary took its buildings, with the new Methodist university at Syracuse just coming into existence.

For the inauguration of the University of Rochester the ancient brick United States Hotel in Buffalo (now West Main) Street was purchased and altered to meet its new needs. Which led to a story on the part of Ralph Waldo Emerson to the effect that a landlord in Rochester had an old hotel that he thought would rent for more as a university; so he put in a few books, sent for a coach-load of professors, bought some philosophical apparatus, and by the time green peas were ripe, had graduated a large class of students! The late Martin B. Anderson, first president of the University, never tired of telling this story.

Soon after the opening of the University of Rochester Dr. Anderson was called from New York, where he had been editor of the *New York Recorder*, a religious journal of much influence in that day. A graduate of Waterville (now Colby) College (at Waterville, Maine), he had been from the beginning keenly interested in higher education. And to that work at Rochester he devoted his heart, his soul, his energy, and the rest of his tremendously successful life.

When first he came to Rochester he was in his fortieth year, a tall, stalwart man, with a vigorous and impressive personality. He needed every whit of his strength of body and of mind. There were times in its early days, when, if it had not been for these, the University of Rochester would have died. Some of its earlier years were hard ones indeed.

It is worthy of note that in the entire history of Rochester there have been but three Presidents of the University—fully installed. Dr. Anderson was succeeded in 1889 by Dr. David Jayne Hill, who afterwards became American Ambassador to Germany. For two years (1896-1898) the beloved Dr. Samuel A. Lattimore, Professor of Chemistry in the University, was acting president, and from 1898 to 1900 Professor Henry F. Burton was act-

The Exquisite Memorial Art Gallery of Rochester Stands Within the Campus

ing president. In 1900 Dr. Rush Rhees, the present incumbent, became its third president.

In the old hotel in Buffalo Street there was installed not only the new University, but also the Rochester Theological Seminary, whose birth was coincident with it. In those days almost every university had its theological school, and the strong affiliation between these educational twins of Rochester has continued until this very day, even though there has never been any official connection whatsoever between the two. In fact the University of Rochester is non-sectarian, and to this policy it has stoutly adhered all these many years; without the sacrifice, however, of any of its high ideals or of a loyal regard for the denomination whose devotion to education contributed largely to the establishment of the institution.

For at least the first seventy years of its career, the University of Rochester ran its quiet unemotional course—maintaining its standards and seeking to do one thing—and that one thing a very good thing—the training of youth for effective living. It was never a large college, nor was it a very small one. It had few high lights, but it also had no

scandals. It had no spectacularly-dramatic professors but it always maintained a faculty, above the average in learning and in teaching capacity. In many ways it was reminiscent of Amherst or Williams or Dartmouth or Brown—you cannot keep that New England strain of its origin from constantly showing itself in Rochester.

This last similarity was most pronounced, perhaps, up to 1900—the year when women were first admitted as students to the University. This move came in a perfectly logical sequence of events. As far back as 1881 a very distinguished and scholarly citizen of the town—in fact, one of its earliest fine cultural forces—the late Lewis H. Morgan, had provided in his will that ultimately all his property should be offered to the trustees of the University for the purpose of providing "female education of high grade in the city of Rochester." Mr. Morgan left it to the discretion of the trustees to determine whether such instruction should be provided for women under the regular University faculty, or in a separate and distinct institution to be organized for the purpose.

This bequest—somewhat lessened by a depreciation of Mr. Morgan's securities,

but still amounting to some $80,000—did not come into the hands of the University until 1909—nine years after the step had been taken toward admitting women to its classes "on the same terms and conditions as men," in response to an urgent request made by representative women of Rochester, who secured contributions of some $50,000 to assist in reimbursing the institution for the cost of the undertaking.

At its outset this somewhat radical move was stoutly opposed by many; both of the alumni of the University as well as some of the more conservative folk of the town. It was more stoutly carried forward, however, by the late Susan B. Anthony—it was one of the final causes to which she devoted her great heart and soul. Miss Anthony made the point—and drove it home to its final conclusion—that the University of Rochester, although not officially, was, in truth, the focal center of the entire educational system of the community. As such, she averred, it had no moral right to refuse education to the young women of the city. On this point she won her campaign.

Within the past decade the young women students have been quite segre-

gated from the men. In 1912, after a dozen years of study of the problem, the trustees concluded that the interests of all the students of the University—women, as well as men—could best be served, in all subjects but the advanced electives, by providing coordinate instruction, but in separate classes for each sex. In this way there was created within the University a College for Men and a College for Women.

This policy was made possible finally by the addition of nearly a million dollars to the endowment fund of the University and a gift of $100,000 from the late Henry A. Strong, of Rochester, to erect a building for classrooms, an assembly room and administrative offices for the Women's College, in memory of his mother, Catharine Strong. The building once erected became known as Catharine Strong Hall. It took the form of a fine grey-stone structure in the English Gothic type of architecture.

It was placed at the southwest corner of Prince Street and University Avenue, upon land donated by Dr. John P. Munn, of New York, also in memory of his mother. Close beside it was erected, simultaneously, a similar structure, designated the Anthony Memorial Building,

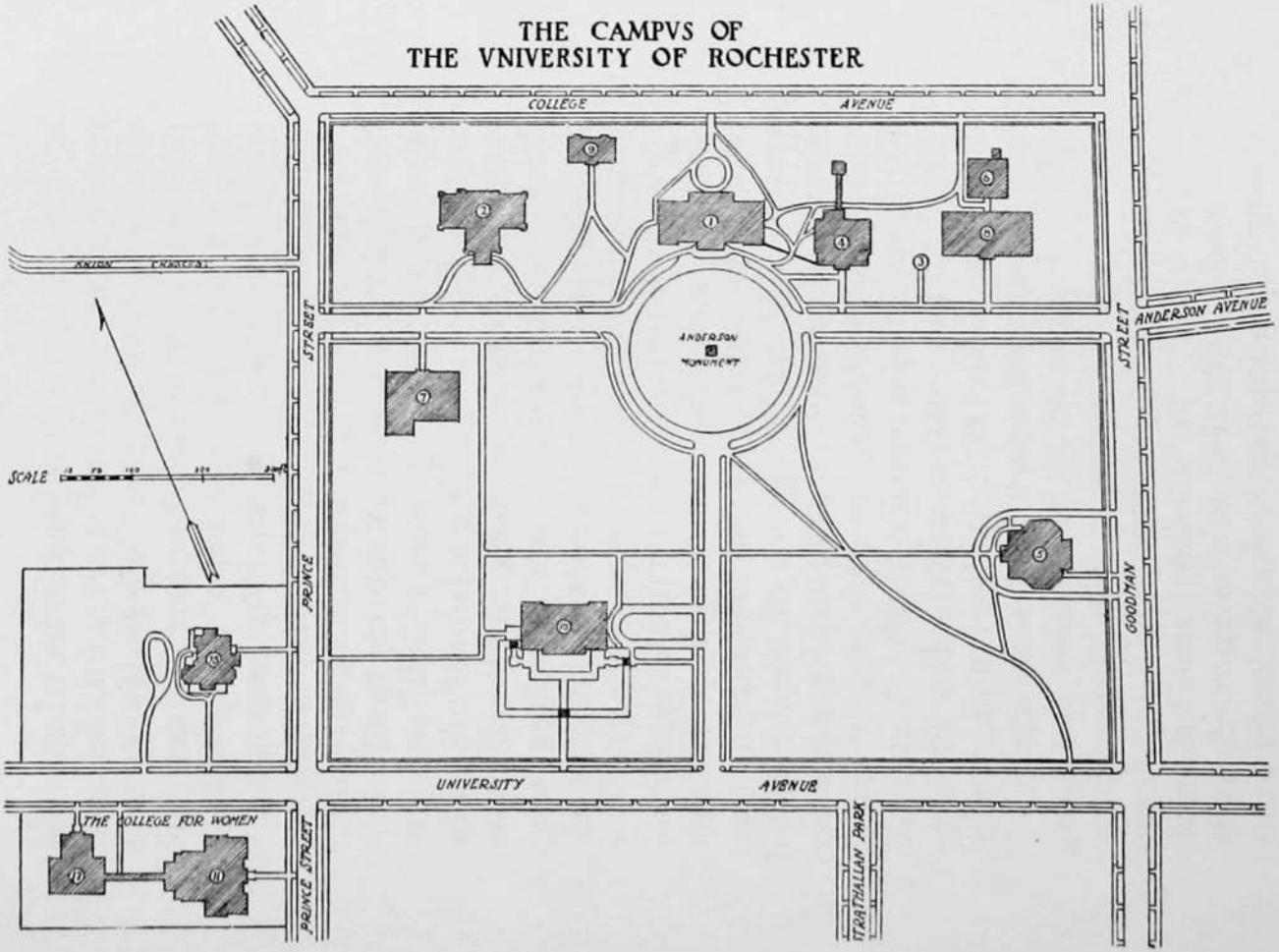
funds for which were provided by friends of both Susan B. Anthony and her sister, Mary Anthony. These were supplemented by an appropriation from the fund of $50,000 contributed to the University in 1900 to secure the admission of women to its halls.

The Catharine Strong Hall and the Anthony Memorial Building form admirable architectural foils, the one to the other. The two buildings, connected by a cloistered passageway, form the headquarters for the women students of the University. They contain classrooms, a library, an assembly-room, a gymnasium, a refectory and the like. Moreover, the young women have their own Dean; their own entertainments; and their own college publication.

This segregation of men and women will be carried still further when the Men's College of Liberal Arts is moved to its new site at Oak Hill, in the bend of the Genesee, just north of the Genesee Valley Park—of which, much more in a moment. When this is done the present commodious campus and its buildings will be turned over to the exclusive use of the Women's College.

There is a definite charm to the old campus of the University of Rochester. Its wide-open spaces, its well-kept greensward, its magnificent elms, render its twenty-five acres a great beauty spot within the heart of a fast-growing city. The buildings, like those of many another American college, represent a variety of types and eras of architectural taste. For the most part, however, they are well adapted to their uses. It is only because many of them have been sadly outgrown that the question of moving the Men's College from them comes to the fore at this time.

The doyen of the group is Anderson Hall, a stout brownstone structure, three stories in height, which was put up just before the beginning days of the Civil War and whose construction represented a tremendous personal effort and no little sacrifice upon the part of Dr. Anderson. The building cost at the time of its erection $39,000. It probably would cost ten times that figure to reproduce it today. It is as stoutly builded as a fortress. . When it was completed the University was immediately moved out of the old United States Hotel and into it. Eight years before the Hon. Azariah Boody had given the trustees eight acres



of the campus; the remainder they had acquired by purchase. . . In the hard wartime days of the University it was decided to cut a street across the campus and sell off city lots from the portions which had been acquired by purchase—to replenish its sadly-depleted treasury. A quaint map which depicts the possibilities of an academic group of residences upon the present campus is still in existence. Three large lots from this plan were sold, and dwellings, facing Prince Street, erected upon them. . . . In recent years these houses and lots have been reacquired by the University. One of them now serves for its administrative offices.

For nearly fourteen years Anderson Hall stood alone. Under its roof was housed all that there was of the University of Rochester. It contained classrooms, laboratories, chapel and library. Early in the 'seventies a very eminent citizen of the town—the late Hiram Sibley—approached Dr. Anderson and expressed his desire to be of some real aid to the University. Mr Sibley had acquired a large fortune—for those days an extremely large fortune. It had been his vision, his persistence and his real executive ability that had organized, with its original headquarters in Rochester, the

Western Union Telegraph Company. In not only the national but the international commercial development of the telegraph he was a conspicuous figure.

Mr. Sibley's generous suggestion of aid to the University of Rochester gradually took the concrete form of the donation of a much-needed library building to it. In 1872 the foundations of Sibley Hall—as the Library is officially known—were begun. Its construction proceeded slowly and with great care, its donor personally watching almost every detail of the progress of the work. In 1877 it was completed and the library equipment moved in; while a few years later the wonderful Ward Geological Collection, which had been founded by Henry A. Ward, of Rochester, was placed on the second floor of the building. To the assemblage of this collection Mr. Ward gave the interest of a lifetime. It was, and still is, one of the most notable cabinets of its sort ever brought together.

Today the Library is still an efficient structure—stocked with nearly 100,000 volumes, which do not, of course, include those in the Sibley Musical Library at the Eastman School of Music and the Medical Library at the new School of Medicine and Dentistry.

A small observatory, the gift of John B. Trevor, of New York, came next, in 1876. Then, after a hiatus of ten years, the Reynolds Memorial Laboratory, also of brown stone, like its predecessors, the gift of Mortimer F. Reynolds—a distinguished Rochester citizen and donor of the Reynolds Library upon the West side of the city—in memory of his brother, William A. Reynolds. A few years ago it was much enlarged and completely re-equipped.

With these four buildings, in addition to the large President's House, at the northwest corner of Prince Street and University Avenue, the University of Rochester for another thirteen years continued the quiet tenor of its way. In 1899 the immensely long-felt want and need of a gymnasium was met by the construction of a brick structure, then more than ample for its needs, which was the gift of its alumni.

Five years later a real building program was begun—with the laying of the foundations of the large Eastman laboratories, to be devoted to the necessities of the departments of physics and biology. This highly efficient and modern university building was the gift of George Eastman, and the precursor of the tremendous

gifts which he has made to the University in very recent years.

It took two years to build. Hardly had it been completed before Andrew Carnegie, of New York, offered to give a building for applied science, at the opposite end of the campus. In 1911 this building was completed. While it was still being finished, workmen were laying the foundations for the first dormitory for men in the University of Rochester—known as Kendrick Hall, in honor of one of the pioneer professors of the University, A. C. Kendrick.

In addition to these buildings a commodious central heating plant had been built—in 1904—and the heating of the entire University replanned upon modern scientific lines. While a few years later there came the two fine grey-stone buildings of the Women's College—Catharine Strong Hall and the Anthony Memorial Hall, to which reference already has been made.

No description of the present University campus, no matter how brief, can be regarded as in the least complete without a mention of the exquisite Memorial Art Gallery which stands close to its southwest corner, facing University Avenue.

This structure, the gift of Mrs. James S. Watson, in memory of her son, James G. Averell, was first opened to the public in 1913. It is builded of Indiana limestone, in the Italian Renaissance type of architecture. The gallery is rarely beautiful in its design, its construction, its arrangement and its ornamentation. It contains three galleries for pictures and a sculpture-hall upon its main floor; and in its high-set basement a lecture-room, an art library, and a room for prints and photographs.

Already a large beginning has been made in the establishment of permanent collections of casts, figures and paintings, which are growing rapidly each year. While in addition to these permanent collections there are, throughout the year, excellent loan exhibitions of paintings by representative American and foreign artists. These enjoy high favor with Rochesterians, who have come to regard the Memorial Art Gallery as one of the most fascinating institutions of the community.

It was planned at one time to gain an architectural balance for the Memorial Art Gallery upon the campus by building a much-needed auditorium for the University just to the east of it. In 1920,

Mrs. Henry A. Strong, of Rochester, proffered $200,000 for such an auditorium, in memory of her husband, the late Henry A. Strong, donor of the Catharine Strong Hall. This most generous offer the University of Rochester gratefully accepted. But before the plans for the proposed building could be prepared, the gifts of George Eastman and the General Education Board, to build a school of medicine for it, to which extended reference will be made in due course, were announced. These necessitated an immediate and careful study of the adequacy of the present campus for the future service of the University and the community. This study, in turn, led to the decision to reserve the old campus for the Women's College of Arts and Science and to provide a new equipment for the Men's college on the site of the Oak Hill Country Club, if funds for such an enterprise could be found. In view of this development, Mrs. Strong's gift has become the first contribution to the new group of buildings which it is hoped to erect at Oak Hill.

CHAPTER X.

The Eastman School of Music

NOW go back a bit in the chronological story of the development of an American educational institution and look at a simple brick structure, formerly a residence, which stands in Prince Street just across from the old campus of the University. It is 1912, and this old-fashioned brown-brick house is a school of music. A struggling school of music, if you will, without much backing and without many friends. The Rochester inventor who had the rare combination of mechanical ingenuity and artistic sense to evolve the folding camera has also a great taste for music. In his home he is fond of giving concerts. He hears of the school of music in Prince Street—it has the important title of the Rochester Institute of Musical Art. He begins to draw upon it for talent for the concerts in his residence. . And gradually George Eastman comes to the aid of the struggling enterprise.

Out of that simple beginning has now come the Eastman School of Music and the Eastman Theater, covering more than half of the long block in Gibbs Street,

between Main Street and East Avenue—a superb Italian Renaissance structure of cold, white, smooth-surfaced limestone, apparently three stories in height; in reality six. Of the theater you have read in some detail already. While the details of its operation are in slightly-different hands from its co-tenant, the School of Music, it is in no sense a commercial institution. It is an educational one. For this reason its title was vested in the University of Rochester. While upon the high-set lintel of the structure have been graven the words: "For the Enrichment of Community Life." These express the real spirit in which it was erected.

The School of Music in its chaste and exquisite details is a replica of the great Theater. In fact this thought is carried forth more distinctly even in Kilbourn Hall, a delicate jewel-casket of an intimate auditorium, seating but 506 persons and designed almost exclusively for chamber recitals, named and dedicated in honor of Mr. Eastman's mother. In its total treatment it is considered one of the most beautiful halls in America.

Kilbourn Hall is the one portion of the Eastman School of Music designed for the use of the outside public. The re-

mainder of the huge structure is entirely set aside to the needs of both students and instructors. Every imaginable accessory making for the comfort and convenience of these two elements is incorporated within the building. Accommodations for more than two thousand students are provided in the structure, which is so planned that eventually it can be enlarged to receive many more than these. . . It was first opened in the fall of 1921; some 1300 students being enrolled at the outset. The Eastman Theater was opened on September 4, 1922.

A distinctive feature of the School of Music is the library of more than eight thousand volumes, the gift of Hiram W. Sibley, son of the donor of Sibley Hall upon the University campus, and himself vastly interested in all that pertains to art and music. It antedates the School of Music, considerably. Nearly twenty years ago Mr. Sibley decided that he would like to present a distinctive musical library to the University of Rochester, for the benefit of all music lovers in the community. He engaged Mr. Elbert Newton, then a resident of the town, to gather such a collection. As a result of Mr. Newton's efforts, under Mr. Sibley's

patronage, the nucleus of the present Sibley Musical Library was made. Upon the completion of the Eastman School of Music its donor generously permitted the transfer of the collection from the campus to that new structure where special provisions were made for its adequate housing. It is being enlarged steadily. Already it is excelled by few music libraries in America in the completeness of its range.

For the students who come to the Eastman School of Music, and their teachers, more than fifty pianos were installed at its opening; the most of them in soundproof practice-rooms. This number has since been increased. . . . Nine practice pipe-organs were built for the organ department; these are two-manual instruments, yet with full mechanical equipment to correspond with two larger three-manual teaching organs. Each of these eleven organs is also located in a soundproof practice room. And in addition are the great four-manual organs in both Kilbourn Hall and the Eastman Theater —this last one of the largest and most remarkable instruments in the world. With a further addition of a practice organ in a studio in the theater portion

of the building, where organ-playing in connection with the display of motion pictures is taught. In this last studio there is, therefore, a complete equipment of motion-picture projectors and screen. For one of the fundamental features to which the great Eastman Theater is dedicated is the perfection of the combination of motion picture and music of the highest sort. The orchestra of sixty pieces which is engaged for the theater for its daily showings of motion pictures is the basis of a future permanent symphony orchestra for the city of Rochester. . And, in a larger way, for an eventual resident opera company, competent in all of its resources to place upon the stage of the theater the most elaborate and difficult of grand opera productions. That Rochester may yet become the Bayreuth of America is the distinct hope of the folk who are in charge of its new musical temple in Gibbs Street. While as an educational agent, its full possibilities to the future of the community almost surpass imagination.

Yet the donor of the institution very sagely believes that these larger dreams for its future cannot come into fruition until a real musical taste and desire have been created within the community that

houses it. Therefore as a community school it seeks to be of the largest possible service to the entire city and undertakes, in addition to training candidates for the degree of Bachelor of Music, the education of three other groups; first, candidates for its own certificates; second, mature students of music who desire to pursue the study of one or more branches of musical art; and third, preparatory classes for children which will carry them forward to the point where they may qualify for admission to its Certificate and Bachelor of Music courses. Incidental earnest of its desire to serve the music needs of the community at large is shown in its indirect but substantial support of the David Hochstein Musical Settlement in the north portion of the city; in its interest in the musical work in the public schools; and its providing a large quantity of musical equipment, roughly valued at about $35,000, for the free use of any Rochester boy or girl who may show aptitude in music and yet lack the means for obtaining even the loan of the necessary instruments.

To carry forth this definite plan for both the general and the specific advancement of musical culture in Rochester,

Mr. Eastman first contributed $1,500,000 for the site and building, and a little later gave $2,000,000 for the endowment of the school. Although the cost of the structure has not been announced, it is known that the first of these figures will not cover one-third of the cost of the huge edifice, its site and its elaborate equipment. It was the most generous gift to the community in its entire history.

CHAPTER XI.

The School of Medicine and Dentistry.

IT might very reasonably have been expected that George Eastman, having done so much to meet the musical necessities of Rochester, might have permitted himself to rest the remainder of his life upon these laurels. This Rochester soon found was not to be the case. Three years ago the town was astounded at the announcement of a fresh gift of $4,000,000 from him to the University—this time toward the establishment of a School of Medicine and Dentistry.

For a number of years past a popular tradition has existed to the effect that the land was already blessed with more than an over-plus of medical schools. Thorough and painstaking investigation undertaken all the way across the country in the last three or four years, has shown that this is no longer true. There is not only a national shortage of doctors but a grave shortage of the institutions for the preparation of physicians of the best international standards. Because of this, the General Education

Board—the instrument through which the Rockefellers carry forward their remarkable gifts to the cause of education generally—is seeking to build up medical teaching across the land. It decided upon Rochester as the site for one of its large single efforts in this campaign for two fairly-definite reasons; because Rochester is the only city of more than one hundred thousand people between Boston and Chicago without a medical school, and because of the high estimate that it had formed of the work of the University of Rochester.

Mr. Eastman became interested in the project. From a rather moderate enthusiasm in the plan at the outset he waxed very enthusiastic over its gradual developments. And finally gave to it not merely money but much of his rare executive talent and advice.

In the development of the scheme, one important feature developed early. It was seen that in the new medical school enterprise there would be a rare opportunity for the Rochester Dental Dispensary, an earlier gift from George Eastman to his town. In addition to putting up a handsome building for it in East Main Street, within a very short distance of the present campus of the University,

he has endowed it liberally until the building and its endowment represents today an investment of more than $2,300,000.

It was planned to bring it into the medical school development, so that the new institution could give a thorough instruction both to physicians and to dentists. It was seen quickly that the Dental Dispensary would furnish clinical training for dentists parallel to those which medical students obtain in teaching hospitals.

When this entire project was brought to a definite basis, Mr. Eastman agreed to contribute $4,000,000 toward the funds necessary to bring the medical school plan into actual being and in addition he agreed to secure for it the most complete cooperation from the Rochester Dental Dispensary. The General Education Board, on its part, agreed to give $5,000,000. . A portion of this large sum was intended to erect and maintain a University hospital which would operate under the control of the medical faculty and so become an essential part of its teaching facilities. . Soon after the Eastman and General Education Board gifts to the new school had been announced, the daughters of the late Henry

A. Strong, Mrs. Gertrude Strong Achilles and Mrs. Helen Strong Carter, pledged $1,000,000 toward the cost of this University hospital on condition that it would be designated as a memorial to their father and mother.

For nearly two years past the organization of a teaching and administrative faculty for this new school has been in progress. A research laboratory and temporary administrative office have been erected for it in Elmwood Avenue, closely adjacent to Oak Hill, the new site proposed for the Men's College of the University of Rochester.

As these paragraphs are being written (in the spring of 1923), plans for the huge buildings for this school are finally being perfected and construction schedules are being arranged. . . . The plans call for a plain but highly-efficient main structure, of fireproof construction of brick and steel and concrete, built in the shape of a hollow square with extended wing-arms in each direction. This building will be six stories in height and approximately four hundred feet square. Roughly speaking, it is of the same general size and proportions as the Public Library at Fifth Avenue and Forty-second Street, in the city of New York. It will house the

administrative offices of the Medical School; its class-rooms, operating-rooms, laboratories, library and the like; in addition to the 240-bed Strong Memorial Hospital, to which reference already has been made.

It will be flanked by a new Municipal Hospital, of equal height and eventually containing another 240 beds, which is to be built by the city of Rochester and operated by the University under contract. There will also be a nurses' home and in the course of time the city may erect one for convalescents as well. The plat of land upon which the new Medical School will stand is abundantly large to permit of a great physical development upon it.

It is not known precisely when this new school will be ready to receive its first students, but it is hoped that this may be accomplished in the fall of 1925. A class of seventy-five students, who have already completed at least three years of a full college course, will then be admitted, until four years later a student body of three hundred will be at work within the walls of the new institution and those of the affiliated Dental Dispensary in East Main Street. Inasmuch

as it is the purpose of the school to train physicians and dentists upon the same plane of scientific thoroughness, in the work of the first two years the medical and the dental students will be taught in the same classes and following the same curriculum. In the last two years the medical students will continue their work in the Strong Memorial Hospital and the dental students theirs in the Rochester Dental Dispensary.

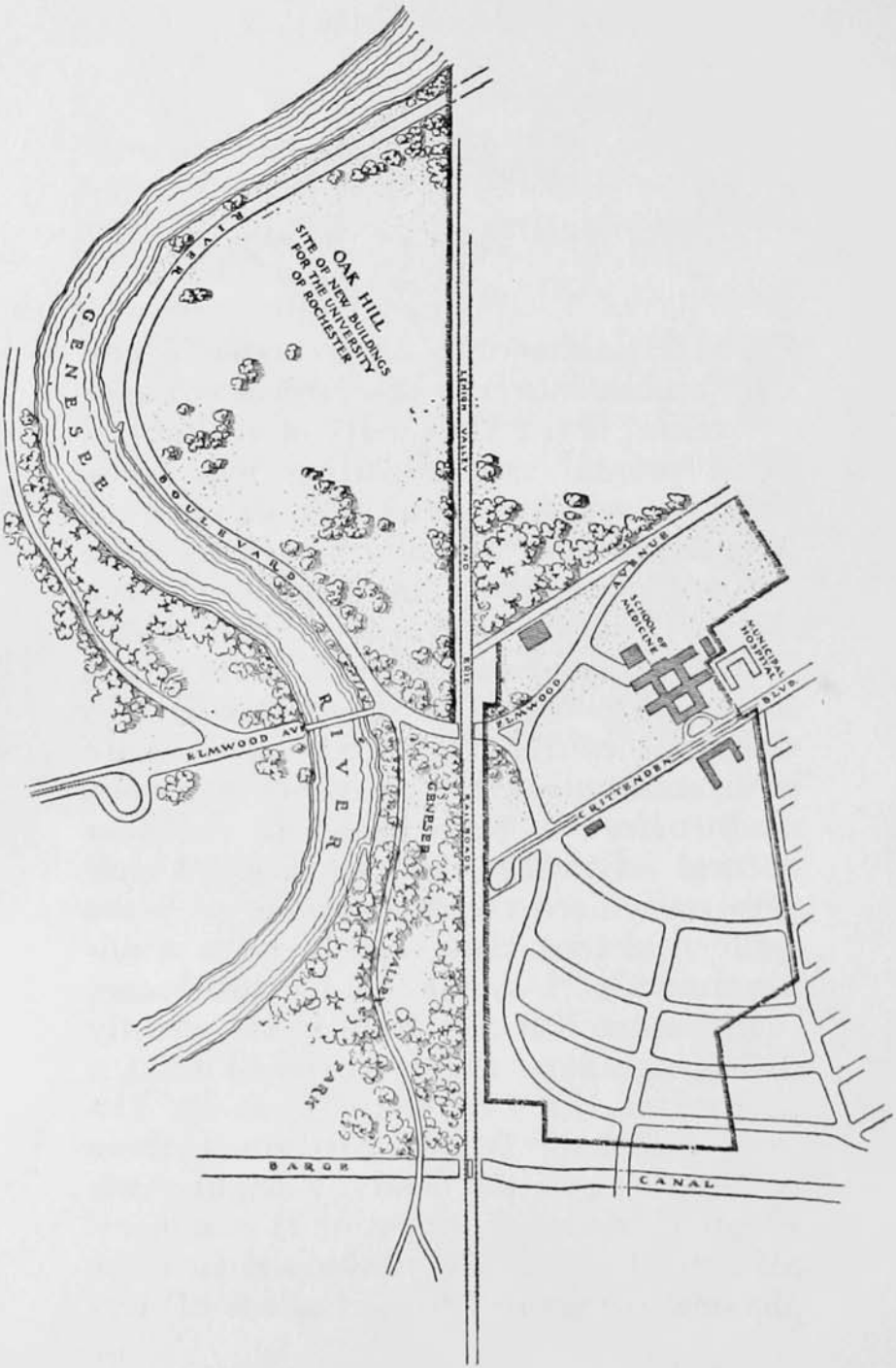
It is planned that this Rochester institution shall be one of the most thorough schools of medicine in the United States. Its entrance requirements have been set high. And its degrees will represent the best achievements in medical and dental instruction.

CHAPTER XII.

The New Men's College of Arts and Science

THE last of the large steps in the renaissance and the radical enlargement of the University of Rochester, as at present contemplated, will come when the removal of the Men's College of Arts and Science—already, as we have seen, well segregated from the Women's College—from the site in University Avenue which it has occupied for the past sixty years to the proposed new site at Oak Hill in the bend of the Genesee, has actually been accomplished. Reference has been made before in these pages to the vast natural advantages of this site. A golf club recognized these a number of years ago. And took these acres by the winding river for its course and its club-house.

Reference has also been made already to the necessity which forced at least a portion of the University from its historic campus. In the first place there was the conviction held by leading advocates of medical education that a medical school should be developed in close physical proximity to the College of Arts



and Science of the University upon the foundation of which it rests. Moreover, an intensive study of the present campus of the University of Rochester revealed the fact that, while it would be quite possible to find upon it space for the initial requirements of the School of Medicine and Dentistry, there would not be room for the future developments and expansion in its work which experience indicates will be almost certain to come. The initial location of this school upon the old campus would therefore set a serious limit also to the ability of the University of Rochester to answer calls for expansion in other directions.

So, after a thorough consideration of several sites for the possible expansion of the University, lovely Oak Hill was chosen. The new Strong Memorial Hospital and the School of Medicine are being builded nearby, not only because of the proximity of Oak Hill, but also because of the general availability of the site for both hospital and medical teaching purposes.

Associated architects, Messrs. Gordon & Kaelber, of Rochester, and McKim, Mead & White, of New York (affiliated also in the design and building of the Eastman School of Music and the East-

man Theater, as well as in that of the new Medical School group), have for long months been engaged in the making of tentative plans for the proposed new buildings at Oak Hill. While there is nothing definite about these first plans, it is now understood that these new structures, when built, will be of the pure form of Georgian architecture, generally known throughout the land as the Colonial type.

Less ornate and less pretentious than the Gothic, it not only offers large economies over it, both in construction and in maintenance, but it gives a remarkable opportunity for ensemble and landscape effects of rare beauty. It is, in itself, rarely lovely. *Vide* the University of Virginia and its not-distant neighbor, Washington & Lee, at Lexington, in that same state. . It is an interesting fact and one worth noting, that the new dormitories planned for the men at Rochester are, in their general effect and details, essentially like the original buildings of Harvard and of Yale. Thus, after two centuries, we complete a cycle in our scholastic education. And return in our college buildings to the simple good taste of our forefathers.

These preliminary studies provide for an initial group of a dozen or more fire-resisting buildings, wrought, like the near-by Medical School, in red brick, stone, steel and concrete. In addition to the dormitories, there will be buildings devoted to the class-rooms and laboratories of the various essential forms of studies of the College of Arts and Science; administrative offices for the college, a library, a gymnasium, and an auditorium. This last, as has already been seen, was provided for financially by the pledge, in 1920, of Mrs. Henry A. Strong to build it, when the appropriate time arose, as a memorial to her husband.

The tentative groupings for these first buildings place the greater part of them upon the edge of two long quadrangles, which will cross one another at right angles. When this first group is done—the buildings that are essential to any removal of the college, whatsoever—there will be abundant space left for future development. The eighty-five acres of the Oak Hill plat will not be easily exhausted.

CHAPTER XIII.

The Future of Rochester.

INTO the fascinating fields of vain forecastings this small book must not enter. Yet it is easy, when one contemplates such huge developments close at hand as those that are planned for the University of Rochester, to speculate upon what the fairly-near future may hold for the city, itself. . There has been reference made already in these pages to the transformation of the bed of the old Erie Canal, running right through the very heart of Rochester into a four-track rapid-transit railroad for both freight interchange and passenger service. In all probability no other American city has ever had such an opportunity to secure a trunk-line, intramural railroad for itself—at such a comparatively low cost. Rochester has seized that opportunity.

Contracts have already been let for the construction of the central down-town sections of this subway, as well as for the transformation of the historic aqueduct, as staunch today as when it was first builded, into a double-decked bridge over the Genesee; the lower level

being used for the tracks of the rapid-transit railroad and the upper for a new business street through the center of the community. This street, constructed directly over the tracks of the subway, for the moment will be opened from South Avenue upon the East Side through to Oak Street upon the West and should prove from the outset a great relief to the tremendous vehicular congestion in the business portions of Rochester. Eventually it will be extended for practically the entire length of the subway; a broad new highway across Rochester.

The rapid-transit line should be an even greater relief. With stations at frequent intervals along its length—the downtown ones as now planned will be at South Avenue near Court Street, at Exchange and Fitzhugh Streets, and at West Main Street—it will offer a facility to Rochesterians downtown and through the town such as they have never before known.

For the inauguration of the project—sometime in 1924—it is planned to bring the interurban cars from Syracuse, from Geneva and from Lockport into the new road. Yet it is realized that this is but the beginning. The definite suggestion has been made that the high-speed elec-

tric trains of the Erie Railroad, now running between Rochester and Avon and Mount Morris, be brought into and through the new subway over a connection paralleling or using the Lehigh Valley tracks. In fact this suggestion goes much further. It is being seriously proposed that Rochester interests secure the Mount Morris branch of the Erie—originally the Genesee Valley Railroad—and the Dansville & Mount Morris, with the ultimate idea of running high-speed electric trains all the way through to Dansville, sixty miles to the south, and possibly by a future extension of this line; to be called the Genesee Valley Railroad, to the important town of Hornell in the Southern Tier of the state of New York. Incidentally, a station on this line in the neighborhood of Elmwood Avenue would very well serve the future necessities of the University of Rochester.

Rochester feels that she is very much a part of the Genesee Valley and that, in turn, the Genesee Valley is very much a part of her life and spirit and progress. So quite logically she turns toward a consideration of how she may help to better bind the towns of the valley—including herself—much closer to one another. She plans, even though very

vaguely as yet, toward a power development at Portage—a great industrial and economic accomplishment—that may be effected without doing harm to the marvelous scenic beauty of that *impasse* of the Genesee. She foresees the fertile valley yet almost as a single great community of homes, of small factories at least, and of great, fat, prosperous farms.

Beyond the plans that have been made for it at the outset, it is entirely probable that Rochester's new rapid-transit railroad is going to have much larger possibilities than even its most enthusiastic sponsors can yet foresee. It is being seriously considered whether it will not permit, eventually, the removal of some of the surface-car tracks which today add considerably to the congestion of the town's streets. . Whether this is ever done or not, it seems safe to say that, during the next few years, some of these surface-car tracks will be removed. The new subway, much developed above present plans, even, and a more extensive use of the motor-omnibus will more than serve to replace them. . Already a successful line of motor-busses is being operated through the eight miles of East Avenue. And points toward what

may yet be accomplished with this form of transport.

Today Rochester is keenly interested in the development of her city plan. Ever since the late Charles Mulford Robinson, one of her most thoughtful citizens, began writing upon its possibilities, she has quickened that interest. It is probable that had she given more attention to it, a half-century ago, some of the most besetting of her ingrowing pains would not have been visited upon her.

Now it is planned to relieve Main Street—a bottle-neck through which more than three-quarters of the city's traffic, east and west, surges night and day, by the construction of parallel thoroughfares, which gradually should begin to assume almost an equal importance with it. These details of the city plan have no place here. It is quite enough to say that they are being made with real thought toward the future.

To become too definite in forecasts for the future is difficult. To say what the size of Rochester shall be twenty-five, twenty, even a dozen years hence, is brash prophesying. Still there are men who are fairly gifted at this very sort of thing. It is realized, for instance,

that well within the limits of the longer of these periods, the entire township of Irondequoit, as well as a goodly part of that of Brighton and of Greece, will have disappeared within the steadily-increasing boundaries of the city of Rochester. A city, roughly speaking, seven miles broad and ten miles long—seventy square miles in all—will then have been effected. And within twenty years, in all probability, a city of something over half a million folk. Which is quite large enough for efficient government. The telephone experts have a proven record for accurate population forecasting. Their entire plans for the development of their huge plant in Rochester are predicated upon a population of 380,000 in the city by 1930.

Yet area and population are only the beginnings of a city. New enterprises of every sort and by the scores will be opened here within the next decade, and present ones multiplied in their capacity; Rochester breathes little prayers of hope that the new-comers will be like those that she now holds; employing workers whose jobs require a little more than ordinary skill and precision. Repeatedly she has turned a cold shoulder to large industries that have knocked at

her doors for admittance, simply because she has not particularly cared for the type of labor that they employed. She is a discriminating hostess as well as a friendly one—this Rochester.

For the future she plans many new public and semi-public edifices. Most definite of all these in sight at this moment is the new Masonic Temple, for which a site has already been purchased, at East Main, Prince and College Streets, closely adjoining the present campus of the University of Rochester. . A new Central Library is under discussion. While it seems to be assured that within the next four or five years a modern Auditorium, seating some 7500 persons, will arise on the present commanding site of Convention Hall—itself merely a remodeling of the former National Guard Armory. . .

And finally, a City Hall. The solid but unspeakably ugly stone structure which was erected for this purpose in the late 'sixties and then considered more than ample for the town's needs, no longer is even commodious. It is not even efficient. . . To build a new City Hall in sections has been suggested; with a definite eye cast upon the large plat of land just south of the old Erie Canal and

running through on Fitzhugh Street to Spring.

The first sections of such a structure—designed, of course, with a view to blending into the ultimate whole of it—would be builded to relieve the city from renting office space in buildings roundabout the present Hall. Eventually the new Hall would be completed and the present one torn down. Then Rochester would have a civic plaza, adjoining the new street (as yet unnamed) to be built over the former canal, and flanked on the one side by its lovely Court House and on the other by the new City Hall. . . . An opportunity for exquisite architectural development such as rarely comes to an American city.

Yet in the trial testing the glory of the Rochester of the future is not to rest even in her public buildings. It will come nearer finding its abiding place within the homes of the community, both large and small. With the exceptions of her Court House, her Memorial Art Gallery and her Eastman Theater and School of Music, Rochester's architectural triumphs for many years past have come almost exclusively in the fashioning of her homes. The friendly city has shown herself in

her houses and their settings. . . While one of the most stringent building codes in the land will assure that this high quality of home-building, which has been frankly copied by towns, larger and smaller, all the way across the continent, will be continued, indefinitely.

The University of Rochester seeks to help focus all of this sentiment; to help, in the direction of the town, toward even more attractive possibilities in each phase of its life. That is a large part of its self-chosen task. . . .

To succeed in that task, it plans its own rebuilding—for the rather immediate future. It hopes upon Oak Hill to erect a group of collegiate structures that will be a constant inspiration and guide to the architects and the builders of the Rochester of tomorrow. . The fact that the new Men's College will be constructed very largely as a single unit and by the same architects should mean that there will be little or none of the somewhat heterogeneous types of architecture which have come to colleges upbuilded through the slow course of years and by influences of a character evidently at least fairly determined in the question of building design.

Yet, beautiful as they may be and as they certainly will be, the new groups of buildings for the Men's College of Arts and Science and for the School of Medicine and Dentistry of the University of Rochester will represent, to the thoughtful man at least, but the beginning of its large opportunity. The plans for the steady enlargement of the University do not, at this time, go beyond these groups and the work that they will accomplish. But the imagination of the men and women to whom the beloved University is almost more than life itself, runs far beyond any architect's drawings or financial budgets for the future. These see in the Rochester of tomorrow a mighty University, focusing the intellectual thought and progress of a community that through the first century of its existence has refused for a single year to stay put.

For them an undergraduate college of Arts and Science (separate, for men and for women, although carefully coordinated), a School of Music, with a full-fledged temple for grand opera and orchestral music attached, and a School of Medicine and Dentistry, is but a beginning. Their imaginations call to them that the marvelous industrial diversifi-

cation of Rochester must some day have distinct recognition by its foremost educational institution. To this end there may come some fine day a highly-developed technical school for the teaching of advanced optical science of every sort. Rochester is already the recognized optical center of the world. The restless minds in this single phase of her industry are striving all the while for its betterment. To lend them the encouragement and the specialized training that they need, a School of Optical Technology would be a most appropriate addition to the University.

Yet the optical industry is but one of many fine trades in the town. The others have a real right to demand an eventual equal recognition. A modern school of technology under the wings of Mother Rochester could not long devote its entire fine energies to the optical industry alone; or even to that of the fine scientific instruments of precision which in Rochester are made today in such astonishing quantity and quality.

To build schools of this sort costs money. The University of Rochester has rarely been lacking in vision. It frequently has lacked cash. It has

had its opportunities long since to establish many affiliated schools. It has declined these opportunities, and others, because they brought with them no definite proposals of a financing to make them successful, if not from the outset, at least very soon after that. When the proffer of a school of medicine finally came—adequately financed—it did not hesitate, for a moment, to accept it. And it plans to have, within a very few years, a school of Medicine and Dentistry of which not only it may be proud, but the entire community of which it is an integral part.

So the greater University will not come quickly. Simply because it does not seek greatness. Long rolls of students make no appeal whatsoever to it. Student achievement is quite another thing. To make the diploma of the University of Rochester quite the equal of any other in the land is a goal far more worth seeking than a huge student body or great groups of buildings, no matter how beautifully these last are planned.

This, then, is the University of Rochester. More students it certainly will have—perhaps eventually as many as five thousand; or even more. It will have more buildings, more than even the most

far-seeing plans of the architects have yet committed to paper. Yet the buildings of the University are but the beginning —by no means the end—of its huge new problems. At the best they will but house ideas. Within their walls and under their roofs must constantly come the saving grace, the research, the thought that will develop the men who must direct and build the Rochester of tomorrow.

To this supreme end the University now looks. And looking, takes definite steps toward its accomplishment.