



Baden Street  
Settlement



1901-1926

152-160 BADEN STREET    13 VIENNA STREET  
*Rochester, New York*

# Baden Street Settlement



A philanthropy supported by the  
Rochester Community Chest.

Member of the Rochester Council  
of Social Agencies.

Member of the National Federation  
of Settlements.

# Foreword



The twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the Settlement seemed a fitting occasion to issue this little book bringing together in convenient form items of Settlement service of greatest social and civic value and of deepest personal interest to those associated with this organization.

It has been compiled from the minutes kept by the Secretary of the Board of Directors, and from reports and news clippings of the years past. Unfortunately we have had to omit many details and many names conspicuous in our records.

Our mistakes and oversights, kindly forgive! The time has been short and crowded with so many other pressing duties!

G. M. J.

# Baden Street Settlement

*Formerly Social Settlement of Rochester*

ORGANIZED APRIL 23, 1901 · INCORPORATED MAY 15, 1901



The officers, directors, and workers of the Baden Street Settlement take this opportunity, on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the Settlement, to acknowledge their appreciation of the splendid cooperation given, the many services rendered, and the generous contributions bestowed, by the many friends and organizations during the past twenty-five years, all of which have made possible its growth and achievements.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### OFFICERS

Mrs. J. L. Garson . . . . .	President
Mrs. A. J. Katz . . . . .	1st Vice-President
Mrs. Edward Bausch . . . . .	2nd Vice-President
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# The Beginning of Social Settlement Work In Rochester



Social Settlement work in Rochester was first considered in the spring of 1901. It had its rise in the Sisterhood work connected with the Berith Kodesh Temple in Gibbs Street. Groups of young girls came afternoons and evenings from the northern part of the city to the Assembly Hall to learn kitchen gardening, sewing, and primary education. The thought that the girls should be spared the coming uptown evenings led to the suggestion of a home in their neighborhood. Then came the further thought, an inspiration in the mind of Mrs. J. L. Garson, that a settlement house would furnish the best facilities for teaching housekeeping and attractive home-making. In a very short time the necessary funds were raised by subscription, a location was chosen, and the work begun. The location selected was that from which the girls came—the section of the city north of the railroad, extending from Clinton Avenue to Hudson Avenue, and perhaps, half a mile north. To quote Mr. Adler's description in 1902: "It is a congested district, with houses almost touching each other; frequently with shops in the rear, and almost no sunshine or breathing space. There are no tenements as in New York, but the houses are one and one-half stories in which frequently three or four families reside. In the immediate neighborhood of the Settlement the families are either German Catholics, or Russian and Polish Jews."

The first problem to meet was the financial question. Funds for the purpose of organizing a settlement and to meet current expenses were solicited by Mrs. A. J. Katz and Mrs. J. L. Garson. So enthusiastic and zealous were these pioneers in this philanthropy, that in a short time more than \$3,000.00 was raised, \$1617.46 for a permanent fund, and \$1518.85 for current expenses. Members were solicited for one dollar a year, or as much more as each cared to contribute. A low membership fee was fixed as the minimum, with a view to interesting as many people as possible, especially residents of the neighborhood, and it was found that this did not interfere with individual subscriptions as high as \$250.00 a year. By the end of the first year there was a membership list of 150 members.

The first meeting for permanent organization was not held until April 23, 1901, Mrs. Fannie R. Bigelow presiding. Others present at this meeting were Mesdames M. Landsberg, M. A. Stern, Ella Michaels, D. M. Garson, Simon Steefel, A. Rosenberg, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Cohn, Mr. and Mrs. U. J. Hecht, Mr. and Mrs. P. Present, Mr. and Mrs. D. August, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Garson, Isaac Adler, J. H. Lempert and A. J. Katz. Eleven directors, seven women, and four men, were elected and committees on incorporation and on selecting a name for the organization were appointed. The organization was at once incorporated under the name of The Social Settlement of Rochester. At the second meeting held May 15, 1901, Mrs. Bigelow presiding, the board of twelve directors was completed, and officers for the ensuing year were elected.

President . . . . .	Mrs. J. L. Garson
Vice-President . . . . .	Mrs. A. J. Katz
Secretary and Treasurer. . . . .	Mrs. J. M. Wile
Directors—Mesdames	J. L. Garson, A. J. Katz, J. M.
	Wile, M. A. Stern, U. J. Hecht, M. Landsberg, L.
	Bloch, H. Seligman, Messrs. H. C. Cohn, D. M.
	Garson, J. H. Lempert and P. Present.

*Mrs. J. L. Garson has the unique record of being the President of the Baden Street Settlement since it was first opened in May, 1901. Her devotion has never flagged from the time she, with the aid of a few friends raised the funds needed to open a modest home, to the present moment which sees the expansion of the home into an institution of varied activities, important in service to the neighborhood and to the community at large.*

*And associated with Mrs. Garson as co-founders of the Settlement and serving as officers or directors throughout the twenty-five years are Mrs. A. J. Katz, Vice-President, Mr. H. C. Cohn, Mr. Philip Present, and Mrs. William C. Gannett.*

At the second meeting Mrs. Katz reported the leasing of the premises at 152 Baden Street for one year at \$360.00.

New plumbing was installed, the walls repapered, and the floors painted. Neat muslin curtains were put at the windows, and copies of famous paintings were hung on the walls. The first floor of the house was to be used for Settlement work, while the rooms on the second floor were reserved as an apartment for the head resident.

The services of Mrs. Sara Vance Stewart were secured as Head Resident Worker. Mrs. Stewart possessed a charming personality, was most sympathetic and readily won the confidence of her neighbors. The house on Baden Street soon became "The Home" to the neighbors as well as the social center for the youth of the neighborhood. At the "Home" the neighbors found a welcome at any hour of the day or night, and in Mrs. Stewart they found a sympathetic listener in their troubles as well as their joys. With her fine cooperation and splendid leadership the work met with success at the outset. At a special meeting held May 26, 1902, the building committee composed of Messrs. Lempert, Katz and Wile, reported the purchase of the property at 152 Baden Street for the sum of \$3,260.00 in the name of the Social Settlement of Rochester, Inc.

The first year's report records a list of sixty volunteer teachers, and a registration of about three hundred girls. There were classes in plain sewing, shirt waist making, darning, hem-stitching, crocheting, embroidery, singing and basketry. The evening groups consisted of a Sunshine Club, two Shakespeare, Current Topics and German Clubs.

This report reads further:

*"The future seems full of promise for the permanency and effectiveness of our work. Our present quarters are pleasantly and happily situated, but we are fast outgrowing them, and are more or less hampered by lack of sufficient room. We hope to procure added space nearby whenever our funds permit."*

So enthusiastic were these directors and friends interested in our Settlement work that on October 9, 1904 the erection and completion of the Sunshine Assembly Hall built in the rear of the House, at the total cost of \$4,696.11 was a reality.

As soon as the new building was finished activities for the boys as well as for the girls were offered, an innovation for the House as up to this time the regular work with the exception of the kindergarten had been devoted to girls. Social and athletic clubs for the boys were now organized. During the years that followed various activities other than sewing, cooking, kitchen gardening, darning, basketry, entertainments, and literary

and social clubs were introduced, as the need or demand presented itself. Among these were the Kindergarten, the Library, the Penny Provident Fund, the Loan Art Gallery, the Settlement Bulletin, weekly clothing sales, Public Baths, playground, and Music School.

The Library at the Settlement came into existence when the Settlement started and continued many years, under the supervision of Miss Sara Van Bergh, as an active factor in giving pleasure not only to the children who drew books from it, but to the other members of the families in the homes. Starting with a collection of about two hundred books, the library increased both in the number of books and of patrons until its discontinuance when the Lincoln Branch Library was opened nearby.

In the way of teaching thrift a Penny Provident Bank was established and conducted by Miss R. Rosenberg until a system of saving was adopted by our public schools. The idea of the Bank is a very practical one. Boys and girls having any spare money, whether it be a penny, a dime or a dollar, bring it to the person in charge and receive in return a stamp marked with the amount deposited. This is pasted in a book. When the book is filled the young depositor draws this money from the Penny Provident Bank, and places it in a regular savings bank.

Rather a novel innovation was the circulating library of pictures. This "Loan Art Gallery," as it was called, was a collection of about seventy-five pictures, mostly excellent prints of old masterpieces, donated by friends of the Settlement. These after being neatly framed and labeled were circulated among the neighbors where they graced the walls of the homes for a month and were then passed on.

A rather flourishing activity conducted in the earlier years of the Settlement's existence was the weekly clothing sales held every Monday evening. Cast off clothing was solicited from the members of the Settlement and their friends and was sold at a very low price to the people of the neighborhood.

In March, 1906, appeared the first copy of the Settlement Bulletin, a small newspaper issued nine times a year in the interest of the Settlement, edited by Edwin A. Rumball. It printed news of Settlement and local community activities, and items of social and civic interest.



The Bulletin was discontinued as a Settlement publication with the April, 1910 number. It then became "The Common Good of Civic and Social Rochester."

There was great need for a playground in the district and until such a boon could be brought about, the Settlement lawn was equipped with a sand pile and swings for the smaller children of the neighborhood.

To help the foreign mother in the training of the pre-school age children, an informal daily kindergarten was conducted in the House, until November 1913. Here the little ones not old enough to go to the Public Schools were taught kindergarten songs and plays in an attempt to teach the little foreigners a few English words and tunes. This activity was the means also of bringing the foreign mothers to the House, thus promoting friendly relationship between them and the Settlement workers, and presenting the opportunity to teach the mothers lessons in child care.

When the Sunshine Assembly Hall was built in 1904, the basement was equipped with shower, tub, and spray baths for neighborhood use. They were used daily by the women and children, and the men and boys were allowed the privilege two evenings a week. These neighborhood baths remained part of the Settlement program until the Public Baths in Baden Street were established in 1908.

Drawn together by a desire for sociability a group of about twenty-five girls organized and met weekly under the leadership of Prof. K. P. Shedd. As their motto the club adopted Ben Franklin's words "Keep in the Sunshine," and this organization was called the Sunshine Club. This club founded in 1901, flourished and during the years of its existence was an important factor in the life of the Settlement and of the neighborhood. When the new Assembly Hall was completed it was called the "Sunshine Assembly Hall" after the club.

A small music school was another activity that the Settlement offered to the neighborhood. When the cottage at 160 Baden Street was acquired for dispensary purposes, for a time the front room was reserved and used as a music room. Here the children and young people had the opportunity to take lessons at small expense (10c per lesson), from competent teachers, and if there was no piano in the home of the pupil, he was permitted to make use of the piano at the Settlement for practice.

Miss L. Noyes organized the school and gave her services as teacher for some years. Her successors, Mrs. Dora Baker, and Mrs. Clinton Fish, continued the good work until the opening of the Hochstein Music School which the Settlement helped to launch.

The mothers of the northeast section of the city were quick to respond to movements for the betterment of health conditions, and the directors of the Settlement were eager and ready to establish such activities as would help to promote health. So in the spring of 1904, the Directors were not only willing that the Health Bureau should establish one of its four milk stations at the Settlement, but they were eager to offer part of the House for such a service. The milk station was opened on July 4th, with a nurse in charge to weigh the babies and instruct the mothers.

From the first it has been the custom of the Settlement workers to take the children to the parks for outings at least once a week during the summer months. The funds for these outings are contributed for the purpose by generous friends.

Not content with this, the matter of finding a summer home where tired and weary mothers from the neighborhood might be given a fortnight of country air and rest was considered. A small farmhouse of seven rooms, set among green trees at Deer's Landing on the R. & E. car line near Pittsford, was fitted up with twelve cots. It was opened June 16th, 1908. This Vacation House had no advantages of lake air, but just the week or more of outdoor life made a noticeable change in every mother and child who had a chance to benefit by it. The new Vacation House of 1909 had the advantages of lake air being located in White City. Mrs. Stewart and some of the volunteer workers took turns in taking charge of the groups during their stay at the lake. After several summers the Settlement discontinued maintaining a summer cottage, and has since cooperated with the Council of Jewish Women in registering the neighborhood mothers and children and sending them to the Vacation Home at Manitou Beach.

The Settlement being part of the neighborhood in which it is located is just as vitally interested in the efforts of other organizations to serve the community as in its own. It has always been active in its cooperation with progressive community movements, notably for public health, for play grounds, for milk stations, for better schools, and for public baths.

Cooperation with the Health Bureau in establishing and maintaining a Milk Station in the district has been referred to. A committee was appointed by the president to see the city authorities with reference to locating public baths in the vicinity of the Settlement. In February 1907, Mr. Katz was appointed a committee of one to cooperate with any meeting having as its object the opening of Public School Buildings, especially No. 9, as Social Centers.

The "new" No. 9 School was formally opened February 11, 1908. In the April issue of the Settlement Bulletin, the editor reaffirmed the desire for closer relationship between the School and the Settlement in these words: "The work at the school and the work at the Settlement are two parts of one great enterprise. It is the purpose of each to help the other and of both to exist for the good of all who come within their influence."

In November 1908, the Bulletin announced that No. 9 School playground was a reality.

In 1909 the Settlement was represented on the committee appointed to consider the unification of all charitable agencies of the city of Rochester.

On April 13, 1909, about thirteen houses were destroyed and about fifty families rendered homeless in this neighborhood through the spreading of the Gibbs Street fire to this part of town. Many of these families went to the homes of relatives or friends, some found shelter in the Assembly Hall of the Settlement until they were able to procure new lodgings, and the near neighbors were most generous in sharing with those who had met with misfortune until the relief work could be organized by the city. Dr. Crapsey who was a member of the Board of Directors of the Settlement was put in charge of the relief fund.

During the period of unemployment 1914-15 the Board of Directors endorsed the action of the various Relief organizations asking the Mayor to create work for the unemployed. Also some of the directors were active in establishing the emergency workshop to create and give employment to the unemployed women.

During the World War voluntary service of various kinds was rendered by directors, residents, workers and class and club members of the Settlement. To show our patriotism and

to help inspire it in others an impressive flag raising ceremony was held April 25, 1917. The exercises consisted of an address by Dr. Rush Rhees, singing by the children and audience and the salute to the flag. Our older boys went into the service. Food conservation and canning demonstrations were carried on. Some of the class and club work was turned into Red Cross work. Active cooperation was given in Liberty Loan drives, Food Cost Inspection, and Red Cross Home Service.

The entire lawn between the House and the Dispensary was converted into a model garden and the boys who did the gardening under the leadership of an experienced director extended this work in the homes of the neighborhood where they assisted with cleaning up the yards and planting gardens.

During the influenza epidemic the activities of the House were discontinued and the Assembly Hall was converted into an emergency hospital for men. The work was directed by Miss Stahl. The hospital was open for three weeks and cared for fifty-six patients. The Dispensary was also a center for medical and nursing service in the homes where there was influenza.

Baden Street Settlement is a non-sectarian neighborhood center open to all, young and old, regardless of race or creed. It has three distinct departments; the Settlement House, which is both a neighborhood center and a social settlement; the Dispensary; and the Day Nursery.

Its affairs are administered by a Board of Directors, twenty-five in number. When the Settlement was first organized it was financed by subscribers; anyone paying one dollar a year or more became a member of the organization and had the privilege of voting for the officers and directors at the annual meeting. The membership grew from one hundred fifty members the first year to over three hundred and fifty in 1918, including many of the people of the neighborhood.

When the Settlement became one of the philanthropies supported by the Community Chest this list of subscribers was discontinued and the Board of Directors became a self-perpetuating body.

The Board meets the first Thursday of each month, except July, August, and September. Although the yearly reports of the Settlement correspond to the Community Chest year, the annual meeting of the Board is held the first Thursday in October of each year. The directors are elected to serve three

years. In addition to the regular monthly meetings of the Board of Directors an Executive Committee of eight women directors meet in the Settlement House every Tuesday morning throughout the year to discuss and act upon matters of policy and business pertaining to the Settlement.

For many years five of the directors formed what was called the Good Cheer Committee. This group met at the House for the purpose of keeping in personal relation with families of the neighborhood. They made themselves acquainted with exceptional or problem cases in all the departments of the Settlement that came to the attention of Mrs. Stewart, and helped her solve many situations by their wise counsel and advice. The committee also kept a fund contributed to largely by the directors and members of the Settlement for the purpose of buying milk and eggs and other comforts for the sick, of paying hospital bills, purchasing glasses, or making small loans in emergencies. Mrs. Charles W. Dodge was chairman and treasurer of the committee.

With constantly increasing activities and consequent expansion in staff, equipment, and buildings, the budget required to finance the organization has had corresponding increases.

The treasurer's report for the first year ending April 21, 1902, showed receipts amounting to \$4,301.79. The expenditures for the year were \$1,409.44 leaving a balance of \$1,018.55 in Regular Fund and \$1,873.80 in the Permanent Fund.

At the Directors' meeting April 4, 1918, a motion was passed to accept the invitation from the "Rochester Patriotic and Community Fund" to the Settlement to become one of its participating philanthropies. A committee was appointed to submit a statement of Receipts and Expenditures for the previous fiscal year ending June 30, 1917. This report showed total receipts from contributions and interest were \$7,696.04. The expenditures were \$7,019.14. This report did not include the Operating Receipts and Expenditures from Settlement fees which amounted to \$1,280.78.

An estimate for the current year's (July, 1917-June 30, 1918) Disbursements was also submitted at this time to the Chest. The Receipts estimated by the treasurer for the current year showed a total of \$6,350.00 of which \$6,050.00 was expected from contributions and \$300.00 from interest.

The report of the committee was accepted by the Community Chest and \$8,300.00, the first appropriation to the Settlement from the Chest was allowed for 1917-1918. At the close of the year our Disbursements showed a deficit of \$111.00 over the \$8,300.00 allowed, so the actual operating deficit for the year was \$8,400.00.

The treasurer's report for the year April 1, 1925 to March 31, 1926 shows the following:

RECEIPTS	
Income from investments . . . . .	\$ 369.73
Operating Receipts—	
House . . . . .	759.46
Dispensary . . . . .	8,236.67
Nursery . . . . .	989.50
Refund . . . . .	43.61
Voluntary contributions . . . . .	10.00
Total receipts other than from Community Chest . . . . .	\$10,408.97
EXPENDITURES	
Personal Service . . . . .	\$25,554.59
Services other than personal . . . . .	2,126.08
Materials and Supplies . . . . .	6,827.28
Equipment . . . . .	18.00
Fixed and special . . . . .	706.52
Total Expenditures . . . . .	\$35,232.47

The actual operating deficit was \$24,823.50 while the operating deficit allowed by the Community Chest was \$23,217.15. The difference of \$1,606.00 was drawn from the Permanent Fund.

The increase in the operating Receipts is largely due to the receipts from the X-Ray service, although the receipts from the regular clinic fees show an increase also. The Receipts from the X-Ray Department alone which has been in operation just a year were \$2,676.50.

The work of the Settlement is carried on by a staff of resident and non-resident workers with the assistance of volunteers. The residents occupy rooms on the second floor of each of the three buildings and maintain a cooperative table in the House defraying the expenses themselves.

Early in 1914 Mrs. Stewart became ill and was given a leave of absence, but she was never able to resume her work. After a lingering illness for two years Mrs. Stewart died Dec. 9, 1916. During most of the years of Mrs. Stewart's incumbency, she had the capable assistance of her sister, Mrs. Dorinda Stemm,

now Mrs. William Kehrley. Upon the latter's marriage in 1912, she was succeeded by Miss Bessie Goldenson who filled the position of associate worker until 1915.

Too much praise cannot be given to Miss Anna M. Stahl who has served for many years as the Director of the Dispensary. Under her guidance and direction the Dispensary has continuously raised its standards, always holding its place in Class A according to the grading by the New York State Board of Charities. In November, 1914, Mrs. Stewart's place as Head Resident of the Settlement was temporarily taken by Miss Gertrude Montfort whose service was suddenly terminated by death after only four weeks.

On March, 1915, the vacancy was filled by Mrs. Gertrude M. Jerdone, who still fills the position. At the same time Miss Pauline M. Harper, now Mrs. G. M. Butler, was engaged as associate worker. Her charming personality and versatile accomplishments made her an invaluable worker during her stay of six years. In May, 1921, Mrs. Alice Leighton succeeded Mrs. Maud N. Harrison as Matron of the Day Nursery.

The reader has perhaps noted in the preceding pages how much of the burden of carrying on the work has been borne by volunteers especially in the earlier years when the staff of paid workers was so inadequate.

As an expression of our appreciation of the unselfish service rendered the Settlement by our faithful volunteers, it seems fitting to note a few of the outstanding names of the early days, some of whom have passed away, some who are giving their services elsewhere, while others are still with us. The value of their services can never be estimated.

Among the pioneers were Miss Sara Van Bergh who served as librarian and teacher for so many years; Miss Emilie Grant who did such admirable work with both children and parents; Miss Fannie Benjamin who served in both the capacity of neighborhood visitor and accompanist; Mr. Kendrick P. Shedd, the director of the Sunshine Club; Miss Rebecca Rosenberg founder and director of the Penny Provident Club; Mr. Morris Benjamin and Mr. Elmer Adler, leaders of the boys' clubs; Miss Ruth Dennis director of some of the girls' groups.

Notable records of long years of continuous volunteer service, some twenty-five years, some not quite so long, have been made by Mrs. J. L. Garson, Mrs. M. H. Van Bergh, Miss Addie

Van Bergh, Mrs. J. J. Bakrow, Mrs. N. J. Corkhill and Mrs. Bertha Lutt. These faithful workers have come to the Settlement House week after week to teach classes in domestic arts or to render other service.

Besides volunteer personal service, there have been many other forms of service rendered by directors and friends. Generous checks, gifts of all kinds, and most valuable contributions of equipment and furnishings have been given to the Settlement by individuals and business firms; parties and outings for the children have been made possible by generous contributors; toys, magazines, clothing and other articles of use to the Settlement have been donated by friends and other organizations.

We feel greatly honored to have had the privilege of welcoming to our Settlement such distinguished guests as Miss Jane Addams, Dr. John L. Elliott, Mr. Albert J. Kennedy, Dr. Micheal Davis, and Dr. Walter S. Goodale.

Through the activities of the House we have striven, meeting with both failure and success, to carry out Settlement ideals, guiding the foreign born to American conditions, encouraging self-improvement, stimulating healthy pleasures and offering recreational facilities to the young, and above all standing ready to serve in whatever way we can.

And ours is not an isolated service in the community. We stand ready to be used by other organizations, the Public Schools, the Relief Agencies, the Vacation Home, the Public Library, the Music School, Scouts, Big Sisters, the Public Health Nursing Association and other Social Agencies. These organizations keep the schedule of our activities on their desks so that they may refer the boys and girls and men and women to the special activity which will serve them best, whether it be a problem in health, recreation, education, conduct, or some family difficulty.

The children's afternoon classes are carried on much the same as in former years. Of these the classes in Domestic Arts continue to be the most popular, and I am quite sure the faithful volunteer teachers who have helped the girls in their hand work and machine sewing feel repaid for their efforts when they see with what pride and pleasure the girls take home their finished articles. On other afternoons there are smaller but very enthusiastic groups of younger children who enjoy music, story-telling and playing.



The Saturday Interpretative Dancing classes have also been very popular. This activity interests, and engages the help of the mothers as well as the children.

The fact that almost a hundred mothers still come to our English classes indicates not only that the women are sufficiently interested in their own advancement to return to the classes year after year but that the social side of the informal group meetings means much to them.

And our clubs! As an English worker says, "The Settlement without a club would be like a body without a soul." Literary and dramatic clubs have been the most popular among both boys and girls.

The report of the year just closed, March 31, 1926, shows that the forty-six different groups using the House had an enrollment of 1,205. The attendance at the group meetings and other House activities was 30,242.

We are most grateful to the faithful volunteer workers who have given one afternoon or evening a week to direct a group of children or young people or to render some other service to the House.

When the Settlement was first established and for years afterwards, the immigrants who settled in the neighborhood crowding out the earlier German and Irish settlers were most exclusively Russian and Polish Jews. Slowly but surely these immigrants in the process of assimilation become thrifty citizens and move elsewhere. And this great homogenous group is being gradually replaced by a cosmopolitan mixture of Turkish Jews, Ukrainians, Italians, Syrians, and Americans both white and colored. Many of the post-war immigrants are of a high type intellectually and socially, and give promise of becoming most desirable citizens. On the other hand there has come into our section of the city, an undesirable element, both of American and foreign birth, contributing no little to a lowering of the moral status of our neighborhood and to an increase in delinquency. This has been a serious problem in our community.



## Baden Street Dispensary



After the social and recreational activities had been fairly well established more humanitarian activities were added to the Settlement program in response to neighborhood needs. The first of these was the opening of a clinic. Mrs. Stewart felt that the foreign mothers needed advice and instruction in the care of both the sick and the well babies. She appealed to the Board for funds for maintaining a professional nurse at the Settlement. To start the good work and to prove its worth, Mrs. Maude Kitchelt volunteered her services as visiting nurse during the fall of 1904. She gave two days a week to this work, visiting the homes where there was illness, performing both nursing service and giving instruction in care of the patients. She especially gave advice to mothers who had sick infants.

Three years later, Monday, May 16, 1908, the Baden Street Dispensary had its real beginning. Through the generosity of friends and some of our local business firms, a small room in the Settlement House was equipped for Dispensary work. Here for some years Dr. J. S. Berkman held two clinics a week.

Also ear, nose and throat clinics for both children and adults were operated in this little room once a week by Dr. Franklin Bock. The object of this clinic was to bring the principle of

prevention to bear upon a large class of people who only sought medical attention when they were actually suffering and sometimes not even then. The report of the first year's work of this clinic made April 1909, is interesting. It reads, "Though we examined a great many of the children and found many who needed attention, very few returned for treatment after the first examination, or allowed us to make appointments for the necessary operations. This was very disheartening, but our work seems not to have been entirely without effect for since January first, fifteen children have been operated upon for enlarged tonsils and adenoids, and about the same number are waiting for operations. An even larger number have had necessary work done on their teeth, and many are waiting for appointments."

The success of these medical and special clinics proved the need not only for a larger dispensary, but for a resident nurse who should attend the clinics and make the necessary follow-up visits to the homes of the patients. The tiny one-room dispensary soon became too small for the ever increasing attendance and the matter of another building was brought before the Board, October 1910. The property at 160 Baden Street was purchased for \$2,900.00. After the house had been re-decorated, furnished and equipped it supplied rooms for the clinics, a music room, and quarters for a resident nurse. The new Dispensary opened with three clinics a week in charge of Doctors J. S. Berkman, Frank Barber, and J. A. Whittle, who volunteered their services. This effort then as now was more to teach the women how to prevent disease than cure it. As there were only general medical clinics held at the Dispensary, the patients who required the services of specialists were taken to the hospital dispensaries by the attendant nurse. By 1915 the Dispensary staff numbered fourteen physicians, many of them specialists, and the number of clinics had increased to eight a week, averaging about 450 patients a month. Although the Dispensary had absorbed the room previously reserved as a music room, it was found that the present accommodations were inadequate to meet the demands of the increasing attendance and modern methods of conducting clinics. So another quiet appeal was made by the Board of Directors for funds to erect a suitable structure with proper facilities for conducting clinics. The response to this appeal was prompt and the generous contribution amounting to \$32,700.00, from the

friends of the Settlement made possible the erection of the present Dispensary Building and remodeling the House. The cost of the Dispensary building, equipment and furnishings was \$27,421.37. To provide adequate ground space for the building, Mr. Louis Stein purchased the adjoining property on the east for \$4,750.00, and deeded it to the Settlement. The cornerstone of the new Dispensary building was laid Monday afternoon, May 15, 1916, the fifteenth anniversary of the founding of the Settlement. Saturday, January 12, 1917, the handsome two-story fire-proof building of tapestry brick was formally opened to the public as one of the most modern and best equipped dispensaries in Rochester. The entire first floor and part of the basement were utilized for dispensary purposes, while the second floor was fitted out as an apartment for resident workers.

The growth of clinical service became more rapid and progressive, the increases in visits to the clinics during the first year of occupancy in the new building reaching 23% over the previous year.

A new venture attempted during the year, 1917, was the establishment of an "Infectious Disease" clinic in cooperation with the Health Bureau. This was the first evening clinic of its kind in Rochester where this class of patients could receive systematic and intelligent treatment. These clinics continue to render invaluable service.

Up to this time, Miss Stahl had carried the burden of organizing and attending all clinics, registering the patients and doing the field work besides with the assistance of an occasional volunteer. Another worker was now secured who combined the duties of registrar and assistant field worker.

It was not long before the problem of shortage of room to accommodate the increasing number of special clinics and enlarged staff of physicians had to be met again. The only rooms in the basement which had been used up to this time were the diet kitchen, and the pathological laboratory.

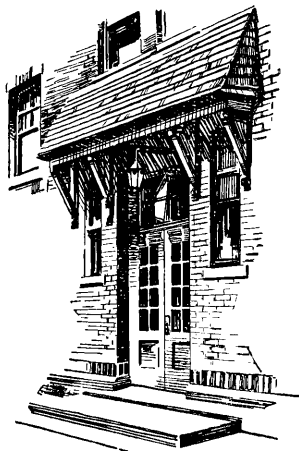
The installation of a new heating system and a gift of \$1,000.00 from Mrs. Hollister for repairs and equipment, made the hitherto unusable basement rooms available for the much-needed pediatric clinics which could then be held daily instead of only three times a week.

At the same time part of the second floor of the Dispensary building had to be appropriated for Dispensary purposes. Three of the rooms formerly used as residents' rooms were remodeled to receive the X-ray machine and accompanying equipment, the splendid gift of Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Weil, and Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Lowenthal. The X-Ray department was opened in April 1925, under the direction of Dr. Davidson. This department extends X-ray service to persons who are able to pay a minimum fee but whose means do not allow them to pay the rates of a private laboratory.

At the present writing the Dispensary staff consists of the Director, three other trained nurses, a medical social worker, an X-ray and laboratory technician, and a registrar.

The staff of physicians includes a staff of four consulting physicians, a staff of forty attending physicians who donate their services to conducting one clinic a week, one physician who gives six mornings a week to the X-Ray service, and a dentist who is employed six half-days a week. We can't begin to express our appreciation and gratitude to these physicians who have rendered invaluable service to the community by serving in the Dispensary.

During the year closing March 31, 1926, 3,699 different individuals received 25,047 treatments, and 4,873 visits to the homes of patients were made by the Dispensary nurses and medical social workers.



## Belle J. Michaels Day Nursery



Another of the humanitarian activities that was organized to meet a need in the neighborhood was the Day Nursery. At a meeting of the Board of Directors held May 2, 1907, the matter was discussed and a committee was appointed to get an estimate of expense of operating a day nursery. The matter was carefully considered for some time.

In June 1909, the children of Levi and Theresa Adler purchased the cottage at 13 Vienna Street, and after converting it into a nursery presented it to the Settlement in memory of their parents. Its usefulness was without question, in view of the densely populated section of the city in which it was located and the number of mothers in that locality who found it necessary to contribute to the support of their families or who were ill and had no one to look after the children through the day.

The Nursery opened on July 12, 1909, a cozy, neat little cottage, furnished with what was then the latest in nursery equipment, and affording accommodations for about fifteen

children. In 1912 a large playroom and adjoining cloakroom were added. Only the neediest of the applicants were admitted. At that time children whose ages ranged from six months to five years were received.

The children were cared for by a practical nurse and under her supervision a daily program of baths, regular meals, naps, and periods of play, was carried out. And the mothers who left their children here during the day at five cents, felt sure that their children were receiving the best of attention, while they worked, or were ill and were unable temporarily, to care for the younger children.

As year by year nursery standards were raised, so each year brought some improvement in the equipment, methods, physical examinations, records, etc., of this little nursery. Babies under one year were no longer received. Instead, some relief agency was asked to make it possible for the mother to remain in the home until the child was at least a year old. Also, it was decided that provision for children between the ages of six and twelve was just as important as provision for those under six.

In spite of these improvements, it was found that in order to raise our nursery standards to a still higher level a larger and better equipped building would be necessary.

The first step toward the realization of this ideal was the gift in 1923, by Simon N. Stein of the property adjoining the nursery on the west costing \$3,500. This, with the land occupied by the nursery cottage, provided ample site for a large, modern building. Then a long cherished dream came true! In November 1923, Mr. Joseph Michaels, made known his intention of presenting the Settlement with a \$75,000.00 modern nursery building. Operations were begun at once, and on December 7, 1924, the Belle J. Michaels Day Nursery was formally opened with a tea. The nursery was a gift from Mr. and Mrs. Michaels in honor of their golden wedding anniversary. The modern two-story fire-proof building, built of tapestry brick and having a ground plan similar to the Dispensary building, was arranged with meticulous care to meet every need of a modern Nursery School, and was furnished for capable administration. The furnishings and equipment were the gift of Mr. Julius M. Wile. Various useful and ornamental articles to increase the utility and attractiveness of the Nursery were given by friends too numerous to mention here.

In order to give the children of pre-school age, who might be in the Nursery all day, careful and early training, an experienced Montessori teacher was engaged for six months to organize the work. The Montessori training, so well organized, has been continued as the nearest approach to ideal training for the smaller children in the nursery. This method aims to give the children, in a happy way, a thorough sensory training resulting in a remarkable independence and efficiency which is reflected in their other activities. As much time as possible is spent on the sunny roof-playground, in the southern end of the building.

One of the interesting features of the Nursery program of more recent years has been the monthly dinner meetings for the Nursery mothers. The mothers have enjoyed not only the dinners, but the talks given by physicians and others interested in child welfare. Sometimes the program is entirely musical and social.

Our aim is two-fold; to make the nursery in reality a children's center, where the children receive not only good physical care, but also a standardized educational training; to make a definite effort to raise home standards and to render constructive service to the family of which the child is a member.

The latter can only be done adequately when a trained social worker has been added to the Nursery Staff.

During the year closing March 31, 1926, one hundred fifty-nine different children, representing eighty families, received 14,370 days' care.



Among the original members of the Board of Directors were Mrs. Max Landsberg, Mrs. Julius M. Wile, Mrs. Henry Seligman and J. H. Lempert. Each one gave a distinct contribution to the growth of the work, Mrs. Wile serving as treasurer from the start to the day of her death. The loss of these valuable members has been keenly felt and has left a gap no others could fill. Their interest in the success of the "Home" has been an inspiration to their associates who still carry on.

## DIRECTORS—PAST AND PRESENT

Mrs. J. L. Garson, 1901-	Mrs. Mollie Garson 1914 to 1922
Mrs. A. J. Katz, 1901-	Mrs. Edward Bausch, 1914-
Mrs. J. M. Wile,* 1901 to 1924	Mrs. Chas. R. Witherspoon, 1916-
Mrs. M. A. Stern, 1901 to 1920	Mrs. Leonard Bacon, 1916 to 1917
Mrs. U. J. Hecht, 1901 to 1909	Mrs. G. F. Johnston, 1916-
Mrs. M. Landsberg,* 1901 to 1912	Mrs. Lewis Bigelow, 1916-
Mrs. L. Bloch, 1901 to 1903	Mrs. K. N. Robbins, 1916 to 1923
J. H. Lempert,* 1901 to 1924	Mortimer Adler, 1916-
H. C. Cohn, 1901-	Eugene Lowenthal, 1916-
Philip Present, 1901-	Mrs. H. M. Stern, 1920-
Mrs. H. Seligman,* 1901 to 1921	Mrs. Gurney T. Curtis, 1920 to 1923
Mrs. Wm. C. Gannett, 1902-	Mrs. Granger A. Hollister, 1920-
Mrs. M. H. Van Bergh, 1904-	E. R. Foreman, 1920 to 1923
Mrs. Claude Bragdon,* 1905 to 1908	Dr. H. J. Burkhart, 1921-
Dr. P. M. Strayer, 1905 to 1908	Dr. Joseph Roby, 1921-
Mrs. W. M. Radford, 1905 to 1907	Dr. E. W. Mulligan, 1922-
Mrs. Howard Mosher, 1907 to 1914	Mrs. Eugene Manchester, 1923-
Dr. A. S. Crapsey, 1908 to 1909	Leon Stern, 1923-
Mrs. Charles W. Dodge, 1908 to 1920	Miss Annette G. Munro, 1925-
Joseph Michaels, 1909-	Julius M. Wile, 1924-
Mrs. Harry F. Leiter, 1912 to 1915	

\*Deceased.

## STAFF OF RESIDENT AND NON-RESIDENT WORKERS

Mrs. Francis Jerdone, Jr. . . . Head Resident

### DISPENSARY

Miss Anna M. Stahl . . . . . Director  
 Miss Vere Erskine, R.N. . . . . Assistant  
 Miss Eleanor Rimmel, R.N. . . . . Assistant  
 Mrs. Catherine Granville, R.N. . . . . Assistant  
 Mrs. Ann Blanchard . . . Medical Social Worker  
 Mrs. D. K. Hutchens, X-Ray and Laboratory Technician  
 Miss Lillian Schifrin . . . . . Registrar

### HOUSE

Mrs. Lewis S. Kendall . . . . . Associate Worker  
 Miss Florence Zinsmeister (part time) Teacher of Dancing

### DAY NURSERY

Mrs. Alice A. Leighton . . . . . Matron  
 Miss Virginia Teal . . . Teacher of Montessori Work  
 Dr. David Wolin . . . . . Examining Physician

## CONSULTING STAFF OF DISPENSARY

Dr. E. W. Mulligan  
Dr. Joseph Roby

Dr. C. R. Witherspoon  
Dr. W. M. Brown

## ATTENDING STAFF OF PHYSICIANS

Dr. E. J. Avery	Dr. G. A. Hicks	Dr. Mary C. Saxe
Dr. Lewis B. Baldwin	Dr. G. Sahler Hornbeck	Dr. A. H. Waffle
Dr. Paul W. Beaven	Dr. I. Hurwitz	Dr. V. A. Wickens
Dr. Wm. Bernis	Dr. D. K. Hutchens	Dr. M. Wilkinson
Dr. John R. Booth	Dr. Frank W. Ingram	Dr. Louis T. Waldo
Dr. C. O. Boswell	Dr. Joseph A. Lane	Dr. W. Williams
Dr. Frank E. Cross	Dr. Albert R. McFar-	Dr. David Wolin
Dr. S. C. Davidson	land	Dr. A. C. Woggon
Dr. Jacob Epstein	Dr. L. Nacey	Dr. Dorothy Worth-
Dr. George M. Gelser	Dr. C. S. Nash	ington
Dr. Emma Gibbons	Dr. E. W. Phillips	Dr. D. M. Bush
Dr. G. H. Griffin	Dr. Robert F. Schanz	Dr. R. W. Hawkins
Dr. David H. Haller	Dr. I. M. Shapero	Dr. F. H. Rowley
Dr. Homer W. Smith		Dr. H. A. Sadden
	Dr. F. Bristol—Dentist	

## SCHEDULES—1925-1926

### THE HOUSE

DAILY—8:30 A.M.—10:30 P.M.

Open for neighborhood service  
4:00 P.M.—8 P.M.—Piano practice

Monday Afternoon and Evening.

2:45 to 3:45 P.M.—7 Classes in English for foreign mothers  
4:00 to 5:00 P.M.—Story Hour  
4:15 to 6:00 P.M.—Girl Scouts Troops No. 25 and No. 4  
7:30 to 10:30 P.M.—2 Girls' Clubs  
1 Boys' Club

Tuesday Afternoon and Evening.

4:00 to 5:15 P.M.—Girls' groups in Domestic Arts.  
7:30 to 10:30 P.M.—2 Boys' Clubs  
1 Mixed Dramatic Club

Wednesday Afternoon and Evening.

2:45 to 3:45 P.M.—Seven classes in English for Foreign Mothers.  
4:00 to 5:15 P.M.—Story telling and dramatics  
7:30 to 10:30 P.M.—1 Girls' Club  
2 Girls' groups in interpretative dancing.

Thursday Afternoon and Evening.

4:00 to 5:15 P.M.—Girls' groups in plain sewing and dressmak-  
ing  
7:30 to 10:30 P.M.—Rehearsals  
Orchestra

Friday Afternoon and Evening.

4:00 to 5:15 P.M.—Game Room  
7:30 to 9:30 P.M.—Girl Scouts Troop No. 21

Saturday

9:30 A.M. to 5:30 P.M.—Seven groups in Interpretative Dancing

## BELLE J. MICHAELS DAY NURSERY

### SCHEDULE

Open 7:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.

7:30 A.M.—Supplemental breakfast

8:00 to 8:30 A.M.—School children prepared for school

8:30 to 9:00 A.M.—Nursery children prepared for Montessori class

9:00 to 10:00 A.M.—Younger group in Montessori work. Older group given baths; group in playroom or roof-garden

10:00 to 11:00 A.M.—Older groups in Montessori work. Younger groups given baths; groups in playroom or roof garden

11:00 to 11:30 A.M.—Rhythms

11:30 to 11:45 A.M.—Nursery children prepared for dinner

11:45 to 12:30 P.M.—Nursery children at dinner

12:00 to 12:45 P.M.—School children at dinner

12-45 to 3:00 P.M.—Rest period for nursery children

3:00 to 3:30 P.M.—Nursery children wake and dress

3:45 to 4:00 P.M.—Afternoon lunch

4:00 to 5:00 P.M.—Free play in playroom or on roof garden

5:00 to 6:00 P.M.—Mothers call for children

### DISPENSARY SCHEDULE

MONDAY 9:00 A.M. TO 12:30 A.M.

X-Ray

Dental

Medical

Pediatric

Eye

Surgical

MONDAY 2:00 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M.

Ear, Nose and Throat

Skin

Asthma

MONDAY 7:00 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M.

Dental

Gonorrhea

TUESDAY, 9:00 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M.

X-Ray

Dental

Syphilis

Pediatric

TUESDAY 5:00 P.M. TO 7:00 P.M.

Syphilis

WEDNESDAY 9:00 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M.

X-Ray

Dental

Medical

Pediatric

WEDNESDAY 2:00 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M.

Pre-Natal

Neurological

THURSDAY 9:00 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M.

X-Ray

Dental

Medical

Pediatric

Diabetes

Basil Metabolism (by appointment only)

THURSDAY 2:00 P.M. TO 4:00 P.M.

Mental, (Dr. Griffin, State Hospital)

FRIDAY, 9:00 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M.

X-Ray

Dental

Syphilis

Pediatric (Feeding clinic—Babies up to 2 years)

Skin

Gynecological

SATURDAY 9:00 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M.

X-Ray

Medical

Pediatric

