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HULL HOUSE AS A TYPE OF COLLEGE SETTLEMENTS.

Miss Jane Addams, Pres. Hull House Society, Chicago.

I meant to have my title read "The college settlement" or rather the "social settlement idea as illustrated by Hull House." I, am always sorry to have the settlement regarded as an institution. You can live a settlement life whether you live on the west side of Chicago, or on the east side, if you provide yourself with the necessary ideas as well as the zeal for carrying out these ideas and if you hook yourself fast with your whole mind to your neighborhood, living in social relations with the, people among whom your life has been cast. The settlement is an effort to live among "all sorts and conditions of men" and insist that a life is not lived as it should be unless it comes in contact with all kinds of people. We all have dreams for our individual improvement; we all have our family life and we should endeavor in addition to our individual and family life to live a life that will bring us into a larger existence, and connect us with society as a whole.

The settlement holds that progress cannot come without the help of all kinds of people; that the best interests are represented by all kinds of men and women.

A century ago there was an irresistible impulse, an upward movement, among the mass of people to have their share in [end page 97] political life,-hitherto the life of the privileged. The universal franchise was demanded, not only as a holy right, but as a means of entrance into the sunshine of liberty and equality. The contest ran from the French Revolution to our own civil war. There is a similar demand at the close of this century on the part of working people, but this time it is for a share in the results of industry, it is an impulse to come out into the sunshine of prosperity. We all recognize this distinct tendency to come out into a fuller industrial life, and it is accompanied by an equal trend towards a wider educational and social life. A settlement locates itself in a neighborhood of working-people, and makes itself as far as possible an intellectual and social center, about which its neighbors may group their various organizations and enterprises which are in this trend.

Five years ago the two original residents of Hull House went to live on the corner of Polk and Halsted streets and that corner is very near a colony of Italians, many of whom have come straight from the cultivation of the soil who are totally unfitted for life in a large city, and who are not skilled in any trade,-men who in their own country lived upon the soil.

To the right of us is a large colony of Bohemians; directly west a large Canadian and French settlement; north, Irish; directly south are many Russian and Polish Jews. Besides these various colonies are a great many Americans and many other foreigners who have emigrated to America.. As far as we could see there was nothing to hold these various elements together. As far as any difference in their mode of life went they might still be in their native land. The Italian had no conception of being American except at election time, and the people around him cared nothing for him save as his vote counted one way or the other. How should a little colony of south Italians become Americanized? They saw nothing but the baser elements of American society. They did their work under an Italian padrone and there was nothing to bring them into contact even with their employers. The Polish and Russian Jews Americanize very rapidly, but as before there is nothing to bring them into a realization of a higher form of American life. The Bohemians are clannish. The Canadian French have their own churches, their own stores and have little to do with anything around them. The Irish are another class that quickly become moulded into American ways and manners, especially into our corrupt politics, but there is nothing to unite all these people. [end page 98]

Now, as I take it, a settlement differs radically from a charitable enterprise in that it enters the neighborhood for social sons; in order that it may effect the life of a neighborhood, and give it, if possible, a higher civic, social and political ideal. This is not an easy task even among men and women who are inclined toward social enterprise.

The "settlement" to be effective must contain an element of permanency, so that the neighborhood may feel that the interest and fortunes of the residents are identical with their own. The settlement must have an enthusiasm for the possibilities of its locality, and an ability to bring into it and develop from it those lines of thought and action which make for the "higher life."

The original residents came to Hull-House with a conviction that social intercourse could best express the growing sense of the economic unity of society. They wished the social spirit to be the undercurrent of the life of Hull-House, whatever direction the stream might take. All the details were left for the demands of the neighborhood to determine, and each department, has grown from a discovery made through natural and reciprocal social relations.

The college extension courses grew thus from an informal origin. The first class met as guests of the residents. As the classes became larger and more numerous and the object of the newcomers more definitely that of acquisition of some special knowledge the informality of the social relation was necessarily less, but the prevailing attitude toward the House of the two hundred and fifty students now enrolled is that of guests as well as students. Many new students, attracted and refreshed by the social atmosphere, come into the classes who would not be likely to undertake any course of study at any evening high school or any school within their reach. These students, the larger proportion of whom are young women, represent a great variety of occupations. Among them are teachers in the public schools, employes of factories and shops, typewriters and cashiers. The college extension course aims not to duplicate but to supplement the advantages offered by evening high schools and business colleges. Hence in these classes the emphasis is laid upon the humanities, and no attempt is made to supply means for earning a livelihood. The most popular and continuous courses have been in literature, languages, music, art, history, mathematics and drawing. The saving grace of all good things and the developing power of the love of them has been proved to the satisfaction of the residents of Hull-House.

A prospectus of the college extension [end page 99] classes is published at the beginning of each term for ten weeks. These classes are arranged in four groups for easier reference.

The college extension classes are so called because the instructors are mostly college men and women. These classes were established at Hull-House before the university extension movement began in Chicago and are not connected with it. The faculty numbers thirty-five, mostly college men and women, some of whom have taught continuously for three years. No charge is made for the teaching, which is gratuitous on the part of the faculty, but the students pay fifty cents a course, which covers the printing of the prospectuses and other incidental expenses. Any surplus is expended upon lectures and reference books. Three university extension courses have been given at the centre formed at Hull-House--two in the drawing room is supplied with English and foreign magazines and from the university extension department of the university of Chicago.

A helpful supplement of the college extension courses has been the summer school held for two years in the buildings of Rockford college at Rockford, Illinois. Half the students were able to attend. The sum of three dollars a week paid by each student for board covered the entire expenses of the school, the use of the buildings, including gymnasium and laboratories, having been given free of rent. Much time was devoted to out-door work in botany and the study of birds, and the month proved a successful combination of a summer vacation and a continuation of the year's study. The esprit de corps, fostered by the intimacy of the month's sojourn in college quarters, bore its first fruits in a students' association formed at the close of the summer's term.

The students' association, now including a good proportion of the attendants of the classes, is divided into the Literary, the dramatic, the musical and debating sections. The society meets once a month, and each section in turn is responsible for an evening's entertainment. The program is followed by an informal dance in the gymnasium. Each term's course is opened by a student's reception given by the residents.

A reading room in the lower floor of the Hull-House art gallery was maintained for three years by the Chicago Public Library Board. Two city librarians are in charge and the room is supplied with english and foreign magazines and papers, as well as several hundred books. All the books of the public library are accessible to the neighborhood through the excellent system of sub-station delivery. [end page 100]

Owing, partly, to the limited space available for the purpose picture exhibits have necessarily been small. An effort has been made to show only pictures which combine, to a considerable degree, an elevated tone with technical excellence, at no time can a very large assortment of such pictures be obtained. There is an advantage on the side of a small exhibition carefully selected, especially to an untrained public. The confusion and fatigue of mind which a person of no trained powers of selection suffers in passing his eyes wearily over the assortment of good, bad and indifferent which the average picture exhibit presents, leaves him nothing with which to assimilate the good when he finds it, and his chances of finding it are small. Frequently recurring exhibitions of a few very choice pictures might do more toward educating the public taste of the locality in which they occur than many times the number less severely chosen and less often seen. Hull-House has had two exhibits every year since the gallery was built, which were well attended. They were omitted during the World's Fair and an effort was made to supply their place by Fair intelligently. Parties formed for the purpose were consisting as many people as possible to see the pictures of the district regularly by a resident.

The first residents of Hull-House held strongly to the belief that any compromise in the matter of excellence in art was a mistake. They hung their own walls only with such pictures they felt were helpful to the life of mind and soul. Very much of the influence of the House they believe to be due to the harmony and reasonableness of the message, of its walls. One of the residents has been much interested in pictures in the public schools and hopes to have aroused sufficient interest in the subject to result in providing good sets of pictures for several schools in the poorest localities. With the means at her disposal she has been able to put a number of good pictures into each room of the schools nearest Hull-House and into many of the public kindergartens.

The same principles the House is striving to carry into effect in regard to the music it provides.

The directors of the World's Fair choruses has undertaken training of a chorus of 500 working people. He believes that working people especially need the musical form of expression, their lives being shorn on the art side. He further holds that musical people need for their art's sake the sense brotherhood; that art is hollow and conventional unless it is the utterance of the common and universal life.

A free concert is given in the gymnasium every Sunday after- [end page 101] noon. These concerts formerly alternated with lectures of general interest, which were unconnected as a course. The concerts, at first given with the motive of entertaining, are now conducted with the development of musical taste and understanding as the object in view.

The oldest singing class is now pursuing its third year of study under the instruction of a composer and teacher of vocal music who has never compromised her severe musical standards here or elsewhere. The comparatively small number of students whose intellect and perseverance have survived the test, have had the advantage of an unusual training.

A club of twenty children, calling themselves the Paderewski Club has had a year of instruction on the piano, together with Sunday afternoon talks by their teacher on the lives of the great musicians. Six of the most proficient have obtained scholarships in the Chicago Conservatory.

The Jane Club, a co-operative boarding club for young working women, had the advice and assistance of Hull-House in its establishment. The original members of the club, seven in number, were a group of trades union girls accustomed to organized and co-operative action. The club has been from the beginning self-governing,

without a matron or outside control, the officers being elected by the members from their own number, and serving for six months gratuitously. The two offices of treasurer and steward have required a generous sacrifice of their limited leisure as well as a good deal of ability from those holding them. This being given together with a considerable esprit de corps in the increasing number of members, the club has thriven both substantially and socially. The weekly dues of three dollars, with an occasional small assessment, have met all current expenses of rent, service, food, heat and light after the furnishing and first month's rent was supplied by Hull-House. The club now numbers fifty members, and the one flat is increased to five. The members do such share of the housework as does not interfere with their daily occupations. There are various circles within the club for social and intellectual purposes, and while the members are glad to procure the comforts of life at a rate within their means, the atmosphere of the club is one of comradeship rather than thrift. The club holds a monthly reception in the Hull-House gymnasium.

The connection of the House with the labor movement may be said to have begun on the same social basis as its other relations. Of its standing with labor unions, which is now "good and regular," it owes the foundation to personal relations with [end page 102] the organizer of the Bindery Girls' Union, who lived for some months in the House as a guest. It is now generally understood that Hull-House is "on the side of unions." Several of a women's unions have held their regular meetings at the House, two have been organized there and in four instances men and women on strike against reduction in wages met there while the strike lasted. In one case a strike was successfully arbitrated by the House. It is most interesting to note that a number of small and feeble unions have, from the very fact of their weakness, been compelled to a policy which has been their strength and has made for the strength of their use. In this policy it has been the privilege of Hull-House to be of service to them. The stronger unions, such as the carpenters' and bricklayers', trusting in their own strength and the skill of their members have too often adopted a course of elusiveness and self-centered effort. The weak ones, as those of the clothing trades, finding it impossible to accomplish much alone, betook themselves to the constant urging of concerted action. The most important illustration of this highly useful policy is in the action of the unions in

urging the factory inspection law passed by the Legislature of Illinois during the spring of 1893. The initiative toward the introduction of the measure in the Legislature was taken by a resident of Hull-House, and a committee of investigation sent from Springfield to inspect sweat shops and decide upon the necessity for legislation, was piloted by her upon its tour. The same resident, who was at that time conducting in Chicago a so-called "slum investigation" for the department of labor at Washington, was, after the passage of the law, appointed inspector of factories in the state of Illinois. The work of the inspector and her assistants and deputies during the first six months of their office can be found in the official report of the Illinois state factory inspector now in press.

Hull-House is situated in the midst of the sweat shop district of Chicago and it was natural that the first effort of the House to procure legislation against an industrial evil should have been directed against the sweating system.

A ward book has been kept by the residents for two years in which have been noted matters of sociological interest found in the ward. Many instances of the sweating evil and child labor have been recorded as well as unsanitary tenements. A resident has charted the information collected during the slum investigation in the form of two sets of maps, one set on the plan of Charles Booth's wage maps of London and one set [end page 103] showing the nationalities of the district. The latter indicates nineteen different nationalities within the third of a square mile lying east and south of Hull-House. Arrangements have been made for the publication of these maps with a series of papers written by the residents.

After the passage of the factory and workshop bill, which includes a clause limiting women's labor to eight hours a day, the young women employes in a large factory in the near neighborhood of Hull-House formed an eight-hour club for the purpose of encouraging women in factories and workshops to obey the eight-hour law. This club has maintained its position and done good missionary work for the cause. They have developed a

strong sense of obligation toward employes in shops where the wages are low and the employes much less favored than themselves. Their enthusiasm has carried them across a caste line. This club meets twice a month at Hull-House and makes full use of the social factor so essential in fusing heterogeneous elements.

the first year of residence at Hull-House and has met weekly ever since, with the exception of the two summer months. Last summer, however, owing to the number of interesting speakers to be secured from the World's Fair Congresses, the club met without interruption. The purpose of the club is the discussion of social and economic topics. An opening address of forty-five minutes is followed by an hour of discussion. The speakers in the latter represent every possible shade of social and economic view. Working men and women are in the majority, although professional and business men are to be found at every meeting. The attendance averages seventy-five, the discussion is always animated and outspoken. The residents believe that one of the offices of the settlement is to provide that people of various creeds and class traditions should meet under a friendly and non-partisan roof and discuss differences fairly. I recall several speakers as Mr. Wm. Carke, of London; Prof. Charles R. Henderson, of the Chicago university; Dr. Seth Low, President of Columbia, and Mr. Wm. T. Stead.

The Chicago Question Club meets in the Hull-House art gallery at 2:00 o'clock every Sunday afternoon. The club was fully formed before it asked for the hospitality of Hull-House. They are well organized and each meeting is opened by presentation of two sides of a question. Occasionally the various economic clubs meet for a common discussion. The last and most successful was led by Father Huntington on the subject, [end page 104] "Can a Freethinker Believe in Christ?" An audience of 400 people followed closely the two hours' discussion which was closed by Mr. Henry George.

The 19th ward improvement club meets at Hull-House the second Saturday evening of each month. The president is the district representative in the Illinois state Legislature and one of the ward aldermen is an active member. The club is pledged to the improvement of its ward in all direction. It has standing committees on street cleaning, etc., and was much interested in the efforts of the Municipal Order League to secure public

baths. Through the solicitation of the League the city council a year ago made an appropriation of \$12,000 for public baths. Hull-House was able to offer the use of a lot which had been given it by the owner rent free for two years. He transferred the lease to the city with a satisfactory arrangement for its sale at the expiration of his lease and a free public bath house has been erected upon it, which is now in daily use. It contains seventeen shower baths, a swimming tank and a tub.

The work of this club has now been merged into the council of the civic federation which has been established in our ward.

We have opened a co-operative coal yard near Hull-House. The purchaser of a ton of coal becomes a member of the cooperative association. At its first meeting the members voted that their dividends be employed in establishing a bushel trade to meet the wants of the poor people of the neighborhood. The purchaser of each bushel receives a ticket, six of which entitle him to a rebate in coal. The association hopes in time to deal in other commodities. It is too soon to predict concerning its future although it has sustained itself for a year.

The very active and efficient Hull-House Women's club which now numbers sixty of the most able women in the ward, developed from a social meeting for purposes of tea-drinking and friendly chat. Several members of this club have done good work in street end alley inspecting through the Municipal Order League. The club has also presented to a public school in the neighborhood a fine autotype of Millet's Knitting Shepherdess and hopes to do more in future for the art-in-school movement. They have been active in the visiting and relief work which has taken so large a share of the energies of the settlement during these hard times. Last winter they purchased a ticket to the lectures given to mothers in the Kindergarten college. One member attended each week and reported to the club. They are in touch with some of the vigorous movements of the city and have frequent lectures on philanthropic and reform questions. [end page 105]

A reception for Germans has been held every Friday evening in Hull-House for three years. Two hours are spent in singing, reading, games, etc., and the habitués have all the comradeship of a club. They give an occasional coffee-drinking and entertainment. They are a good illustration of the social feeling too often wasted in a cramped neighborhood for lack of space and encouragement.

During the first two years of Hull-House the residents held receptions for Italians each week which were largely attended. These have been discontinued, as their success depended largely upon an Italian philanthropist who has since started an agricultural colony in Alabama. While he was able to do much to ameliorate the condition of his countrymen in Chicago, he was convinced that they could only be valuable to America upon the soil where their trained and patient habits in the raising of silk and fruit might supplement the somewhat wasteful methods of American farming. The residents of Hull-House often view with a pang of regret an Italian woman picking up coal along the railroad tracks in Chicago when she should be picking olives in southern California, or a sickly Italian girl balancing a load of refuse timber upon her head when she should have a basket of oranges and the background of the country. Immigration societies, such as are successfully operated in London, are needed properly to place the Italian immigrants, who might do much for the development of the southern states as they have done for South America. Hull-House has not been able to inaugurate such a society, but sincerely hopes that one may be formed, as well as an association for improving tenement houses, those occupied by the Italians being overcrowded and unsanitary.

Since its foundation, Hull-House has had numerous classes and clubs for children. The fortunes and value of the clubs have varied, depending very much upon the spirit of the leaders. An effort has always been made to avoid the school atmosphere. The children are received and trusted as guests and the initiative and control has come from them as far as possible. Their favorite occupation is listening to stories. One club has had a consecutive course of legends and tales of chivalry. There is no doubt that the more imaginative children learn to look upon the house as a gateway into a magic land and get a genuine taste of the delights of literature. One boy, after a

winter of Charlemagne stories; flung himself, half crying, from the house and said that "there was no good in coming any more now that Prince Roland was dead." Three boys' clubs meet every Tuesday afternoon at 4 o'clock and [end page 106] four clubs of little girls come on Friday. The latter are the School-girls' Club, and the Pansy Club, the Story-telling Club, and the Kindergarten Club. They sew, paint or make paper chains during the storytelling and play games in the gymnasium together before they go home at 5 o'clock. A club of Bohemian girls, called "Libuse," meets every Monday and studies the heroic women in history.

A children's dining room has been opened in a cottage opposite the Hull-House coffee house. Dinners are served to school children upon presentation of tickets which have been sold to their mothers for five cents each. Those children are first selected whose mothers are necessarily at work during the middle of the day, and the dinner started with children formerly in the Hull-House creche. While it is desired to give the children nutritious food, the little diners care much more for the toys and books and the general good time than they do for the dinners. It has been found too, that the general attractiveness performs the function of the truant officer in keeping them at school, for no school implies no dinner. The House has had the sympathetic and enthusiastic co-operation of the principal of the Polk street public school.

A sewing school of 120 Italian girls meets every Monday afternoon in the gymnasium. It is managed by a superintendent and fifteen teachers. The children make garments, which they may purchase for the price of the material. An effort is made to follow up each new garment with lessons in tidiness. There are smaller classes in darning, knitting and simple embroidery among the English-speaking little girls.

The cooking class for Italian girls has been very gratifying in its results. There is also a cooking class every week for American children, and a nature class which meets every Saturday morning. The young members are very happy when the weather permits them to go with their teacher to the park in pursuit of their subject. When it does not they are most content with the simple microscopes at their disposal.

A systematic; effort is made during the summer to have each of the 400 children connected with the clubs and classes spend at least one day in the country or parks. Excursions in small groups are more satisfactory than the time-honored picnic method. Each summer from 50 to 100 children are sent from Hull-House to the fresh air homes and country houses. The residents were able this summer, through the generosity of world's fair enthusiasts to assist 1,500 children to see the fair.

During the last year the use of a piece of ground near Hull-House measuring 326x119 was given rent free for a year and [end page 107] in case it should not be sold in the meantime for a longer period. The owner permitted the houses upon it, which were in bad sanitary condition, to be torn down; the ground was graded, fenced, provided with swings and other enticing apparatus, an officer was supplied from the city force and a playground was thrown open to the juvenile public. Through the summer evenings many parents came with their children. Several of the residents spent much time there teaching the children games and regulating the use of the fifty buckets and shovels which were active in the sand piles. The music furnished by an organ grinder every afternoon often brought forth an Italian tarantella or an Irish jig with curious spontaneity. The residents tried in vain all summer to establish outdoor band concerts.

From the first month of its existence Hull-House has had a free kindergarten and for three years a day nursery, where mothers who are obliged to work leave their children for the day, paying five cents for each child. The creche averages in summer fifty children and in winter between thirty and forty. A friend of the House, who makes herself responsible for the financial support of the creche, gives largely of her time in directing and assisting in the work. This nursery is like others in most respects, differing chiefly, perhaps, in the attention paid to the matter of pictures and casts. The Madonnas of Raphael in the best and largest photographs are hung low that the children may see them, as well as casts from Donatello and della Robbia. The children talk in a familiar way to the babies on the wall and sometimes climb upon the chairs to kiss them. Surely much is gained if one

can begin in a very little child to make a truly beautiful thing truly beloved. An experienced kindergartner is in charge of the nursery. She has the constant assistance of two women.

The last building added to the equipment of Hull-House includes a public coffee and lunch room, a New England kitchen, a gymnasium with shower baths and men's club room supplied with billiard and card tables. The use of the gymnasium is divided between men and women, girls and boys at different hours. The evening hours are reserved more especially for men. The gymnasium, being now the largest room in the possession of the settlement, it is necessarily used on certain evenings as in audience room and as a reception and ball room by the various clubs.

The Hull-House men's club holds a reception there once a month and an occasional banquet. This club, which rents a room in the front of the building, is composed of 150 of the [end page 108] abler citizens and more enterprising young men of the vicinity. Their Constitution commits them, among other things, to the "cultivation of sobriety and good fellowship." They are not without political influence in the ward and are a distinct factor in its social life, as all of their social undertakings have been remarkably spirited and successful. They are in sympathy with the aims of Hull-House and are prompt to assist and promote any of its undertakings.

The Lincoln club is a deflating society of young men whose occasional public debates are always heard by a large and enthusiastic audience. In their weekly meeting they have a carefully prepared debate usually upon current political events. They met once a month with the Hull-House social club. This is composed of young women of the neighborhood, many of whole have met every week for four years. Their programs are literary and social. They give an occasional play. The last one presented was the court scene from the Merchant of Venice.

There are many other clubs among the young people, many of them successful and helpful.

The Hull-House coffee house has been open for six months. The room itself is an attractive copy of an English inn, with low, dark rafters, diamond windows and large fireplace. It is open every day from six in the morning to eleven at night. An effort has been made to combine the convenience of a lunch room, where well cooked food can be sold at a reasonable rate, with coziness and attractiveness. The residents believe that substitution is the only remedy against the evils of the saloon. The large kitchen has been carefully equipped under the direction of Mrs. Ellen Richards, with a New England kitchen outfit, including a number of Aladdin ovens. The foods are carefully prepared and are sold by the quart or pound to families for home consumption. Coffee, soups and stews are delivered every day at noon to the neighboring factories. By means of an indurated fiber can it is possible to transport and serve the food hot. The employes purchase a pint of soup or coffee with two rolls for five cents, and the plan of noon factory delivery daily growing in popularity. The kitchen has been supplying hot lunches at ten cents each to the 200 women employed in the sewing room established by the Emergency Committee of the Chicago Women's Club. This room supplies work to unemployed women during the stress of the winter. Hull-House has also superintended a temporary lodging house for the use of unemployed women for some months.

A physician has been in residence at Hull-House and another [end page 109] who lives near is most constant and generous with her professional services. A nurse of the Visiting Nurses' Association, has her headquarters and receives her orders at the House.

A public dispensary was undertaken last year. It is open every day from 3:00 until 4:00 and every evening from 7:00 to 8:00 o'clock. A small charge is made when possible for drugs and services and an effort is made to put it upon the mutual benefit plan. In the salve house, 247 Polk street, is the Hull-House labor bureau, necessarily small at present from the extreme difficulty of finding work for men or women. Hull-House has always undertaken a certain amount of relief work, the records of which are kept with those of the labor bureau. One of

the residents served for a winter as a visitor on the Cook County staff, all the cases of destitution within a certain radius of Hull-House being given to her for investigation. She has also established and maintained with all the charitable institutions of the city a cordial and sympathetic relationship which has been most valuable to the neighborhood. She has more recently been appointed a member of the state board of charities. The House has been active in the movement to organize the charities of Chicago and has recently united its relief office with the ward office established by the new organization.

All the residents of Hull-House for the first three years were women, though much valuable work has always been done by non-resident men. During the last year men have come into residence in a cottage on Polk Street, dining at Hull-House, and giving such part of their time to the work of the settlement as is consistent with their business life.

It is estimated that 2,000 people come to Hull-House each week, either as members of clubs or organizations, or as parts of an audience. One hundred of these come as teachers, lecturers or as directors of clubs. The house has always had much valuable assistance from the citizens of Chicago. This voluntary response to its needs, perhaps, accounts for the fact that it has never found it necessary to form an association with chapters in colleges, as other settlements have done. It is about to be incorporated with a board of trustees.

J. J. Blaisdell:-I would like to say that while I have been very much interested in what my friend, Miss Addams, has said this evening, I am more interested in what I have always known of the origin of Hull-House, the way that it began and the lesson that it teaches us. Miss Addams remarked to me before she began to speak, as she said to you, that she did not regard Hull-House as an institution, that she wished to avoid [end page 110] the impression of its being an institution. I am deeply impressed with that view.

If Miss Addams will allow me I would like to mention something I have known of the beginning of this good enterprise. A good many years ago now I was at the house of Miss Addams in northern Illinois and she kindly gave me an invitation to go out and walk with her on the hills of her native village. I was glad to do so. She gave me one of her alpenstocks and so we walked for hours over the hills of that beautiful region; and there she told me what was in her heart-that, unoccupied as she was, she had a desire to be of use to such as were less fortunate than herself. That I think was the beginning of the thing of which we have heard tonight. Hull-House is simply doing a deed, not making an institution. Deeds must have a form, and may take the form of an institution; but Hull-House is not a piece of machinery. Hull-House is a beautiful deed, the expression of a beautiful thought, the outgrowth of a loving impulse. I am intensely interested in this. I know we can learn a lesson from it. I would give all I possess to be able to go to Chicago, take these pupils by the hand and feel towards them and have them feel towards me as brothers. So in my own home community.

How is this to be done? How has Miss Addams done it? By going among the ill adjusted and making life seem worth living to them. This is our lesson. Are there not such impulses in all our hearts at times? Is there one of us who has not now and then had some such thing in his mind? Such beautiful impulses should be used. How many Hull-Houses are there here tonight, beautiful Hull-Houses! It seems so easy to do just as Miss Addams has done. Let us follow out these impulses. Let us do what she has done and by our personal work put all we can into the lives of our brother men and sister women and make them as full as she has made the lives of those people in Chicago. Let us be as earnest as we can be in our own little Hull-Houses and make life what it ought to be.

Mr. President, I have only spoken out of my heart. I have never been at Hull House or come away or thought of it, without determining that I would do more for my unfortunate brothers and sisters than I have done before. I must confess to Miss Addams that she has done me good, and I will try as I go home to solve this problem which through her earnest and eloquent words, makes it appeal anew, and so strongly to us tonight.

Judge Geo. H. Noyes:-I know very little of a movement [end page 111] of this kind in connection with the state university. I think these movements are brought about by the personal character, by the heart and soul of the individual. I would like to ask one question. I would like to know to what extent Miss Addams has found this work successful in Chicago for the past five years.. In what lines has she found the work successful and in what has it failed. It seems to me that in similar efforts we have had to learn a great deal by experience. Some of our theories have not developed as we thought they should and we have had to take up some new ideas. I think it would be interesting to know that Miss Addams' experience has been in this respect.

Miss Addams:-We had no definite theories to start with. It was simply to make life more worth living. We tried various plans which we thought would be successful. We have never tried anything which we have been obliged to drop. We feel our way first. I think if you are sure you are supplying a demand you are bound sooner or later to succeed. We are always sure of a demand before we offer anything.

Judge Noyes:-You work along a social and educational ground. My wife has told me that in New York city the girls are first interested by means of a dancing school. Have you tried that plan?

Miss Addams:-We have a dancing class every Saturday night. There is a large percentage among our girls who care for dancing and from that they become interested in something higher. You feel your way first. You find out what your neighborhood likes and respond. You are not a reformer, that is not a straight reformer.

I would be pleased to answer any other questions.

V. E. Estabrook:-How do you reach people who take no interest in books? There is a large class in every factory town boys and girls who never take up a book after they go to learn their trade. How do you gather them in?

Miss Addams:-Many of our clubs have little to do with books. They play games; they have dancing, and once a month they have a reception. All boys and girls like stories. They like anything with life to it; something dramatic. They like histories of Europe. They like anything that has life and go to it. I have found that they like stories of the Middle Ages especially well.

Prof. Blaisdell:-Is this matter of Hull-House practicable in our Wisconsin towns? Say Beloit.

Miss Addams:-I think it is practicable anywhere. I think that the class distinctions in a little town are not such as they [end page 112] are in a city. I think one can bring a broader social life everywhere.

Prof. Blaisdell:-How would you go to work?

Miss Addams:-I would call a conference of the people in a college town like Beloit. I would establish a social center and make it appear that it would be to the best interests of every one to join. I think everyone would come if they were given a personal invitation. They would not go if they thought you were going to do some good to them. I think a settlement is an element of self preservation. We have turned our lot in with the rest of the population. What you want to do is to live with them and together work out your salvation

R. C. Spencer:-I observed that the President spoke of college settlement. I fail to see how that is in any way connected with Hull-House. I would like to know her views on that point and what you want with college refinements or knowledge in such a settlement. Judge Noyes failed to connect the university with the idea. Ought we not to be clear in our minds in regard to it?

Miss Addams:-The original settlements were called university settlements. The original one was founded by Oxford men in England. You cannot have too much learning. I do not know that a college training is necessary, although out of the twenty residents at Hull-House fourteen are college men and women and the settlement in New York is called a college settlement. The New York settlement was founded by Dr. Coit. You will find that cultivation is necessary. For instance:- At Hull-House we speak French, German, Italian, English and one of our members speaks Russian. Three of us had learned in Europe. You have got to have them. I think it is the same way with the study of Social Science. Professor Ely of the Wisconsin State University, and Professor Small of Chicago have sent students to us. I do not call our house a university settlement, I call it a social settlement.

We have university extension courses. We have had three very successful courses of lectures from different professors. We have college classes. There are thirty-five men who teach regularly and continuously.

Mr. Snyder:-In the way of inducing people who do not get along in the city to move onto farms how do you go about it? In case any of the people in your neighborhood get into trouble [end page 113] and are taken to the police station, do you do anything to help them?

Miss Addams:-The Italians are agricultural people. We do what we can to get them to go onto farms. We have induced seven families to go to Alabama. It is not a very promising record. In one or two cases they, had to have transportation furnished them. I think that we ought to have a society to help these people get out into the country.

When people get out of the police station we do what we can to help them. We had one man with us for about six weeks in the library, but he finally went to his friends in Indiana. Some of the neighbors are good to them and some of the neighbors are down on them.

Among the twenty residents now there, there are some deeply religious.

We collect a great deal of information. We are written to by various societies constantly for information on various subjects. I think what we give them is, accurate. We are now making physiological measurements of some of the people that come to us. This work is done under the superintendency of the gymnasium teacher.

President Willkins:-In reply to my friend Mr. Spencer, while I think Miss Addams has answered his question to your satisfaction, and I hope to his, I feel it is unfair to her to require her to explain the remarks I made in connection with Professor Ely's address at which she was not present.

At Andover House the collegians utilize their technical knowledge gained at college, in practical effort for the improvement of their city and neighborhood. For example:-Students in sanitary engineering investigated the defective sanitary arrangement of their district. Their accurate and scientific knowledge of the subject, secured facts and their recommendations had corresponding weight and influence in convincing the inhabitants of the need of improvement and caused them, to intelligently and forcefully require the proper authorities to act. No advocate of college settlements claims any divine right or inspiration, in sociological effort, for college men and women, as such, but that if, as they should, they desire to employ their intellectual talents for mankind, they should be heartily welcomed as are those who employ their money wealth for the good of the human race.

Mrs. W. F. Allen:-I have been much interested in all that Miss Addams has said to us tonight. Recently I had the pleasure of attending her Woman's Club at Hull-House, and I was [end page 114] much impressed by the eager interest of the members in questions of the day, as well as their friendly agreement to differ on any question that came up. I also have had the pleasure of some correspondence with a member of her "neighborhood club" who formerly worked in a Rhode Island cotton mill. She wrote me about the clubs and reading circles they had in those old days, refreshing them after their daily toil. Since at time she had missed those outside interests till

Hull-House was established with its lecture courses, its clubs and its various social meetings, and now she said "we are all happy again."

Miss Addams:-I would be glad to make the settlement idea clearer to you. It is simply putting yourself among working people and doing what you can for them. It is easier to help people when you are living among them. I think maybe I have slighted the people of Chicago in not emphasizing more thoroughly the generous assistance we have always had from them. I thank you for your attention. [end page 115]