An analysis of community social welfare services of ten organizations that have been developed in the poplar area of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as revealed through the formulation of a directory for that area in 1949-1950

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AN ANALYSIS OF COMMUNITY SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES OF TEN
ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED IN THE POPLAR
AREA OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, AS REVEALED
THROUGH THE FORMULATION OF A DIRECTORY FOR
THAT AREA IN 1949 - 1950

A THESIS
SUBMITTED TO THE ATLANTA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR
THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK

BY
CHARLENE FRANCES WHARTON

ATLANTA, GEORGIA
JUNE 1950
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>I. INTRODUCTION</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Significance of Study</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purpose</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scope and Limitations</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methods of Procedure</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>II. GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE TEN ORGANIZATIONS</strong></td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area Characteristics</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization Facilities</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>III. SERVICES OFFERED BY THE TEN ORGANIZATIONS</strong></td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History of Developments</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy and Motivation for Services</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Content in Relation to Services</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groups Served</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>IV. THE UTILIZATION OF SERVICES OFFERED</strong></td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Statistical Report</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residents of the Poplar Area</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Factors Affecting Agency Use</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>V. RELATION OF SERVICES TO INDICATED NEED OF SERVICES</strong></td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organizational Facilities and Equipment</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personnel and Program</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Need for Additional Services</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>VI. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS</strong></td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>APPENDIX</strong></td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Map of the Poplar Area</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Questionnaire Used for the Directory</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Schedule Used for the Interview</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BIBLIOGRAPHY</strong></td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Significance of Study

Area or sectional developments of social services have taken on new emphasis in the years since World War II, particularly in the large cities. Various City Planning Commissions, and Councils of Health and Welfare Agencies, notably, Chicago\(^1\) and Baltimore\(^2\) have undertaken the revitalization of their work through some form of geographical planning. In Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the Poplar Area Committee through the efforts of the Philadelphia District Health and Welfare Council, Incorporated, and the Friends' Service Committee have undertaken large measures of welfare planning in the last two years. The area received its name from Poplar Lane, formerly the northern boundary. In general characteristics, it is said to be comparable to a section of the same name in London, England.

While a field work student assigned to the Poplar Area office, a portion of the writer's training entailed the formulation of an area "Directory of Health and Welfare Services and Resources." The survey of the area for the directory resulted in the discovery of a large number of

\(^1\) Wilfred S. Reynolds, "Service Report for the Year, 1949" (Chicago, Illinois, Welfare Council of Metropolitan Chicago, 1949), pp. 7-8 (Mimeographed.)

organizations. It was felt that many of those organizations could render a greater service if they were known to the people in the neighborhoods in need of such services. Frequently, organizations within distances of two or three blocks apart were unaware of each other's presence or services. The research stimulated further interest in studying those various services.

In the field work student's presentation of a brief statistical analysis of all of the available social welfare services and resources in the area, at a meeting of the Poplar Area Committee, some of the members expressed amazement at the number of resources. For this reason, the writer has selected ten organizations whose services were less known in the area.

Purpose

The purpose of this study was an attempt to point out through ten organizations, representative community social welfare services that have been developed or expanded in the Poplar Area as revealed through the formulation of a directory for that area. The study was further concerned with the location, facilities and services offered through those organizations. The utilization of those services and the relation of services to indicated need of services will also be discussed.

It was hoped that through the formulation of an area directory and this study, there would be increased awareness of the community social welfare services available to the residents in the Poplar Area.

Scope and Limitations

This study was restricted to the community social welfare services of ten organizations that have been developed in the Poplar Area as revealed
through the formulation of an area directory in 1949-1950. Most of the organizations have been in the area for several years; however, one did not originate there, but it had expanded and developed new services in the area. The scope also included relevant facts pertinent to a description of the area, its boundaries, the composition and movements of the population and needs for additional services.

Ten selected organizations were designated as rendering representative social welfare services in the area. They were as follows: The Chinese Christian Center, Mount Vernon Center, The Richard Allen Homes, The Pennsylvania Branch of the Shut-In Society, The Salvation Army, Stoddard-Fleisher Junior High School, Fifth Street Community Center, Friends' Neighborhood Guild, John 5:24 Gospel Mission and the Poplar Area Committee. These organizations were studied individually and collectively, and according to the east and west sections of the Poplar Area.

Methods of Procedure

Data for this study were obtained during the writer's efforts to secure and compile material for a "Directory of Health and Welfare Services and Resources" in the Poplar Area. Questionnaires about the kinds of services, facilities and personnel were sent to all of the churches, clubs, schools and organizations in the area.

The results of this study vary according to the various responses from the organizations. However, all of them were cooperative. They filled out questionnaires, granted interviews and evinced a willingness to give information and printed material which depicted their services for the community.
Additional information was obtained through the writer's visits to all of the organizations in order to observe the physical facilities, personnel, operation, and to "sense the climate" of the organization. Personal interviews were held with executives and staff members to secure information concerning policies, aims and execution of programs.

Annual reports, pamphlets, minutes of committee meetings and other material relevant to the interpretation of the organization's services were consulted. The writer also made use of supplementary readings such as reference books and periodicals available in relation to the services offered by the organizations.
CHAPTER II

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE TEN ORGANIZATIONS

Area Characteristics

The Poplar Area, one of the oldest and smallest sections in the Philadelphia district, was located in the northeast central part of the city. It covered an area of one and three-eighths square miles. The boundaries were from East Broad Street to the Delaware River, and from South Girard Avenue to North Market Street. In 1949, the area had been divided as East and West Poplar for the purpose of redevelopment by the City Planning Commission. See map on page 52.

East Poplar, from the Delaware River to Sixth Street, was the oldest section and was formerly known as "Northern Liberties." A hundred years ago, it was a prosperous town and Poplar Lane, now a street, stood out as a boundary then as in 1948.1 Despite its age, there were no monuments but there were four historical shrines which still attracted tourists. They were the Betsy Ross House, Edgar Allan Poe House, Old Christ Church, and Elfreth's Alley.

East Poplar was further characterized as a rapidly growing industrial and trucking area. It had an active waterfront on the Delaware River. Ships from all ports of the world had anchored there and had discharged their cargo, adventurous and famous passengers. There were many large

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storage and warehouses, breweries, factories; large, small, old and very modern ones. The odors and smoke from the factories and trains permeated the air in various neighborhoods.

Many streets in that section were very narrow and crooked, and would frequently lead a stranger into embarrassing or confusing situations. Oriano Street was such a street. In the Poplar Area, it began at New Street, near the Delaware River Bridge, and "snaked" its course north. Sometimes, it was the average street, then again, it zigzagged between houses as an alley with only breadth enough for two people to pass, and appeared to end at Fairmount Avenue. Actually, it continued beyond Brown Street.

Some of the narrow streets dated from 1686, and retained their original names as Pegg, Hancock, and Buttonwood Streets. Numerous small courts with narrow entrances and vacant lots where houses had either been demolished or destroyed by fire were found there. As was to be expected, it was also an area of many children and old people because living was cheaper.

There was overcrowding because of insufficient income and lack of available houses; therefore, many problems developed. It was also an area of many ethnic groups as "...Roumanian Boulevard" (Brown Street), the large Russian Catholic Community, the Polish section, the Marshall Street

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2 Philadelphia Housing Association, "Housing Tour" (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, used for Friends Conference on Democracy in Housing) October 24, 1949, (Mimeoigraphed.)
Jewish group and later the Puerto Rican Colony.\textsuperscript{1}

In itself the Poplar Area is a city of neighborhoods and its citizens come from all over the world, including Poland, Ukrainia, Latvia, Germany, China, Japan, and the Philippine Islands. There are about twenty national or racial groups, each having its own local church, recreation or mutual benefit institutions, yet participating as Americans in the economic and social life of the total community.\textsuperscript{2}

There were also those neighborhoods that were dear to the hearts of many an old Philadelphian, who refused to move regardless of industrial encroachments.

Similar to all old cities, East Poplar had its "Skid-row" and numerous small missions, store front churches, small cheap hotels and eating houses. In contrast, especially in West Poplar, were many outstanding institutions, the headquarters of several large organizations, and one of the city's finest department stores. There were thirty schools in the area of which ten were public; nine, parochial; and eleven, trade and vocational. Churches were predominantly conspicuous, for there were ninety-seven of them. Of the total number, there were forty-seven large ones of all denominations, sixteen synagogues, twenty-three small mission churches, and eleven large missions. Public recreation facilities were inadequate with one small playground, one poorly located park, and two summer swimming pools; however, a new public recreation center was under construction.


As usual, the private institutions were in the majority with three settlement houses, and nine other organizations which provided recreation programs and additional welfare services. Through the formulation of an area directory, it was discovered that there were approximately two hundred and seventy-five available resources in that area.

Organization Facilities

Area characteristics have been presented in order to give the reader a vivid historical background of the selected organizations. The organizational facilities of the ten agencies were studied according to type, sponsorship, personnel and physical equipment. The first six organizations were in the West Poplar Area, and the last four were in the East Poplar Area.

Chinese Christian Center.—This Center, which was sponsored by the Chinese Christian Church, was located at 1006 Race Street in the middle of the Chinese district. It was a private organization supported through contributions, and the proceeds from the annual "China Night" program. No funds were received from the Community Chest. The Staff consisted of one full-time professional worker, a minister and social worker, and three volunteers. This was a small Center housed in a single dwelling of four stories. There were three rooms on the first floor; the front one, which was the largest, was used for meetings and children's activities. The

middle room was used as a lounge, and for some of the office work, and the rear room was a kitchen with a frigidaire and snack bar. On the second floor was the minister's office and a large front room with a stage which was used for church services on Sundays, and for other activities during the week. On the third floor, the front room was used for summer school and primary activities, and on the fourth floor was a dark room. In the basement was a large, attractive game room with a pool table and other equipment.¹ The Center had access to two summer camps for the children. There was no outdoor space for activities.

Mount Vernon Center.—The Rodeph Shalom Synagogue at Broad and Mount Vernon Streets provided quarters for this Center, which was a private organization. The Center was sponsored and financially supported by the Youth Forum of the Congregation through the proceeds of the Valentine Cotillion. It received no funds from the Community Chest. There were two professional workers and about twenty-five volunteers composed of students from the universities, the Congregation, and residents in the area. The Center, which was operated one evening a week from six to nine o'clock, used the attractive, modern basement, eight classrooms, the auditorium, woodshop and the large well equipped sewing and homemaking rooms of the Synagogue. The director had expanded the program through cooperation with other agencies in the use of their facilities. The Center had no gymnasium or playground space for young children; therefore, the director cooperated with

¹ Helen Zanginger, *Survey of Recreational Facilities Within the Poplar Area*. April–June, 1949 (Unpublished.)
several other agencies to sponsor an Area "Gym" program at the Stevens School. The small children were sent to Brown Street Community Center, in the same neighborhood, which had adequate facilities for that particular group.

Richard Allen Homes.—This Housing Project was bounded by Poplar Street on the north, Twelfth Street on the west, Fairmount Avenue on the south, and Ninth Street on the east. The Homes were a Public Housing Project, sponsored by the Philadelphia Housing Authority. No funds were received from the Community Chest. Although the total number of personnel was not obtainable, the main staff consisted of a manager, resident aide, home adviser, a part time librarian from the Free Philadelphia Library, a director and five teachers for the Day Care Center provided by the Board of Education, a junior craft worker, one man and three women workers in recreation clubs employed by the Bureau of Recreation. The project accommodated one thousand three hundred and twenty-four families. There was a large auditorium which would seat approximately six hundred people, a medium size attractive library with about seven hundred books, several magazines, and newspapers. There were three play areas in the project which would accommodate two hundred children per day, and one Tot Lot per housing unit. Four rooms were used for the Child Care Center.

The Salvation Army.—Headquarters and most of the various departments of this organization, as the Red Shield Service Men's Club, the Women's Service Bureau, and the Prison Consultation Office were located in the seven hundred block North Broad Street. The Central Family Welfare and Personal Services Department, and the Triple Corps were located at Broad and Fairmount Streets. This was a private organization.
Because of the limited time and the complexity of the extensive services, the writer was not able to secure accurate information in regards to the number of workers. The Salvation Army program was very extensive throughout the city; although most of the units of operation were located in the Poplar Area, where the attractive offices of the headquarters occupied a large two story modern building. Other facilities, which were greatly separated, included the Men's Hotel at 1224 Parrish Street, the Vine Street Corps at Eighth and Vine Streets, and the Brown Street Community Center at Broad and Brown Streets.

Brown Street Community Center was a large new four-story modern building. Since it was new, rooms had been designed for specific purposes. There was a large auditorium with a stage, a "gym" with a boxing ring, shower baths for boys and girls, an attractive, well lighted art studio, a modernistically furnished library, dark room, and other rooms for sewing, music, crafts, clubs, the pre-school kindergarten room, a well equipped kitchen with dishes and silver to serve about two hundred and fifty people, and a well equipped general workshop for upholstering and woodwork. Outside facilities consisted of a cement tennis court, basket ball baskets, play court with swings, seesaws, ladders and slides. It was the "newest" and best equipped Center in the area.

The Pennsylvania Branch of the Shut-In Society.—This organization was located at 511 North Broad Street. It was one of the private agencies which received funds from the Community Chest. There were thirteen full time workers, four of which were an occupational therapist, a medical social worker and two case workers, and fifteen volunteers. The organization occupied the entire fifth floor of an office building. In addition to the
office space for the executive, the social workers and the receptionist, there was adequate room for the storage of sickroom equipment and the industrial homework material which had to be distributed to the homes of the clients.

**Stoddard-Fleisher Junior High School.**—The entire block on Thirteenth Street between Spring Garden and Green Streets was occupied by this school. It was a public school with a staff of sixty-five full time teachers, a full time nurse, a part time doctor, and three counselors. There were two auditoriums, three gymnasiums, and shops of various kinds as wood, plastic, metal and general shop. Aside from these were the general economic, ceramic, food rooms, two sewing rooms, and two nursery school rooms. The class rooms were not considered. There was no outdoor space.

**Fifth Street Community Center.**—This Center, which was located at 553 North Fifth Street, was a private religious organization financed through the church and contributions. It received no Community Chest funds, and was sponsored by the Mid-Town Parish Church. There were seven full time and eight part time workers, in addition to several university students and church members who volunteered their services. The Center was housed in two buildings of four stories each, which were about one hundred years old. On the first floor were the offices of the workers, a chapel, and a large activity room which could be used for various functions, and a well equipped economic kitchen from which two hundred and fifty people could be served. On the second and third floors, were eight class rooms, and a gymnasium on the second floor. In the basement was a printing shop, storage space for clothing and other supplies, dormitory space for nine men, and three small
private rooms. The Center also had access to a summer camp for the children at Hatboro, Pennsylvania. There was no outdoor space.

Friends' Neighborhood Guild.—The Guild was a settlement house located at Fourth and Green Streets. It was a private organization but had been a charter member of the Community Chest since 1922. The Guild was sponsored by the Philadelphia Quarterly Meeting of Friends. There were twelve full time workers, fifteen student volunteers, and four field work students from Smith, Atlanta, and the Pennsylvania Schools of Social Work.

The large two story former Green Street Meeting House, and a small two story four room house constituted the main facilities of the Guild. The buildings were about one hundred and forty-six years old. Outdoor facilities consisted of a large playground and a wading pool. Indoor facilities included a lounge, for parties and a canteen program, a gymnasium and a cloak room on the first floor; a well equipped kitchen, a large pre-school kindergarten room, library and a small club room were on the second floor. In the basement were a general workshop, active game room and showers. An art studio was located on the second floor of the small house, and on the first floor were two offices and a ceramic room also used for club activities. Across the street from the activity building was the Staff residence where many meetings were held in the lounge and dining room. In the basement was a well equipped sewing room with four electric sewing machines, tables, mirror, board and iron.

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John 5:24 Gospel Mission.—This little mission was located at Callowhill and Oriano Streets in the midst of a progressive meathouse area. John 5:24, as it was familiarly known in the neighborhood, was a Gospel Mission supported through contributions, and received no Community Chest funds. The Mission was housed in an old converted school building. It had a chapel, a very clean and attractive dining hall and kitchen, dormitory space for thirty-seven men in a well lighted, ventilated room, and showers. A rehabilitation camp was maintained at Quaker Town, Pennsylvania.

The Poplar Area Committee.—This Committee, whose office was located in the same building with the Friends' Neighborhood Guild, was a division of the Philadelphia District Health and Welfare Council, Incorporated. It was organized to expedite area social planning, and was the medium through which the Philadelphia District maintained a structural relationship with the area.¹ The Director and the Community Organizer of the Guild served as the area workers with the assistance of a Field Work student from the Atlanta School of Social Work. No physical facilities seemed necessary other than an office, since it was a Coordinating Committee.

CHAPTER III

SERVICES OFFERED BY THE TEN ORGANIZATIONS

History of Developments

Every organization's program had a motive for the kinds of services offered which determined the types of patrons and content of activities. This chapter is an attempt to analyze the philosophies, and the motivations of the organization's operation. To do this, a brief history and an analysis of programs seemed necessary. Whenever it was possible, a classification of motives has been attempted, and the names of the agencies were underlined to identify them.

The span of development of the agencies extended from the Friends' Neighborhood Guild's foundation in 1879, to the establishment of the Poplar Area Committee in 1948. This span of development reflected the social conditions of various times and, consequently, had bearing on motivation for service. The histories of the organizations were as varied as their motives. Six of the ten organizations originated out of religious movements in an effort to meet neighborhood and community needs. The denominations concerned included Methodist, Baptist, Salvation Army, Judaism, and Quakerism. The other four organizations developed out of the advanced thinking of leaders, and democratic participation of the residents engaged in social welfare and community planning. Some of the organizations performed dual functions as church and agency offering religious, social welfare and related services.
Philosophy and Motivation for Services

Most of the founders of the various organizations attempted to give realism to their beliefs. They provided channels of expression for emotional outlets, such as recreational centers, missions and churches to alleviate human deprivations, and other institutions through which individuals and groups could improve their conditions. Each group became an enabler for the promotion of social welfare development in the community.

Motivations for service in the area were "geared" to meet the needs of ethnic, religious, social service, economic, and educational groups. As would be expected, in the early part of the twentieth century, the Church took the lead in recognizing the need for providing a place for the new Chinese arrivals to establish their first contacts with American culture. To learn the language, and to receive guidance in becoming potential participants in the American economic system were most important.

Rodeph Shalom Congregation.—Several years ago, this synagogue realized the paramount need for recreational facilities in the neighborhood and made efforts to establish a Community Center.

The original purpose of Mount Vernon Center as envisioned by Rabbi Eugene Sack in 1939 was to produce a socially worthwhile project for the youth of Rodeph Shalom that would act as a motivating vehicle for the practice and understanding of a Liberal Judaism. A survey at the time in 1939, indicated that the most practical and essential project was the establishment of recreational facilities for the less fortunate neighbors of Rodeph Shalom, and so this unique experiment was born. It is the only congregation in the nation with this type of program.1

Richard Allen Homes.—The purpose of this housing project was "to provide decent, safe and sanitary homes for low income families." Recent trends in such projects have depicted increased potentialities for community organization since housing authorities, with managers, and social workers have realized the interrelatedness of the economic, financial, and social welfare aspects. The authorities have further realized the values of promoting organized community welfare services for the neighborhood as a worthwhile investment.

The Shut-in Society.—Founders of this organization felt that many of the physically handicapped and other chronic invalids would take new interest in life if they were occupied, enabled to feel independent and secure. The Shut-in was defined as "a person with a physical handicap that rendered him unemployable on the outside." The organization aimed as far as possible, through training and medical care, to rehabilitate individuals who were homebound because of physical difficulties. The service was provided for those people who could not be included in any other agency program.

The Salvation Army.—Dual functions of church and agency were performed by this organization. However, its main purpose was to reclaim men from

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2 A Committee Report, Housing Education in Universities and Colleges, University of Southern California, June 1937.

3 Definition by Medical Social Worker at Shut-in Society, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
the streets and depths of degradation, and to enable them to regain their self-respect and place in the community. All of their services were permeated by their Christian belief.¹

Stoddard–Fleisher Junior High School.—Extensive use of the school's facilities by the residents, and the socialization of many of its courses to meet increased community needs, had placed this school in a category similar to that of a social agency. The school was to be more than a place to learn the three "Rs." It was to be a laboratory for creative living, working and planning together of the students and of the residents.²

Fifth Street Community Center.—Provisions for relief, needs for a kindergarten, and a meeting place for a group of women seemed to have been the early concern of this Center. In addition, there was an increased interest for religious training.

Friends' Neighborhood Guild.—The Quakers, who found themselves in the midst of a changing neighborhood of a polyglot immigrant group, felt obligated to do something. They were disturbed about conduct, and the inequalities that existed; therefore, Friends Mission Number One, the forerunner of Friends' Neighborhood Guild, was established. Their motive for service was best summed up in the statement:

We believe it is our duty as members of the human family to do what lies within our power for the assistance of those less fortunate

¹ Major Jane E. Wrieden, The Pattern of Social Work in the Salvation Army.

than ourselves and for society in general, and to share with others the benefit of every advantage which we enjoy, and there would seem to be a special call to all who believe in the Fatherhood of God and brotherhood of man, to do our Father's work among our brethren.¹

**Poplar Area Committee.**—The Philadelphia District Health and Welfare Council had divided the city into four areas for the purpose of providing improved welfare services; therefore, this committee came into existence as a result of growth in population and increased interest in neighborhood planning. The purposes of the committee were (1) to create interest in the community, (2) to find and develop local leadership, (3) to point out gaps in service and assist with the development of new agencies and services, (4) to work on serious social problems in the community, (5) to publicize and support the welfare programs of local and city-wide organizations, (6) to coordinate the work of social, health and recreation agencies already established in the area, and (7) to test methods of community organization in neighborhoods.²

**Program Content in Relation to Services**

Most of the programs seemed full and varied according to the facilities and equipment of the specific organization. A compilation of the activities offered characterized those expected to be found in any agency of similar structure. Some were without gymnasiums, outdoor play space, or


sufficient staff; however, seventy-five different services were offered. The program content of each organization has been listed in order to present to the reader the services in the area.

**Chinese Christian Center.**—By 1950, this Center had moved a long way during its eight years' existence. The program had expanded to include children, teen-agers and adults. Not much work had been done with the aged because most of them were of the first generation, and language was a barrier. The program content consisted of arts and crafts, games, library services, and story-telling, music, dramatics, photography, ping pong, radio, club groups, parties, hospitality service to visiting sport teams such as basketball, summer camp service for the children, counseling, referrals, interpretation and information service.

**Mount Vernon Center.**—This education Center, which was open from September to May, had a well planned program centered in classroom activities, since the facilities would not include a lounge or canteen program. There were classes in art, plastics, leathercraft, dancing and music. Girls, ages six to nine, participated in a doll homemaking project where they learned to be "good little mothers." They learned to set a table and to eat correctly, and in dressing the dolls, they learned good taste in dress, cleanliness and beauty. In the woodshop, the boys made various things, among them were the shoeshine boxes which they used to earn money. Special events, such as the Christmas party given by the Men's Club of Rodeph Shalom added to the variety of the Center's program. Other services consisted of an adult community sewing class with an instructor provided by the Congregation, and a Well-Baby Clinic which was considered to be one of the best in the city.
Richard Allen Homes.—Through this housing project, some special services had been provided for the community as well as for the tenants, such as the Child Care Center for children two to twelve years old. The Center was operated by the Board of Education, from September to June. In addition, a Well-Baby Clinic, sponsored by the Department of Health, was established for the purpose of giving inoculations and examination to babies under two years old.

Trained and volunteer leadership sponsored a Community Center program, in which the neighborhood could participate. The activities consisted of a Thursday night Teen-age Canteen and Snack Bar, Teen-age clubs under the leadership of Temple University students, Boy Scout and Cub troops, woodshop classes, and a ceramic class taught by one of the public school teachers. Special adult programs consisted of classes in Red Cross Home Nursing, and Nutrition, dressmaking, and a mother's club. During the summer months, the Bureau of Recreation provided workers for the playgrounds. Only the library service was restricted to the tenants.

Shut-in Society.—Early activities of this organization consisted of sick visits, correspondence for the handicapped, and the distribution of clothing. A wheel chair service was initiated in 1904, but it was soon realized that this service alone was not sufficient. "It did not fill the need of those who were forced to sit idly day after day with only occasional visits from friends or relatives." 1 Something had to be done to raise the morale; consequently, handiwork was encouraged among the members.

In 1931, the Society opened the only Shut-in Society Shelter Shop in America. The members repaired wheel chairs, made rugs, and later accepted consignments from factories to make novelties. Power machines were purchased, and many more articles were made; then cabinet work was undertaken. Each new service contributed to the handicapped's reorientation.

Later, provisions were made to teach the physically handicapped children in their homes; otherwise, it was felt that many of them would become illiterates. In 1932, the Society secured the services of an elementary teacher, and with the cooperation of the newspapers, the broadcasting system, and the Board of Education, sponsored a very successful program. Since the organization has been in its present location, some of the former services such as the workshop have been discontinued, but the Homework program has greatly expanded. Factories were canvassed for industrial homework, which was done in the home of the shut-in, and picked up after the client had finished the order. Such work included assembling, packaging, wiring, hand and machine sewing, and many other jobs which provided employment with a regular income.

The volunteer recreational services increased so that the shut-ins were taken on tours, to movies, and other places of interest. Other services included the rental or lending of hospital beds, wheel chairs, walkers, crutches, artificial limbs, back rests, orthopedic shoes, rubber goods, and other sick room equipment. There were many visits made by the agency workers, and members were encouraged to participate in other organizations.

The Salvation Army.—This organization was well established in the Poplar Area. It began in the Bowery district with the Vine Street Corps in 1920, and there have been expansion and development of a variety of services.
in religious settings. The social and related services offered were prison consultation, Family Welfare and Personal Services, a Community Center, Women's Service Bureau, Men's Hotel, Triple Corps and a Red Shield Service Men's Club.

The Vine Street Corps was referred to as "Skid Row" corps. It rendered some social services in providing a lounge, baths and fumigation services for transient men. Its main function was to reclaim men from the streets. In connection with this corps was a rehabilitation camp for alcoholics.

The Red Shield Service Men's Club provided services for men in all branches of the armed forces, such as dormitory, meals and recreation, without racial discrimination.

In the Family Welfare and Personal Service Department, ten full time workers assisted with family, children, and veteran problems, marital relations, budgeting, psychiatric and psychological problems, and services to unmarried mothers. Services were provided to all ages, both sexes, and without discrimination. The Triple Corps was the chapel for religious services, but it also sponsored several social clubs for ages seven to thirty, and a band.

Brown Street Community Center, of the Salvation Army, had a varied recreational program of arts, crafts, music, library, gymnasium, ping pong, various social clubs, hobby groups, kindergarten, photography, movies, Girl and Boy Scout troops, a supervised outdoor playground with tennis court, a Golden Age Club, and access to a summer camp for the children.

Prison Consultation Department rendered services to all transients, sponsored religious services in various institutions, and was responsible
for a certain amount of parole work. Parolees were accepted or selected according to their possibilities for rehabilitation. The Women's Service Bureau was the center for the volunteers in the organization. Various groups met to sew, to send out organization letters, to make sandwiches for hospitals, and to collect and distribute clothing to those in need.

The Parrish Street Men's Hotel accommodated about two hundred and fifty men per night. Approximately eighty per cent of the men were Negroes, since the hotel was located in a predominantly Negro neighborhood. Meals were served. Other services offered through this organization, included locating missing persons, night emergency services of food and shelter after other welfare agency hours, and a Disaster Relief Service.

Stoddard-Fleisher Junior High School.—A very active Home and School Association in this school had promoted a Youth Canteen and Snack Bar which provided recreational services one day a week for juniors in the afternoon, and for seniors in the evening. In addition, they sponsored a "child-escort" clinic service for working and incapacitated mothers. Requests for this type of service were made through the school nurse.

Child Care Laboratory, a part of the Home Economic Department, was a new service specifically planned for teen-age girls. The course provided background and instructions in the growth and development of the child, and family living. It was felt by the school officials that such a course would be of value to those girls who married early, or who secured jobs as Baby-sitters. Auditoriums and gymnasiums were available to the community for con-commercials, non-political, and non-sectarian activities, and had been used by community groups sponsoring coordinated programs in the area.

A Junior Employment Service provided guidance and protection for the
child who desired to leave school before the age of seventeen. Interviews, physical examination, and job conditions were investigated in regards to their legality in accordance with the state and federal regulations. Teen-agers, who became interested in neighborhood activities through their courses of study, formed the Youth Builders and Fellowship Club for the purpose of assisting in the reduction of juvenile delinquency. After study and an informal survey, they recognized the need for more recreational activities in the area; therefore, they opened and sponsored a successful interracial playground for one summer. Through such projects, the groups learned how to move in a neighborhood, and to employ community organization techniques and methods.

The school offered other miscellaneous services such as providing space for the Veteran's Advisory Service, encouraging student participation in the preparation of the model apartment in the Richard Allen Homes, and in the Clean-up, Fix-up Campaigns. Students were also encouraged to participate in community services as volunteers in agencies, and for this experience they received academic credit. The principal felt that the most outstanding service to be rendered in the future would be a closer work relationship with the Operation-Fix-up and Redevelopment programs in order to create in the child an awareness of his own capacities and resources. The school's new program was planned to serve all ages, both sexes, and was non-discriminatory.

**Fifth Street Community Center.**—Major emphases of this Center's services were in the realm of religion, recreation, and relief. Religious services included Sunday School, Bible classes, and the provision of a suitable place for the Russians and Puerto Ricans to hold their own
religious services. Recreational activities sponsored were centered in clubs and classes for all ages, both sexes, but there were some racial limitations. The program consisted of a kindergarten, movies, a Girl Scout troop, roller skating, boat trips, dancing, library service and story-telling, classes in homemaking, printing, social clubs and classes for the Puerto Ricans and Displaced Persons from Europe. The Center sponsored an extensive relief service, which provided hot meals and lodging for transient men, procurement and distribution of clothing, and surplus food such as potatoes and apples. Other services consisted of enabling families to secure public assistance, to secure employment, providing consultation services, and advancing cash for loans and for transportation.

Friends' Neighborhood Guild.—The early program of the Guild was sponsored by Friends' Mission Number One, and was chiefly concerned with behavior and cultural development of the less fortunate members in the neighborhood. There were academic classes, manual training, sewing, kindergarten, and special reward trips to New York City, and to Washington, D. C. From the beginning, the Friends were interested in the home and family life; therefore, neighborly kindness and cooperation were stressed, and mothers' clubs organized. The Guild program was to be more than a mere catalogue of activities and services; it was to be a pattern of human relationships with membership based on families. Efforts were made to meet all of the educational and recreational needs of individual members in the family through their own suggestions and participation in art, crafts, social clubs, music, tours, and other activities.¹

Original services have expanded and new ones have been developed so that Guild facilities were used seven days a week, as many outside groups requested the use of the "gym" or a place to meet. A Case Worker assisted the Group Work Department by offering information and consultation services, and making referrals to the proper agencies for those who applied. Relief work was not a part of the program. The first Well-Baby Clinic in Philadelphia was established in the Guild, and has continued to render a valuable service to mothers.

Services have been extended to include the Displaced Persons from Central Europe and Puerto Ricans who came to the Guild for English and Citizenship classes. Other activities included Adult Night programs on Thursday evenings, Red Cross Home Nursing classes, opportunities in self-government through the various councils, opportunities for field work students from the different schools of social work, and providing temporary quarters for Friends' House for Older Neighbors, the first and only settlement house for the aged in the United States. The Guild also cooperated with other agencies to promote area programs, and to stimulate groups towards social action for better housing and neighborhood improvements. The Guild, as a multifunctional settlement house, offered services from the baby to the aged, both sexes, and was without racial discrimination.

**John 5:24 Gospel Mission.**—In addition to the religious services, the mission administered some relief work. Case work in the missions and churches was not practiced as in the public or private welfare agencies, for there seemed to be no investigation and little interviewing. Attention was given to the immediate situation of providing food, shelter, or clothing, but such missions have rendered invaluable services in the community.
At this mission, meals were served twice a day, lodging was provided for thirty-seven men, and clothing was given to those in need.

Other services included referrals, securing employment, consultation and institutional visits, locating families, and individuals, and fumigation baths. An isolation room was kept for emergencies but the mission had very good cooperation from the neighboring hospitals and the police department for transportation. A rehabilitation farm for alcoholics was opened in 1948, and had promoted a year round program of sports, labor and educational classes. The mission's services were for male adults, and was non-discriminatory.

The Poplar Area Committee.—This Committee was chiefly concerned with the function of area planning and the coordination of services; therefore, surveys were made on housing and living conditions, and an area directory of all of the health and welfare agencies and resources was compiled for the use of school counselors and social workers. One of the first steps in community organization was to know available resources; otherwise, area coordination of services would be impossible. The revelations through the formation of the area directory seemed to have been in accord with the fact that "modern social programs are so broad in scope and touch the lives of such a large portion of the population that research and statistics supply an indispensable chart and compass in their conduct."[1]

Community organization methods of committee meetings, forums, radio,

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services for transient men than for women. East Poplar particularly had more specific services for men only than West Poplar. The study also revealed that the age groups from seven through thirty had more services offered them than any other group. Adults and children in West Poplar had more services than those in East Poplar. More services were offered to the aged in East Poplar, and more services for babies in West Poplar.
CHAPTER IV

THE UTILIZATION OF SERVICES OFFERED

A Statistical Report

The quantity and quality of services available in the area were of vital importance; yet, how well those services were used seemed more significant. Statistical records were not available from all of the agencies; therefore, this chapter presents only the numerical summaries from the reports and interviews with the executives of the ten organizations studied.

Chinese Christian Center.—Although the facilities of this Center were limited, the Director had used every available space to the best advantage. Approximately thirty-five hundred people used the facilities or participated in the activities during the year. There was an average daily attendance of about seventy-five. With the small population in Chinatown, and two Centers within three blocks of each other, it was felt that this was a good recognition of the services. A statistical record of some of the services used were as follows:

- Summer camp programs: 100
- Health Program Service: 184
- Piano group: 10
- "China Night" Program: 700 (Approximate)
  (entertainment, educational and interpretation)

Mount Vernon Center.—This Center, which operated one evening a week, had a total attendance of 428 for all of its activities. It had an average evening attendance of 172. Distribution of attendance for 1949 may be seen as follows:

- Stevens "Gym" program: 114
Richard Allen Homes.—From a statistical record, it would seem that the services utilized most frequently were those concerned with children and Teen-agers. The following figures indicated some awareness of those services:

- Playground: 50,000
- Teen-age Canteen: 2,350
- Child Care Center: 2,250
- Well Baby Clinic: 2,100
- Tot lot: 10,000
- Boy Scout troops: 100
- Library service: 650
- Welfare Department: 55
- Dress making: 44
- Home nursing: 38
- Nutrition class: 15
- Ceramic class: 12

Shut-in Society.—Unlike other organizations where the clients came to the agency to ask for help, the workers, in this case went to the clients. The most extensive service rendered centered around the number of agency visits made to the homebound, and the rental and distribution of wheel chairs. A report of the utilization of services for the fiscal year 1948 was submitted as follows:

- Agency visits to the homebound: 5,015
- Rental and free distribution of wheel chairs: 617
- Assistance with health, personal or recreational problems: 311
- Provision of gainful employment in the home: 288
- Distribution of hospital beds and other sick room equipment to: 135
- Case load, February 23, 1950: 655
- Wheel chair cases: 407
Salvation Army.—The extent of this organization's services have been recognized for years. As the services were not listed according to areas, there was no specific record to indicate how well those services were used by the residents in the area. It can be assumed, however, that since the headquarters and the largest number of the facilities were in the Poplar Area, a large percentage of the residents were aware of them. It would seem from the religious and relief figures, that those services were the most widely used. The statistics given were for the city. The number of people who used the following services were:

- **Family Welfare service** ............................................ 6,187
- **Women's Service Center** ........................................... 461
- **Brown Street Community Center** .................................. 8,118
- **Men's Hotel - lodgings** ............................................ 3,975
  - Meals served ....................................................... 12,380
- **Vine Street Corps** .................................................. 56,208
- **Red Shield Service Men's Club** .................................. 66,940
- **Prison service - Paroled to Salvation Army** ..................... 71
  - Meetings held in prison ......................................... 73
  - Attendance at meetings ......................................... 10,507

Stoddard-Fleisher Junior High School.—Although this school had an enrollment of one thousand nine hundred and fifty students, group activities and community projects were composed of small numbers. Figures were not available.

Fifth Street Community Center.—Statistical records of this organization's three fold services indicated that relief services such as food, shelter and the distribution of clothing were a primary function. Recreation and religion seemed to be secondary. Distribution of services were listed as follows:

- **Registered with the Center** ................................. 700
Participated in activities .................................. 1,800
Provided Summer Camp experience for .................... 150
Spanish Class ................................................. 138
Kindergarten ................................................. 18
Business and Professional Girls Club ......................... 10
Girl Scout troop .............................................. 20
Outdoor Club .................................................. 15
Homemaker’s Club ........................................... 100
Relief - amount of clothing sent overseas..(pounds).... 3,500

Statistical record of services for a five month period:

Hot meals served ............................................. 6,110
Lodgings given .................................................. 11,022
Layette given .................................................... 11
Canned food distributed to ................................. 198
987 pieces of clothing distributed to ...................... 277

Friends’ Neighborhood Guild.—Although this multifunctional settlement house provided services for the entire Poplar Area, there were certain services restricted to its membership alone. The following figures indicated the utilization of the Guild’s facilities and services:

Guild membership .......................................... 2,000
Well-Baby Clinic attendance ............................... 1,200
(babies and pre-school children)
Puerto Ricans and Displaced persons participating
in the program ................................................ 500
Library service (two month period) ....................... 200
Summer program - Day camp and supervision
of 4 playgrounds and a Tot lot ......................... 800-1,000
Area Extention Worker - work with boys on a
delinquent border ........................................... 25
Student training program for colleges ................... 37
Scholarship aid program to ............................... 12

John 5:24 Gospel Mission.—According to figures, the major services have been in the realm of direct relief as food and shelter, aside from the regular religious services. Figures for 1949 indicated the following:

Meals served .................................................. 441,000
Lodging given to ............................................ 13,420
Rehabilitation camp ......................................... 250
Employment secured for ................................... 200

Poplar Area Committee.—The nature of the services of this Committee
were of such that it had been impossible to determine or to secure an adequate estimate of the number of people served. It was assumed that through the community organization methods of interpretation, inter-agency consultation, surveys, operation of joint services and discussion groups, that several hundred people in the area knew about the service.

Residents of the Poplar Area

Seven of the organizations studied offered a definite service to the area because of their location and program. One of the organizations, because of its location and structure, seemed less used by the residents of the Poplar Area than by many from other areas. There was no racial discrimination, but a lack of information and knowledge of this resource. Three programs offered transients specific services that were well used. Two organizations had introduced services for "new American neighbors". Children and teen-agers used the facilities more than adults or the aged, and more males than females used the services.

Factors Affecting Agency Use

Economic.—The economic status of the people was important in terms of what they did and where they went. It was the controlling factor in their lives. Since this was the oldest section of the city, living was cheap and standards were low. Many of the people were not prepared to compete in the complex industrial and business world. Frequently, new arrivals from Europe and the Islands lived on mere subsistence. They did not know the language, nor American customs; consequently, they had to live on funds borrowed from their friends, relatives, or on what assistance might be
offered them through some of the neighborhood organizations.¹

Making a living was equally difficult for many of the Negroes in the area, because of the lack of preparation and racial discrimination. The highest number of Department of Public Assistance cases were to be found in that area. The persistent effort to "eek" out a living, left little time or energy for many who were interested in the various organizations' activities, and who needed the service.

**Increased Growth.**—This has been an area of great expansion in population. In 1940, there were 49,000 people but in 1949, there were approximately 70,000.² This increase was attributed to the abnormal wartime conditions. "Large numbers of Puerto Ricans had been brought over to work on labor contracts, and they preferred to live in areas where they had friends."³

**Population Movements.**—This area had been the scene of many population changes. In the early stages of development, there was a polyglot immigrant group. Then East Poplar gradually became Jewish, and there were many neighborhood conflicts between races and nationalities. Attempts at

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intra-cultural participation in activities had to be undertaken very cautiously. After World War I, the Negro and Polish population began to increase. Then the Polish population was arrested, as the Negro population increased with great momentum through World War II.¹

In 1948, the Puerto Ricans began to filter into the area and to form their colony. As their numbers grew, Negroes with increased incomes began a slow movement in small numbers out of the area. The preceding facts have indicated a state of constant ethnical flux, and new services had to be developed to meet new needs.

CHAPTER V

RELATION OF SERVICES TO INDICATED NEED OF SERVICES

Organizational Facilities and Equipment

In Chapter III, the motivations for service and program content were discussed for each agency. Cooperation among and between some of the agencies was indicated and seemed to be in accord with advanced practices in community organization.

No social agency can live for itself alone. Even in the smallest community, an agency that is attempting to follow the principles of organizational efficiency will have to accommodate its procedure to the activities of other organizations... It must accommodate its program to their activities and work out effectively relationships with them.... A social agency is only successful as it is an effective part of a community plan.1

It appears then, that some of the ten selected organizations had initiated a move from former concepts of social work into the broader interpretation of social welfare organization. The changed concepts of social welfare services have made it possible for a workable interrelationship among schools, housing projects, churches, labor unions and social work agencies. School officials had begun to take cognizance of the community's social welfare problems into consideration as they planned their curriculums. This was observed in the Stoddard-Fleisher Junior High School program as facilities were enlarged, and additional equipment secured.2


Housing project authorities had realized that their function was more than to provide mere shelter, and had moved into the field of community organization activities. The ten missions in the area had sponsored extensive relief programs among the residents and transients; although their facilities and equipment were seldom adequate for such heavy demands. A vast supply of skills and expert knowledge existed in Business Men's Associations, political clubs, labor unions, the state welfare organizations and headquarter groups in the area. If "the all important role of community organization is to connect our vast supply of unproductive expert knowledge with the community nerve so that it can begin to function,"¹ then the Poplar Area offered a challenge for community organization as revealed through the formulation of a directory for that area. Certain tools were required in making connections; it was hoped that the directory would be such a tool as a source for finding useful information in accepting the challenge.

Personnel and Program

From one to four trained social workers were employed in each of the organizations except one, John 5:24 Gospel Mission. Others who performed special jobs were well experienced. There was a tendency to utilize as many college students as possible to give them experience, and at the same time to recognize whatever contributions which they had to make the programs more effective. Volunteers were the main concern of each organization, because the weight of most programs and services was dependent upon them.

The staff age range was from seventeen to sixty-five, with an average

¹ Clarence King, Organizing for Community Action (New York, 1948), p. 22.
around forty. The educational background ranged from the elementary grades and self education to graduates from the schools of social work, and foreign universities. The experience of the workers was as polyglot as their educational backgrounds. There were many of wide travel, business and professional experience from other fields. The personnel of the ten organizations had much to contribute to their individual organizations, but it was difficult to enable some of them to visualize values to be derived from community welfare organization. There was a great need for interpretation and education of some executives that "improvement came about through coordinated services, expanded facilities, development of new services and investigations." These were community organization goals.

Need For Additional Services

With the great increased population in the area, and the re-orientation to normalcy after the abnormal frustrated war years, there were certain lags and needs for additional services. During the interviews, each executive or assistant in authority was asked this question, "Can you suggest any need in the area which would help in the development of a better program of service?" In answer to this question, five executives stated that housing was the most important need; four stated leadership, trained and volunteer, and three stated recreation as the most important need. One person each stated the following needs: psychiatric services for parents as well as for children, personal hygiene, expansion of agency services into the counties, needs

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for an Opportunity Service School, and Homemaking Consultant services for
the area.

"When people have houses to live in, their thinking will be
different,"¹ must have also been the thought of the five executives. Housing
conditions have been mentioned in Chapter II, and the findings indicated
that this was a serious need. Plans for redevelopment programs in the area
were undertaken in 1948.²

The need for trained leadership was one of major concern for many of
the organizations because of inadequate budgets. In order to alleviate
the problem of volunteer leadership, the Poplar Area Committee had made
plans for a recreation institute to assist in the training of volunteers. The
proposed institute would cover all phases of an average recreation
program.

With the great increase in population in this area, the develop-
ment of recreational facilities has not kept pace...and little recog-
nition of this need has come from the city authorities in government. Private
agencies have done much, but funds and personnel are limited.³

The Poplar Area Recreation Committee had discussed the possibility of

¹ Statement made by an aged Negro woman during the Linden Street Area
Survey, Atlanta, Georgia, 1949, Atlanta University School of Social Work.

² Philadelphia Housing Association, "When Will the Dirt Fly?"

³ Helen Zanginger, Survey of Recreational Facilities Within the Poplar
Area. April - June 1949, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Poplar Area Recreation
Committee. (Unpublished.)
organizing "local groups for community playgrounds on vacant lots, and that they might discover and publicize areas where recreation facilities were needed, and where new equipment was needed."\(^1\) The Friends' Neighborhood Guild had provided supervision for three playgrounds in the area during the summer months of 1949,\(^2\) but these small endeavors still left a great concern for more recreation and conveniently located outdoor spaces.

A Recreational Survey report indicated the need for a professional person as an executive secretary, officially recognized by the Poplar Area Recreation Committee, to serve as a coordinator within the area. It was suggested that such a person should visit all recreational places in the area and be available for consultation on recreational problems whenever an agency requested such help.\(^3\) These findings were in accord with McClosky's philosophy that:

> Communities have, therefore in increasing numbers, directed their attention to the problem of constructive leisure-time activities. Impetus has, as a result, been given to the movement for community coordination in which public and private agencies pool their resources and integrate all forces of the community to provide wholesome recreational activities for in-school children, out of school youth, and adults both employed and unemployed.\(^4\)

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1. Letter to Committee Members, Poplar Area Recreation Committee, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, November 2, 1949. (Mimeographed.)


One interviewee in the Housing Project believed that many family relationships could be improved if there were available psychiatric services, and parents were encouraged to attend, or that an Institute on the Emotional Needs of the Family be conducted in neighborhoods. Psychiatric services were being investigated by the Central City Community Council. The interviewee further expressed a great need for more education in personal hygiene.

Homemaking Consultant Service had been very effective in the Columbia Area. Therefore, it was felt by the Poplar Area Workers that there was a real need of the same type of service for the interpretation and promotion of tenant education in the Poplar Area. It was the opinion of those concerned with housing for the low income groups, that the tenant's minds should also be prepared for the move into better houses. "Tenants should be encouraged and enabled to improve their own conditions and assume responsibility for standards in new and improved housing areas." The Friends' Neighborhood Guild had made efforts to cooperate in the establishment of such a program.

Plans for an Opportunity School Service were beginning to be developed in the Stoddard-Fleisher Junior High School, but the lack of funds had caused a delay. Such a service would consist of providing opportunities, especially in the domestic field, for modern equipment education, since a

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large number of the residents in the area were engaged in that type of work. The school had the facilities of a well equipped Home Economic department which included a laundry and sewing room. The principal felt that this type of service was a real need in the area for adults in order to retain jobs or to secure better ones.
CHAPTER VI

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

This study was undertaken to present and to describe the community welfare services of ten organizations that had been developed in the Poplar Area of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as revealed through the formulation of a directory for that area. Efforts were made to select those organizations which employed some of the community organization methods and techniques. Further attempts were made to suggest how the directory as a community organization tool was indispensable as a source for finding useful information, and providing channels for coordination of social welfare services. It was the writer's objective to indicate through the survey, the compilation of material for the directory and to present through this study a more comprehensive view of the extensive services available, if they were known. Only a small percentage of the total number of the area's resources could be presented through the ten organizations as an index to the multiple similar services found in other agencies in the area. The important factors considered were the general characteristics of the area, the organization facilities, and services offered. The study was further concerned with the utilization of those services and the needs for additional services as expressed through the various executives and staff members of those organizations. The following conclusions were drawn:

1. Poplar Area, one of the oldest and smallest divisions in the Philadelphia district, was a highly industrialized, trucking section. Its boundaries extended from Market Street to Girard Avenue, and from Broad
Street to an active waterfront on the Delaware River. Approximately seventy thousand people lived within the one and three-eighths square miles of territory; therefore, an acute housing shortage existed which resulted in abnormal congestion of the inhabitants. There was a large transient and polyglot population, the movements of which were always in a state of flux.

2. Organization facilities of the ten organizations were studied according to type, sponsorship, personnel and physical equipment, individually and collectively, and according to the east and west sections of the area. The selected organizations studied as rendering representative social welfare services in the area were as follows: The Chinese Christian Center, Mount Vernon Center, Richard Allen Homes, The Pennsylvania Branch of the Shut-in Society, The Salvation Army, Stoddard-Fleisher Junior High School, Fifth Street Community Center, Friends' Neighborhood Guild, John $s2k Gospel Mission, and the Poplar Area Committee.

3. The results of that analysis indicated that (1) a larger number of agencies were supported through the Community Chest in East Poplar than West Poplar Area; (2) there were more private than public organizations; and (3) some organizations had more and better equipment than others. However, auditorium space with stages, gymnasiums, kitchens, libraries, woodshops and sewing rooms seemed to be most common to all of the organizations. Special workshops and more limited facilities included playground space, access to summer camps, special activity rooms for music and printing. Physical plants and facilities for services were better and more complete in West Poplar than in East Poplar. Brown Street Community Center of the Salvation Army and Stoddard-Fleisher Junior High School were the best equipped organizations for services in the area, but none of them had a swimming pool or
adjacent park space.

4. Philosophies and motivations for services of the organizations were significant as they provided channels of expression for emotional outlets to meet the various ethnic, religious and social needs of a highly mobile heterogeneous population. Six of the organizations originated out of religious motives. The denominations concerned were Methodist, Baptist, Salvation Army, Judaism, and Quakerism. Further analysis of the motivations for services represented advanced thinking of some of the early and contemporary social workers as reflected in the kinds of services rendered and the groups served.

5. A study of the services indicated that, (1) seven of the agencies included games, music, clubs, and classes in their programs; (2) six included arts and crafts, library services and story-telling in their programs; (3) eight provided counseling, referral and information services; and (4) four had sewing and ceramic classes and clubs for the aged. Special services were limited to prison consultations, institutional visits, family welfare services, Day Care Centers, photography, linguistic interpretation, provision of sickroom equipment, transient relief accommodations, summer camp for children and Well-Baby Clinics.

6. Nine of the organizations promoted interracial and intra-cultural programs; however, because of the population movements, and the increased Negro population, most of the clients and patrons were Negroes. Three of the organizations rendered special services for the "new Americans", and the Friends' Neighborhood Guild stimulated and provided more channels for community action and service than any of the organizations.

7. Most of the organizations served both sexes; however, there were
more services for the aged, and for transient men than for transient women in East Poplar than in West Poplar. More services were offered for babies in West Poplar, and the age groups of seven through thirty had more services provided for them than any of the groups.

8. Numerical summaries from the reports and interviews with the executives of the ten organizations seemed to indicate that a fair percentage of the approximate seventy thousand residents were aware of services available. However, further participation and the utilization of the various organizations' services were deterred because of the economic conditions, and the transiency of a large part of the population. Figures on relief services for three of the organizations were very large as compared with those on membership and activity participation, for only approximately two hundred and fifty children were enabled to share in a summer camp experience.

9. Organizational efficiency, the increased number of trained personnel with the inclusion of college students, and the recognition of the changed concepts of social welfare services, had led to a broader interpretation of social work. The average mean age was about forty, and the educational backgrounds extended from the elementary grades and the self-educated to graduates from schools of social work and foreign universities.

10. Area needs as expressed by the executives of the ten organizations were significant of their advanced thinking that more housing, trained leadership, improved recreation, psychiatric services and tenant education were paramount.

11. Further conclusions of the study indicated that most of the churches and schools were becoming aware of their place and function in community welfare organizations, aside from the formerly strict academic and
religious aspects of their services.

11. There were significant differences between the services offered and their utilization in the East and West Poplar Area but throughout the area, the residents had become more socialized in their attitudes and endeavors.
Map of the Poplar Area

Legend:

1. Chinese Christian Center
2. Mt. Vernon Center
3. Salvation Army
   A. Headquarters
   B. Brown St. Community Center
   C. Triple Corps
D. Family Welfare Dep't.
E. Parrish St. Hotel
F. Vine Street Corps
4. Richard Allen Homes
5. Shut-in Society
6. Stoddard- Fleisher School
7. Fifth St. Community Center
8. Friends' Neighborhood Guild
8A. Staff Residence of Guild
10. Poplar Area Committee
POPLAR AREA DIRECTORY
INFORMATION SHEET

Below is outlined the information we would like to have. If what is already filled in for your organization is incorrect, please correct it and add any other information which should be included in such a directory. If we do not hear from you, we will assume that these entries are satisfactory and complete.

POPLAR AREA COMMITTEE

Name of Organization __________________________ Telephone __________________________
Address __________________________ Telephone Number __________________________
Name of Sponsor __________________________
Community Chest Agency (Check) Yes ______ No ______
Name of Agency Executive __________________________
Exact Title of Agency Executive __________________________
Number of Full Time Paid Workers ______ Part Time Paid Workers ______
Average Number of Volunteer Workers __________________________

FACILITIES & EQUIPMENT

Indoor:

Outdoor:

Hours Open __________________________ Capacity __________________________

ACTIVITIES OR SERVICES

SPECIAL SERVICES

Age Groups Served __________________________
MEMBERSHIP

Number

Racial Groups
Religious Groups
Nationality Groups

FEES

For General Membership

For Special Services (name)

ADDITIONAL OR SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Information Supplied By

Date ____________________________ Title ____________________________
SCHEDULE
(Used for Interviews)

I. Name of Agency_________________________________________________________
   Address________________________________________________________________

II. Type of Agency
   A. Public____________________
   B. Private___________________
   C. Red Feather_______________

III. Number of Workers Employed___________________________________________
   A. Approximate Ages____________________
   B. Education_________________________
   C. Previous Experience______________

IV. Brief History of Organization
   A. Sponsor_________________________
   B. When Opened and How Long in this Area?________________________________

V. Facilities and Equipment________________________________________________

VI. Organization Program
   A. Early Program and Purpose______________________________________________
   B. Present Program and Services Rendered____________________________________
   C. Types of Welfare Services (check)
      1. Services for the Aged___________________________________________________
      2. Recreation and Content________________________________________________
      3. Medical________________________________________________________________
      4. Counseling and Referral Service_________________________________________
      5. Relief (food, shelter, clothing)___________________________________________
      6. Educational, guidance, vocation___________________________________________
      7. Family Service________________________________________________________
      8. Interpretation ____________________________ Aid to DPs____________________
      9. Homemaking___________________________________________________________
     10. Rehabilitation________________________________________________________
     11. Housing________________________________________________________________
     12. Services for Babies_____________________________________________________

VII. Residence of Participants and Recipients__________________________________

VIII. Number of People Using Facilities - a Breakdown when Possible.
IX. Residents Served: Male ______________Female ______________
                   Age Range From ___________ to ___________
                   Nationality Groups Served ______________

X. Can you suggest any need in the area which would help in the development of a better program of service?

________________________________________

________________________________________

________________________________________

________________________________________
BIBLIOGRAPHY

Books


Articles


Miscellaneous Material


Wrieden, Jane E., Major. The Pattern of Social Work in the Salvation Army. (n. d.)


Unpublished Material


movies, programs of interpretation, and education were employed in the functional operation of the committee. Residents in the area were stimulated into social action to secure better housing conditions and the enforcement of housing codes. The committee had interceded in behalf of evicted tenants, compiled and distributed a Summer Recreation Directory for the area, and was responsible for attempting to prohibit school zoning that would lend to segregated patterns. Other services included the editing and distribution of the "Poplar Area News", a monthly newsletter and assistance given to the Puerto Ricans and Displaced persons in making urban adjustments.

There were sub-committees on Housing and Recreation. The Recreation Committee cooperated with other agencies in sponsoring joint area programs, and investigating possibilities for additional recreation services. The Housing Committee was concerned with violation of the housing code, and tenant education.

Groups Served

An analysis of the groups served according to nationality, sex and age revealed that only one organization was definitely established to serve one racial group. Cultural background and location were perhaps factors responsible for that restriction. The other nine organizations studied promoted interracial, and intra-cultural programs and activities; however, because of population movements in the area and the increased Negro population since World War II, most of the clients and patrons were Negro. Two of the organizations were predominantly Negro and three rendered special services to other nationality groups.

Most of the organizations served both sexes; however, there were more