

fare. We must increasingly identify ourselves with the aims and aspiration of the Jewish masses, now unhappily detached from social work enterprises . . . Upon us, as social workers, is imposed the moral obligation to employ, insofar as possible, our specialized knowledge, our talents and our time, in furthering general movements seeking to improve the lot of man and to create a more just

and decent social order; and in furthering Jewish movements which deal with the larger problems of Jewish life here and abroad, and which seek the well-being and survival of our people."

In this spirit and with this faith, Harry Glucksman lived and died.

His death leaves a vacant place in Jewish life of this country which will not soon be filled. We shall sorely miss him.

## SHORT TERM CAMPS FOR JEWISH CHILDREN IN NEW YORK CITY

By IDA OPPENHEIMER

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(Summary)

THE short-term camp is an important part of the country-wide camp movement. It is far from adequate, however, especially in New York where already insufficient resources are restricted on the basis of residence, sex and age, to such an extent that they serve an even more limited clientele than their numbers indicate. The total number of beds available has been static for some years past, while the total number of vacations has been constantly declining due to a growing trend toward prolonged stays.

The normal growth of the city and changes in immigration have caused a wide spread in the Jewish community. Formerly concentrated on the Lower East Side where most of the camp controlling agencies are still located, Jews are now found in large numbers in Brooklyn, the Bronx, and Queens. Thus, though the Brooklyn community is perhaps the largest in the world, not a single camp organization serves it. In order to deal with this problem, at least in part, the Jewish Vacation Association was founded in 1926, to work with agencies, Jewish or non-Jewish, sending and receiving, which interest themselves in the Jewish child.

Contacts with sending and receiving agencies of wide range, serving as they do some 5000 individuals, or 25% of those sent to organization camps, give the Jewish Vacation Association first hand, practical knowledge of the prob-

lem—knowledge which is further enhanced by a camp visiting program which keeps the organization abreast of changes in personnel, program and facilities.

The most reliable figures available indicate that approximately 20,000 Jewish children between the ages of 6 and 16 spent a part of the summer of 1937 in camps operated by New York City agencies. If we include another 10,000 children who go to self-sustaining non-profit making camps, a total of 30,000 Jewish children is being cared for. It is estimated that at least 100,000 Jewish children need the kind of care which the subsidized camps can give and no one, to our knowledge, has had the temerity to say by how much the 10,000 who now go to the non-profit making camps should be multiplied.

Camps serving children between the ages of 6 and 16 may be summarized as follows:

1. *Jewish camps under Jewish auspices with a definite Jewish educational program.*
2. *Camps having no definite Jewish program, though under Jewish auspices.*
3. *Camps operated by non-sectarian groups whose membership continues largely Jewish.*
4. *Those operated by non-Jewish religious agencies.*

The total capacity of all these camps throughout the summer is about 30,000. Of the 20,000 in organization camps, 5,000 (or 25%) are in camps

financed by Federation or under the auspices of Federation supported agencies. Add to these the children who go to camps operated by Talmud Torahs, and other distinctly Jewish groups, etc., and we still account for only slightly over 50% of Jewish children who went to subsidized camps in the summer of 1937. This leaves out of account entirely the so-called non-profit making, self-sustaining camps where the picture is weighted even more heavily on the non-Jewish side. In other words about half the Jewish children from Greater New York who go to camp depend upon other than Jewish auspices for their care.

What then is the total need and how much would it cost to meet it?

The 100,000 mentioned above are children whose home environment or other circumstances make it essential that they get to camp. To provide for this, 15,000 additional beds are needed if each child is to have only a two-week vacation in a ten-week summer. The cost of maintaining the children alone is, on the most conservative estimate, over \$1,000,000.00 per summer. This does not take into account the cost of building the necessary camps. Considering the present attitude toward spending for purposes of this sort, even a partial solution of this problem would seem to be outside the realm of possibility.

We, therefore, come to certain very practical considerations. Must the Jewish community carry this entire burden? Should every child go to a Jewish-supported camp?

The answer, to my mind, should be definitely "No." The non-sectarian a-

gency which serves a cross section of its community and which has no formal religious program is, I trust, to be a continuing force in the life of many children and Jewish funds should play their part in this phase of camping. Sooner or later also, some governmental agency must assume responsibility in this form of social service, as already is the case in the fields of relief, employment and social security.

What recommendations shall be made to the Jewish community for camping under private auspices, even though the development of public resources is inevitable and desirable.

First and most important is the need for more camps.

Second, Jewish-supported, camp-controlled agencies should be shifted from neighborhoods with a declining Jewish population to neighborhoods where the Jewish population is now concentrated. Failing this, a more liberal intake policy should be adopted so that Jewish children from outside these neighborhoods may be served in preference to local non-Jewish children who have other resources.

Third, sending and receiving agencies in the organization camp field should make a concerted effort toward central registration and the elimination of duplication by the pooling of information.

Fourth, a more liberal scholarship policy is needed on the part of so-called non-profit making camps, especially those under Jewish auspices with a definitely Jewish program.

Fifth, legislative action to promote governmental participation in the field of camping should be supported.

## A SURVEY OF JEWISH COMMUNAL CAMPS

By SAMUEL LEFF

Jewish Welfare Board, New York, N. Y.

(Summary)

Out of Town or Country Camps	Capacity of Camp	No. of Camps	Total Capacity
A. Chronological Growth—1900-1910	200 and over	16	5,814
—1 camp; 1910-1920—9 camps; 1920-1930—47 camps; 1930-1936—23 camps;	100 - 200	31	3,963
date of camps' organization not reported	50 - 100	34	2,985
—18 camps; total—98 camps.	Under 50	9	297
B. Types of Jewish Organizations Conducting Out-of-Town Camps in 1938	Total	98	13,059
—Y.M.H.A.'s and Jewish Centers—37 camps; fraternal organizations (including B'nai B'rith, Council of Jewish Women, Workmen's Circle, Jewish National Workers Alliance, Masons, Young Poale Zion)—26 camps; Jewish relief organization—1 camp; Federations of Jewish Charities—8 camps; Jewish educational organizations—3 camps; Jewish Board of Guardians—3 camps; miscellaneous (including Boy Scouts, nursery, and synagogue)—3 camps; Jewish vacation agencies—17 camps.			
C. Geographic Location of Jewish Organization Out-of-Town Camps—Middle Atlantic states—54 camps; New England states—12 camps; Central states—18 camps; Pacific coast states—4 camps; Southern states—5 camps; Canada—5 camps.			
D. Jewish Organization Out-of-Town Camps (by sex)—Camps for boys only—25; girls only—25; both girls and boys—40; mothers and children—8.			
E. Rates of Jewish Organization Out-of-Town Camps—Free—15 camps; \$1 to \$6 per week—12 camps; \$6 to \$10 per week—35 camps; \$10 and up per week—34 camps; according to income—2 camps.			
F. Camper capacity in 98 Jewish Organization Out-of-Town Camps.			
G. Age Groups Enrolled in Jewish Organization Out-of-Town Camps—2 start enrollment at 3 years; 53 camps start at 6 to 8 years inclusive; 18 camps, 9 to 11 years inclusive; 8 camps start at 12 and 13 years and 8 camps start at 14 years and over.			
Maximum ages admitted to camp—7 camps from 10 to 13 years; 54 camps have maximums of 14 to 16 years; 29 camps accept over 16 years.			
H. Periods of Stay in Jewish Organization Out-of-Town Camps—21 camps are for 2 weeks only; 18 camps enroll from 2 weeks to season; 8 camps register for 1 week or more; 6 for 2 to 4 weeks; 2 for 2 to 3 weeks; 5 for 3 to 9 weeks; 9 for 3 weeks; 6 for 4 weeks; 5 for all season. Balance of camps have miscellaneous periods.			
I. Scholarships or Reduced Rates provided by Jewish Organization Out-of-Town Camps—87 camps provide scholarships of which 15 are entirely free; 4 do not provide scholarships.			
J. Dietary Laws are Observed in Over 80% of the Jewish Organization Camps.			
K. Campers Enrolled in 1937 in Jewish Organization Out-of-Town Camps—39 Jewish Center camps enrolled 12,380 in 1937; 45 other Jewish organization camps had 20,780 campers. Total in 84			