

## PLUM STREET TEMPLE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

Mrs. Charles S. Moch, Cincinnati

The Plum Street Temple Industrial School, known as the first vacation school for girls, was founded in Cincinnati 31 years ago by the late Rosa F. Sachs, who, until her demise 4 years ago, personally directed the work for twenty-seven consecutive summers.

Originally supported by herself and private donations, the school has for many years been carried on under the auspices of The United Jewish Charities, always

iron-holders yearly sold to the stores, together with the hemming of towels and dust cloths, testify to the neatness and patience of these little girls, whose ages range from 8 to 11 years.

In class number 2, the work is given over to crocheting. Lace, insertion, pin-cushions, workbags and numerous other articles are made by the pupils with loving care.



CLASS IN EMBROIDERY

along the same lines so carefully mapped out by its founder.

The school is divided into four classes, which are conducted daily from 9 until 12 o'clock during the months of July and August in the vestry rooms of The Plum Street Temple, hence the name. The elementary principles of sewing, hemming, darning, overcasting, patching, the sewing on of buttons, and the making of button-holes, are taught in the beginners' room. Each child learns how to make her own sewing bag and apron, and the monotony of those tedious first stitches is varied by the dressing of dolls. Several gross of

In the third class, cross-stitching, outlining and the simple stiches in needlework are taught, while the advanced pupils are given instruction in embroidery, art needlework and the making of novelties. The best efforts are put forth to bring before the pupils artistic as well as useful needlework, so that a taste for the beautiful may be developed along with the ability to sew.

The pupils receive instruction and material free of charge and are permitted to keep their work. In return for this they do work for the school, which is sold for its benefit, the proceeds reverting to the Charities.

The classes the past term were well attended. One hundred pupils ranging in ages from 8 to 16, worked zealously at their tasks throughout the six weeks under the guidance of teachers, whose influence is of the best. Four of them, as well as the superintendent, Miss Johanna Adler, are graduates of this school



ROSA F. SACHS

and have proven most conscientious and proficient in their work.

At the closing exercises on August 15th, two graduates received diplomas. Miss Mannheimer, the well-known reader, gave an address on the "Girls of Palestine." Prizes in money and memorial certificates were given for good conduct and excellent work in the names of the founder of the school, and of other noble men and women.

## REPORTS

Maurice B. Hexter

[Reports sent to Maurice B. Hexter, Milwaukee, will be reviewed in these columns.]

The Nineteenth Annual Report of the United Jewish Charities of Cincinnati contains an analysis of the Jewish cases benefiting under the Mothers' Compensation Act. Another interesting feature is the establishment of a "Research Department for scientific study of different problems connected with Jewish philanthropic effort." This bureau collects all statistics relating to hygiene and demography.

The modern tendency for scientific use of sociological data is utilized by Dr. Bogen to enlist the volunteer services of educated men and women "who have outgrown intellectually the sentimental motive of social service" and announces the organization of both a Jewish Social Service Bureau, which proposes to survey different problems of Jewish philanthropy and The Efficiency Bureau to investigate the efficiency of different Jewish organizations. If the profession in general and the reviewer in particular did not know Dr. Bogen better one might easily interpret as pessimistic the following statement—"the Settlement finds considerable difficulty in promoting higher ideals of independent citizenship, and in this respect its efforts meet with strong opposition, which maliciously misinterprets not only the attempts of promulgating non-partisan civic education but questions the very motives of these efforts."

The report of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum of New York City covering the period from April 27, 1913 to April 25, 1915, notes three principal innovations. First, an experiment in trade preparation for girls. This preparation has resulted in increasing the earning capacity from 50 to 100 percent. Secondly, a trained library worker has been secured "who is leading classes and clubs, directing the reading of the children and the circulation of the books and has inaugurated the publication of a library bulletin and journal." Thirdly, an employment and after-care agent has been employed who will familiarize herself with the aptitudes of the children before graduation; acquaint herself with the trade and industrial opportunities in which they may be entered; keep in touch with the children after they are discharged until they have become firmly established and also to "institute a survey of all of our former inmates with a view to securing such information as may enable us after these many years to pass judgment upon results of our work." This last statement is another example of the fact that Jewish philanthropy now recognizes "that empiricism has had its day, and that methods of scientific precision must be introduced into all educational work, to carry everywhere good sense and light."